

DISTINGUISHED GRAND ROUND SERIES IN MEDICAL HUMANITIES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

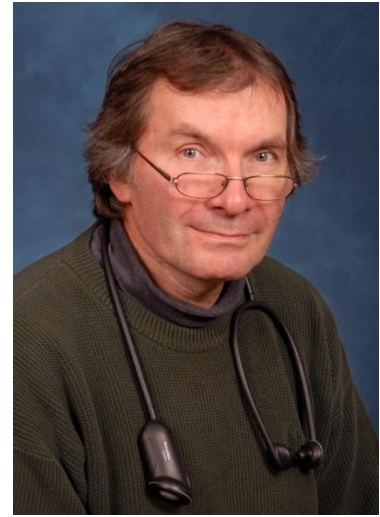
Location: Zoom- Please [RSVP](#) for link

4:30pm- 6:00pm

The Last Breath: TB in Opera and Culture

Salvatore Mangione, MD

The year 1882 marked a turning point in the history of Tuberculosis, one of the greatest scourges ever inflicted upon mankind. On March 24, 1882 Robert Koch announced in Berlin his discovery of the Tuberculous bacillus, and during the same year Carlo Forlanini published in Italy eleven papers suggesting the curative potential of artificial pneumothorax. As a result of these diagnostic and therapeutic innovations, 1882 completely changed the public perception of the disease, which went from being some sort of God's punishment for artistic sin and personal debauchery (Verdi's Violetta in *Traviata*) to being simply a disease of abject poverty and failing public health (Puccini's Mimi in *Boheme*). Hence, more than forty years after Susan Sontag's publication of 'Illness as a Metaphor' we shall revisit tuberculosis and review how diseases can in fact acquire cultural overtones, and how often these perceptions change over time.



Salvatore Mangione, MD, is a clinician-educator with a long interest in physical diagnosis, medical history, community service and the role of the humanities in medicine. His innovative programs and engaging teaching style have been recognized by multiple teaching awards, and his work has been featured in the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Wall Street Journal, the BBC, CNN, NPR, and Forbes. Dr. Mangione has been an invited speaker at many national and international meetings, especially in regard to using visual arts to teach bedside observation. He is the author of the book Secrets in Physical Diagnosis.

Please RSVP [here](#) or to bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu