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Arindam Sarkar, MD, receives the TAFP Rising Star Award

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS — The Texas Academy of Family Physicians presented its inaugural Rising Star Award to Arindam Sarkar, MD, FAAFP, at TAFP's Annual Session and Primary Care Summit in The Woodlands on Nov. 9. The award was created to honor new-to-practice members who show exceptional achievement in academics, leadership, and/or advocacy to further the mission of the specialty of family medicine.

Though in his first few years as a practicing family physician, Sarkar has quite the CV. He is the director of medical student education for the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, where he is also an assistant professor and clerkship director. He has been active in TAFP business since residency, is on the board for the Harris County chapter of TAFP and serves as a preceptor for the Texas Family Medicine Preceptorship Program.

Sarkar not only leads efforts to promote family medicine to medical students, but volunteers with a BCM-affiliated middle school, promoting the specialty to students as young as fourth grade. His colleagues agree that Sarkar has a direct role in the number of medical students electing to remain at BCM for a family medicine residency.

As chair of the undergraduate medical education committee, Sarkar secured funding to grow a team of three faculty to 15 funded educators. He has played an instrumental role in restructuring clinical curriculum at BCM, and single-handedly developed and implemented a robust integrated curriculum for family medicine medical students, which became the gold standard for other clerkships at Baylor.

Family physicians like Sarkar are qualified to work in all major medical areas and trained to treat more than 90% of all cases they encounter. Family physicians care for patients of all ages.

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit www.tafp.org for more information.