

"THE HEAD OF THE TABLE"

RUTGERS NJMS ANESTHESIOLOGY RESIDENCY

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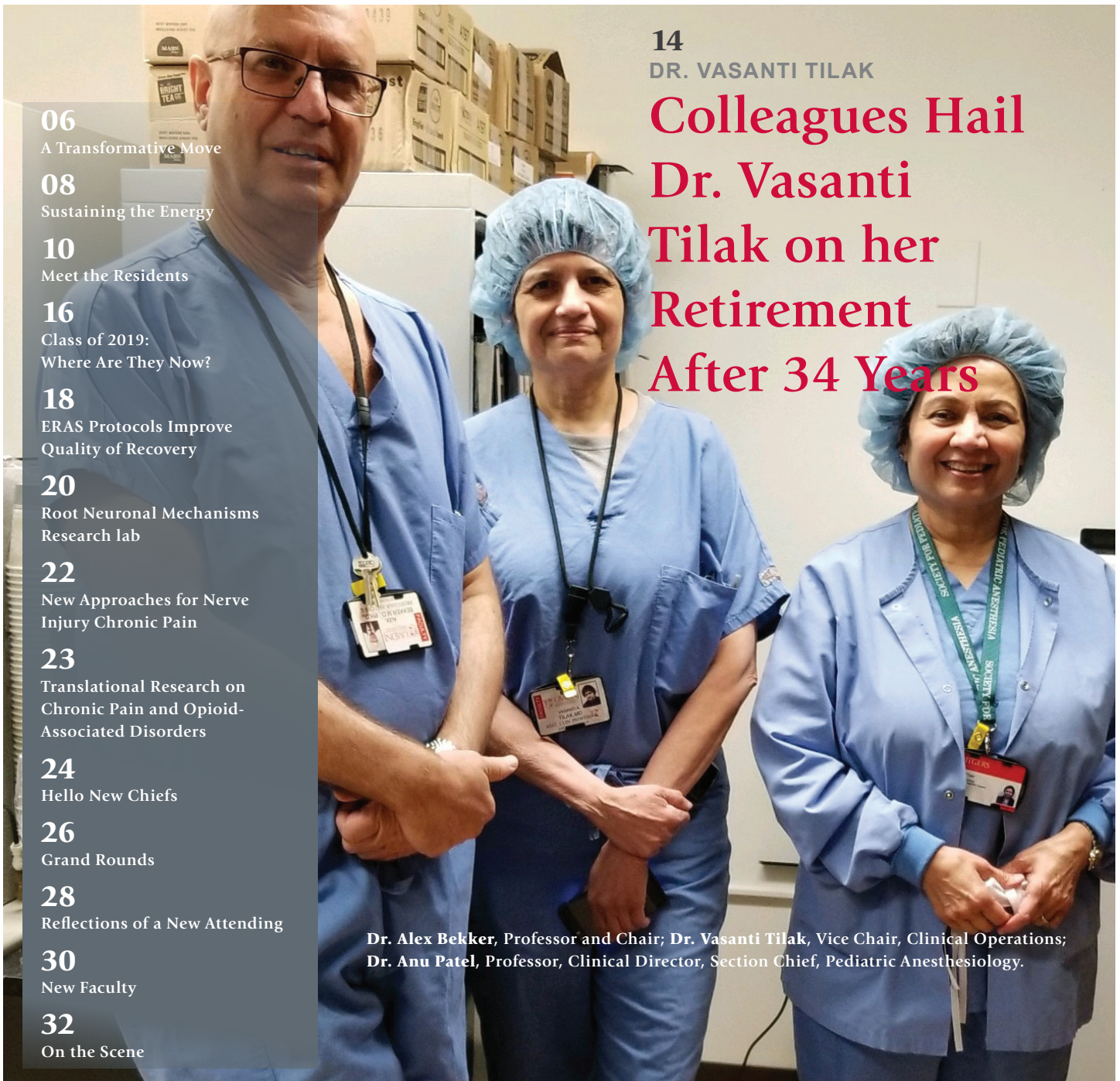
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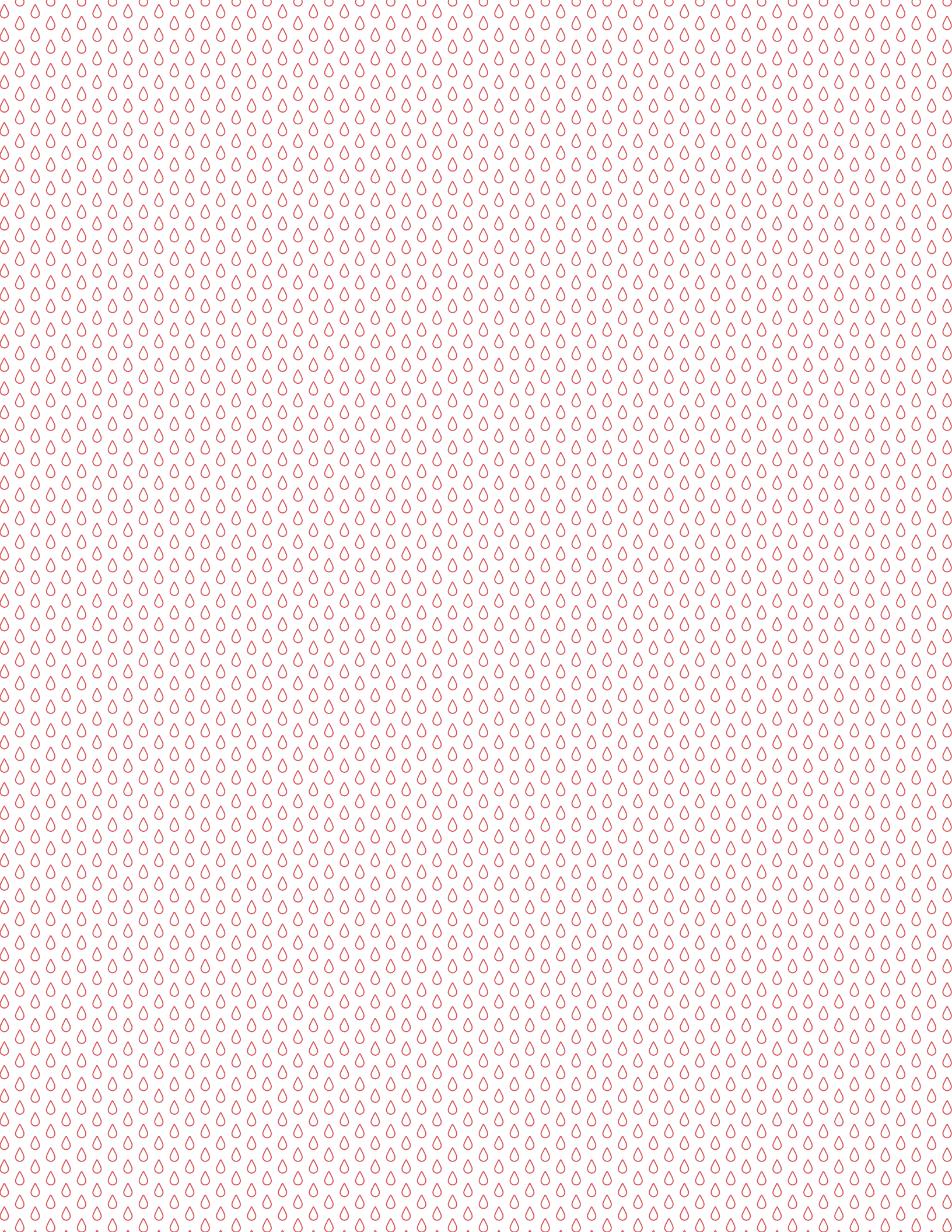
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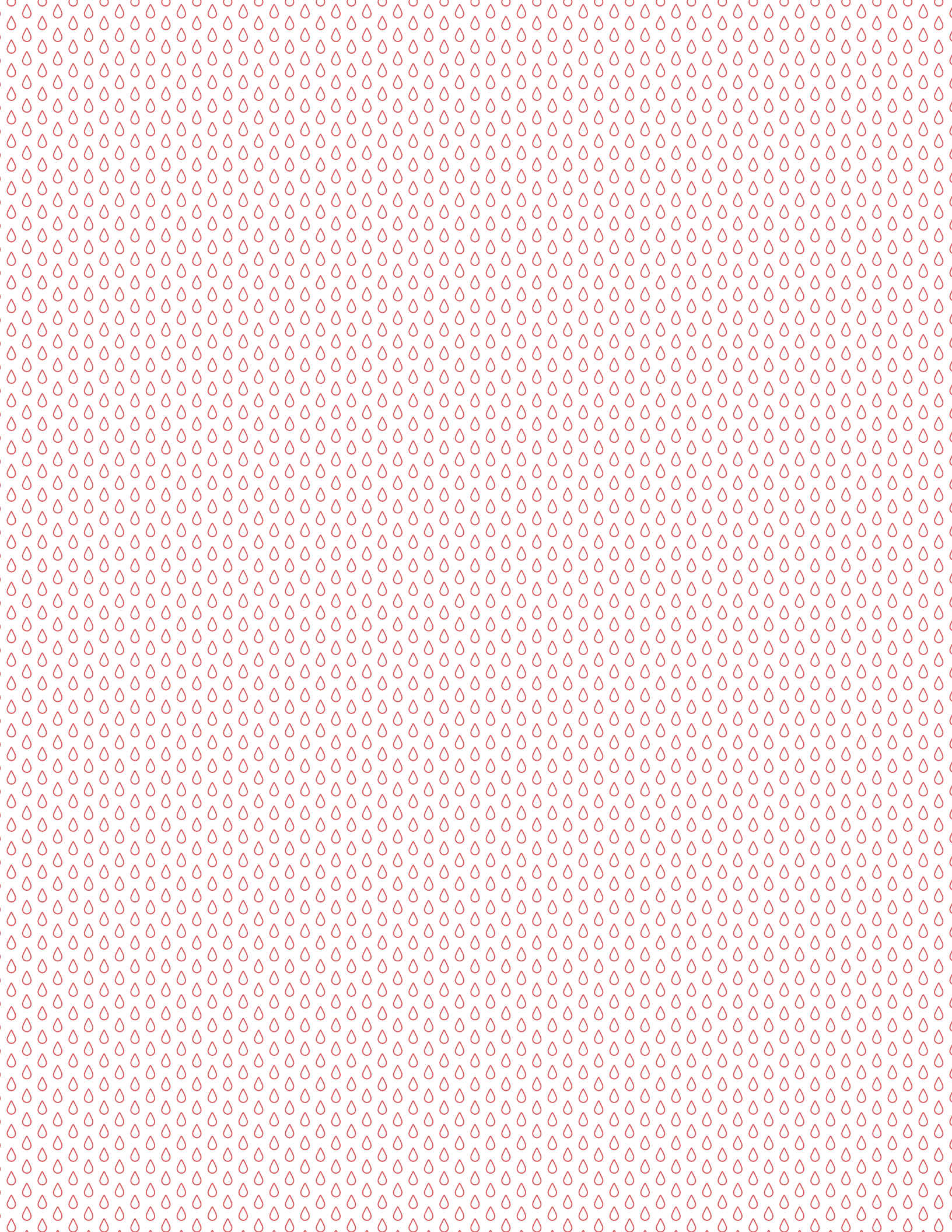
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DR. VASANTI TILAK

Colleagues Hail Dr. Vasanti Tilak on her Retirement After 34 Years

**Dr. Alex Bekker, Professor and Chair; Dr. Vasanti Tilak, Vice Chair, Clinical Operations;
Dr. Anu Patel, Professor, Clinical Director, Section Chief, Pediatric Anesthesiology.**







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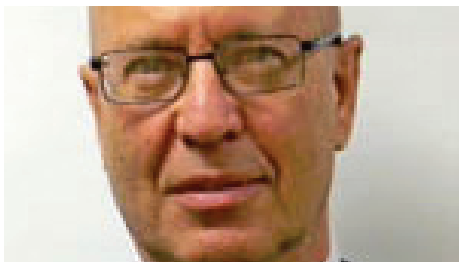
DR. GRECH: (ERAS)
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Have a great story to tell?

SHARE IT WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES:

**CONTACT: DR. MICHAL GAJEWSKI, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, RESIDENCY
PROGRAM DIRECTOR MG1214@NJMS.RUTGERS.EDU**

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

A Transformative Move That Improves Quality of Anesthesia Residency Training

By **Alex Bekker, MD**
Professor and Chairman

This issue of the **Rutgers NJMS Anesthesiology** magazine celebrates the arrival of new residents, CRNAs, fellows and faculty.

We anticipate another busy academic year, especially given the merger of two well-established residency programs. We look forward to working with the St. Barnabas leadership, particularly **Dr. Onofrio Patafio, Chair of the Department**

Anesthesiology and Dr. Richard Pitera, Residency Program Director as we continue to create a top-tier academic department. This is a transformative move that will significantly improve the quality of anesthesia training for our residents.

We have a bright future of our Department, but I would be remiss not to honor **Dr. Vasanti Tilak**, the Vice Chair of Clinical Operations, who has retired

after 35 years of outstanding service. Her wisdom, guidance and encouragement has helped many of us to thrive in the stressful environment of the University Hospital Operating Room. We have been amazingly fortunate to have been able to rely on her expertise and generosity over these past years.

Dr. Faraz Chaudhary, our newly appointed Director of Clinical Operations, will assume Dr. Tilak's responsibilities.

PROMOTIONS AND NEW FACULTY

I am pleased to announce a number of other promotions. **Dr. Dennis Grech** will lead our business development as a Vice Chair for Finance and **Dr. George Tewfik** will direct the Departmental Quality Assurance Program.

In addition, I would like to thank **Dr. Raymond Malapero** and **Dr. Ferdinand Iannaccone** for accepting the very demanding positions of **Associate Residency Program Director** and **Associate Pain Fellowship Director** respectively.

In addition, two new faculty member joined our team in August. **Dr. Evelynne Gone** is a Critical Care trained Anesthesiologist who will be covering the SICU (in addition to providing general anesthesia) and **Dr. Rotem Naftalovich**, who joined our Acute Pain/Regional Anesthesia group. Their short bios are included in this newsletter.

This was a remarkable year for our **Basic Science Research Group**. The work of **Dr. YuanXing Tao**, **Dr. Jiang-Hong Ye** and **Dr. Huijuan Hu** has resulted in the publication of 32 scientific reports in the most prestigious journals. Their research is supported by NIH grants (\$ 900,000 in 2018/19). In fact, our Department is currently ranked 34th in the nation on the total amount of NIH funding. Dr. Tao, Vice Chair for Basic Research, has summarized the division's achievements in the newsletter.

Dr. Sabine Hilfiker, a prominent neuroscientist, joined our Department in July.

I would also like to welcome our new class of trainees. Our Department offers an exceptional educational training for our residents: Level -1 Trauma Center; Liver Transplant program (the only program in NJ); management of underserved patients with complex pathophysiology; opportunities to participate in medical missions, as well as many other experiences.

Training the next generation of remarkable clinicians and clinician-leaders requires the commitment and dedication of their remarkable teachers.

Some of our residents go on to continue their training in the most prestigious fellowship programs in the country including the Pain Fellowship at the UCLA (Dr. C. Anthony), Cardiac Fellowship at NYU (Dr. HJ Park), Acute/Pain Regional Fellowship at Duke (Dr. P Shin), Critical Care/Cardiac at Massachusetts General Hospital (Dr. D. Convissar), and Pediatric at Washington University Medical Center (Dr. K. Reddy). Their success is not only a testament to the growing national reputation of our program, it is also an affirmation of the quality of our residents.

Training the next generation of remarkable clinicians and clinician-leaders requires the commitment and dedication of their remarkable teachers. In this newsletter you will find stories written by our faculties which describe their contribution to the growth of this department. I am certain that in this time of change, our clinicians, scientists and alumni will continue their outstanding work and further enhance the success and reputation of the Department.

MESSAGE FROM THE RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Sustaining the Energy and Yearning for Knowledge

By Dr. Michal Gajewski, Assistant Professor
Residency Program Director,
Trauma Anesthesiology Director



Traversing the paths of directing a program has been a very steep learning curve. As I come to the conclusion of my second year in this position, I can say that I am proud of the program we have cultivated and I am very excited to make many more improvements in the future.

We welcome **Dr. Raymond Malapero** as Assistant Program Director, APD, succeeding Dr. Palmer. Although Dr. Palmer and I have had a wonderful stretch of working together I look forward the ideas that Dr. Malapero will bring to our department. I am very firm believer that without change we cannot achieve our greatest potential.

The beginning of each academic year is always a time of reflection and anticipation as seniors graduate, starting their careers or continuing

their training, while the CA-1s commence, yearning for new knowledge.

I suppose it is the latter of these two that presents a greater challenge as our graduating seniors have fared very well for themselves and I know will make excellent anesthesiologists.

The challenge of new residents starting is a continuing component of my position that I look forward to everyday. Each July my goal is to take the energy of the first years and try to keep it going for as long as possible.

Starting residency is such an exciting time and it is during this brief moment during one's life that we are eager and motivated to learn. That motivation should continue throughout the three years of training.

“

I truly believe that slowly but surely, we, as a department, can encourage one another to look at each day as another opportunity to grow, both academically as well as personally. Dr. Malapero and I pledge to be pillars of this program and individuals that are always available and willing to help in this cause.

Dr. Michal Gajewski, Assistant Professor
Residency Program Director,
Trauma Anesthesiology Director

WELCOME

New Anesthesia Residents

Meet the new CA-1s

NEW RESIDENT BIOS



Charlota Jurcik

I was born and raised in NJ. My father originated from Czech Republic and my mother from Ecuador. Received my bachelor degree in biology from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Went to medical school in Mexico, Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara then transferred to Ross University where I obtained my MD degree. I have a daughter, she was with me in Mexico, currently she is 8 years old. I love to travel, play soccer and dance



Yuriy Babayants

Yuriy has had the privilege of learning from some of New Jersey's best institutions: Rutgers University, Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine, and now Rutgers NJMS. He is also finishing his Master's in Biomedical Sciences at Rutgers GSBS. Born in Moscow to an Armenian family, they immigrated to the United States when he was three. Growing up locally in Short Hills, he has appreciated being able to give back to the community in Newark through Covenant House. His hobbies include playing basketball, cooking, video games, and travelling. He's currently learning rock climbing with his wife, Mariam.

NEW RESIDENT BIOS



Kruti Parikh

My name is **Kruti Parikh** and I'm so excited to join the anesthesia department at NJMS! I grew up in Livingston, NJ, which is just about 15 minutes away from our hospital. After high school, I moved to Chicago for undergrad at Northwestern University where I majored in Communication Sciences & Disorders. I spent an additional year in Chicago afterwards to do anesthesia research, pursue my passion for photography, and teach bollywood dance to kids. I then moved back home to New Jersey to attend medical school at Robert Wood Johnson, and then completed my prelim year at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. I got married this past year and am enjoying newlywed life with my husband! When I'm not in the hospital, you could find me spending time with my huge extended family that all live in NJ, traveling (or meticulously planning my next trip!), singing karaoke, or watching scary movies! I'm really looking forward to getting to know all of you professionally and personally, and starting this journey together.



Sofia Gilels, I was born in Tbilisi, Georgia. I went to NYU, and lived in Paris for 6 months. Lived in Moscow until I was 7 and then grew up in Brooklyn and Fort Lee. I speak Russian, Spanish and used to be able to get by in French! Went to medical school at NJMS and loved it here so I stayed for residency. Just finishing up a year of surgery that I enjoyed dearly but looking forward to free time and new things! I live in Fort Lee now and spend as much time in the city as I can.



Priscialla Owusu, Hello! My name is Priscilla, I'm blessed with an awesome husband a beautiful baby boy and my mother who just came from our country of Ghana to basically takes care of all of us. Anyone who knows me knows I'm what you call a DIY (do it urself) queen. With youtube and my imagination I have made amazing home decor items, crochet clothes, hair styles, and makeup. You name it. It's probably one of the most time consuming hobby one can have but I love it. It's amazing to live in a world where you need minimal things to build extraordinary things. And it's so rewarding to me to have something I build as apposed to just bought. You just cherish whatever it is more.

NEW RESIDENT BIOS



Jeanne Rolle

I was born in the Bahamas, but spent most of my formative years in Long Island, NY. I was raised by a Jamaican mother, and am the middle child of 5 kids (2 sisters and 2 brothers). I went off to Oakwood University in Huntsville, AL at some point after high school, and there studied biology. However, some of my most memorable experiences while in college included service activities around the US and globally. Through these service activities, I had the opportunity to share my love for cooking and hospitality with many. At some point after undergrad, I went to medical school at University of Connecticut, with plans to become an Ob/Gyn (thank God I dodged that bullet). So now I'm here, and super grateful because I feel as though the field of anesthesiology encompasses a lot of qualities that bring satisfaction to me as a person (intellectually stimulating, procedural, short but gratifying interactions with patients, etc.). Random facts: 1. I enjoy traveling, and plan on pursuing some solo travel experiences in the near future. 2. My favorite rapper is Tobe Nwigwe (Look him up you don't know him. You're welcome). 3. I love art in various forms. But I do feel that my state of euphoria increases as I transition from appreciating art to participating in art, to producing art.



Reza Garajehdaghi, I'm originally from California. Moved to Buffalo for medical school. Recent New Jersey resident, and I am really enjoying it. I am a fan of all food and culture and really enjoy the vast array here. I do miss my Subaru that I built. I hope to explore more of New Jersey and surrounding states.



Shivani Patel, I'm from NJ, I went to school at NYCOM and did my prelim in medicine at SIUH. I love trying new coffee shops, watching reruns of The Office and Friends, and all kinds of bad puns.



Stephen Hannaford

I grew up in the greater Boston area, and attended the University of Vermont, where I graduated with a B.A. in psychology in 2010. After working in the fields of education and social services, I enrolled at New York University to complete my pre-med coursework, and matriculated to New Jersey Medical School in 2014. Returning to school to learn basic science and medicine opened a whole new world for me. I found myself most fascinated with anesthesiology, and I am extremely proud to continue here at Rutgers NJMS as I receive my training in the specialty. I live in Maplewood, NJ with my wife Emily and dog Molly, and my interests include cycling, hiking, reading, and exploring new parts of the world with Emily.

NEW RESIDENT BIOS



Renee Fleming I'm originally from Brooklyn, NY, after a brief stint in Washington DC at the NIH, I returned for med school (SUNY Downstate). I am currently completing my Preliminary year at SUNY Downstate/ Kings County Hospital Center in internal medicine. I enjoy traveling (lazy vacations are the best), movies and crab legs.



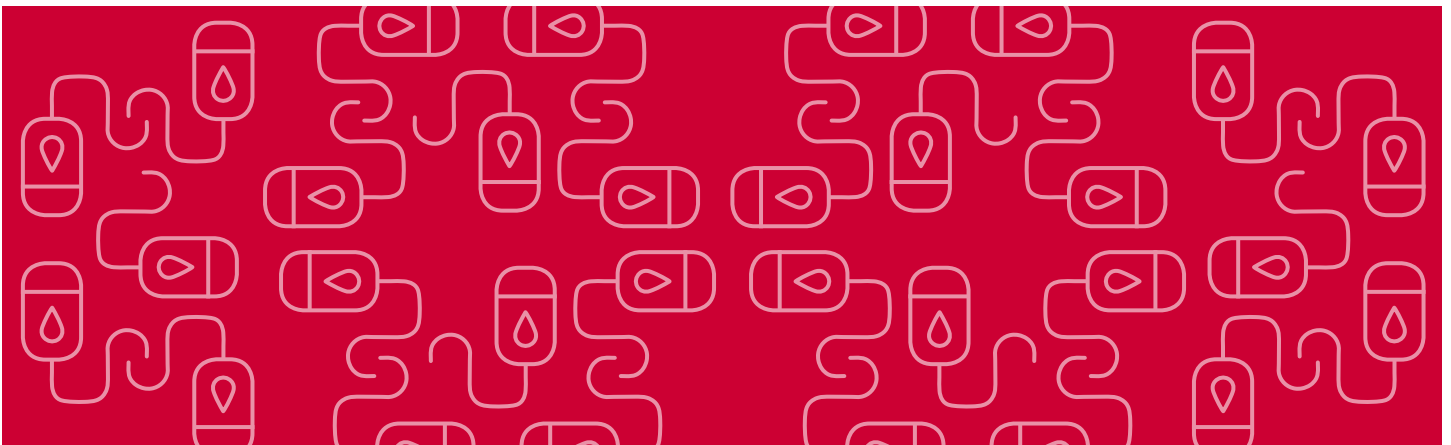
Thomas Bachmann Hi, I'm Austrian/British, grew up in Spain, finished medical school in London before moving to the US. Love traveling, snowboarding, and spicy food. My partner and I have a 19 month old daughter who has just learned the word "No!" I am just finishing my surgical prelim year at NJMS, and am thrilled to start in the program in July!

NEW FELLOW BIO



Timothy Calvert

Hello everyone! Coming to Rutgers NJMS is a homecoming of sorts for me. I was originally born down on the Jersey Shore and subsequently grew up there. After completing high school I attended Boston University where I majored in Philosophy and Biology. At that time I was unsure as to whether I wanted to pursue medicine or the culinary arts so I did a Master's program in medical sciences at Boston University and obtained my EMT license. Loving the experience in both I dove into medicine. Before starting medical school at Drexel University in Philadelphia, I worked for a year in a pain management office in New York City; it was at that point I knew pain medicine was what I wanted to specialize in. After medical school at Drexel I completed my intern year at Einstein Medical Center and then a residency in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Temple University Hospital. I come into pain medicine hoping to use the tools I will learn to keep people active and doing the things they love.



Colleagues Hail Dr. Vasanti Tilak on her Retirement After 34 Years

“When I was leaving, somebody said: ‘You are the one person who always had my back.’ I appreciated that.” Dr. Vasanti Tilak

“I always thought of her as the ‘mother’ of the department. She was the ‘wise one’ with eyes in the back of her head. Dr. Tilak could account for everybody every single minute, every day.” **Dr. Michal Gajewski, Assistant Professor**

Now that **Dr. Vasanti Tilak** is enjoying a well-deserved retirement after 34 years, her colleagues and friends recall a well-respected physician who helped change the practice of anesthesiology management in the operating room. Clinical director of Anesthesiology and Associate Professor, Dr. Tilak was responsible for staffing, scheduling and operating room management.

“Being here so long, you get to know everybody. Some people thought I was a dinosaur being in one job for 34 years, but there are advantages because you learn to anticipate so you can help,” Dr. Tilak said.

There were some hurdles in the path to anesthesiology and operating room management for Dr. Tilak. After earning

her Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degrees in India in 1979, Dr. Tilak moved to North Carolina where her husband was teaching.

“After I took my qualifying exams, I kept hearing from schools that they did not have experience with foreign medical graduates; their way of saying they did not have openings for us,” Dr. Tilak said. “One of the reasons I moved to New Jersey was that the Tri-State area had lots more openings and was open-minded about hiring foreign medical graduates.”

After completing her residency in Anesthesiology at Rutgers, NJMS (then UMDNJ) and joining the Department, Dr. Tilak soon was asked to take on responsibility for on-call scheduling.

It was a challenge at first for the self-described introvert. “I chose anesthesiology because you put the patient to sleep and don’t have to deal with a lot of people,” Dr. Tilak said.

“On the job I had to learn better communications and people skills, how to deal with difficult people and learn to negotiate and solve problems with people. I got to the point that I started enjoying it.” Gradually she took on more and more administrative duties in addition to cases in the OR.

She especially enjoyed her interactions with nurse anesthetists and teaching residents; seeing their four-year growth from being overwhelmed in the first year to graduating as accomplished anesthesiologists. “I feel part of their journey too,” Dr. Tilak said.

Her career path tracked along with the change in practice from mostly “one on one” focus in medicine, to more team-based, collaborative care.

Dr. Tilak said, “We decided that exposing our residents to OR management would be a good way to help them learn the business of medicine and other aspects of team-based patient care.”

One of her first OR management students is now her successor.

Dr. Faraz Chaudhry, Assistant Professor, recalls during his training Dr. Tilak telling him: “You are next in line for this job even though they did not ask you yet.”

“Actually, I do remember that,” Dr. Tilak laughed. “We had just started the new rotation in OR management. Everybody has different talents, and I could see even as a resident, he had the qualities to be a good replacement for me.”



Dr. Chaudhry said: "I've known Dr. Tilak for more than 10 years and she has been a great mentor to me, always very kind-hearted, and efficient in how to manage people and get the job done."

Dr. Anu Patel, Professor, Clinical Anesthesiology and Section Chief, Pediatric Anesthesiology, has been a colleague and friend of Dr. Tilak whom she calls "Wee" for more than 20 years.

"If I needed a day off, Dr. Tilak would always take my call. But when I took her call, I knew I would be busy all night, like there was a black cloud overhead so that I did not get any rest for 24 hours," she laughed.

"We became close personal friends. Both of us hailing from India, she was so supportive. When I was having surgery, she asked what she could do for me. I asked if she could sit with my mom. Dr. Tilak sat with her all alone and brought her dinner."

Dr. Patel said the anesthesiologists gathered once a month for potluck Indian food at each other's homes and continue now that Dr. Tilak is retired. "We just had lunch together," Dr. Patel said.

In his letter to the Department announcing Dr. Tilak's retirement, **Department Chair Dr. Alex Bekker** called her "an indispensable member of the department. She was an excellent clinician, a knowledgeable teacher, and a resolute leader. Her guidance and encouragement have helped me personally to thrive in a rather unique culture of the University Hospital."

To say that she will be missed is an understatement. Dr. Tilak has established herself as a capable leader respected by the surgeons, nurses and anesthesiologists. It has been a joy to work with someone so passionate, calm and professional all the time."





CLASS OF 2019
Where are they Now?

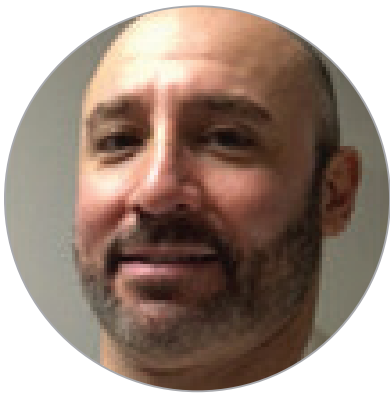
What's Next for Class of 2019 Anesthesiology Graduates?

- Dr. Hazeez Adigun** - *Holy Name Medical Center, Teaneck, NJ*
Attending position
- Dr. Christy Anthony** - *University of California, Los Angeles, CA*
Pain Fellow
- Dr. Shemille Collingwood** - *Emory University Hospital Midtown, Atlanta, GA*
Attending position
- Dr. Obinwanne Emejulu** - *AUC Fresno / Clovis County Community Hospital, Fresno, CA*
Attending position
- Dr. Sorochi Esochaghi** - *Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH*
Pediatric Anesthesia Fellow
- Dr. Matthew Fishman** - *Tri-state region*
Attending Position
- Dr. Somdatta Gupta** - *Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ*
Attending Position
- Dr. Udoh Kenechukwu** - *California Region*
Attending Position
- Dr. Hee Jung Park** - *New York University, New York, NY*
Cardiothoracic Anesthesia Fellow
- Dr. Kavya Narayana Reddy** - *Washington University, St. Louis, WA*
Pediatric Anesthesia Fellow
- Dr. Swetha Sanghvi** - *South Jersey/Philadelphia region*
Attending Position
- Dr. Peter Shin** - *Duke University, Durham, NC*
Regional Anesthesia Fellow

Congratulations and best of luck moving forward! There is no doubt that each and every one of you will be a fantastic anesthesiologist and it has been an honor learning from you all. We will miss you all very much, and are so proud of your accomplishments.

DOCTORS OFFICE COMPLEX (DOC) CENTER
FOR AMBULATORY SURGERY:

Early Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) Protocols Improve Quality of Recovery



By Dennis Grech, MD,
Medical Director of The Center for Ambulatory Surgery.

During 2018-2019, the department of Anesthesia continued the development of **Early Recovery After Surgery (ERAS)** protocols in the Doctors' Office Complex, DOC. Measures to improve patient's quality of recovery after surgery include: non-opioid based pain protocols including IV Acetaminophen, full time regional block coverage, updated fasting protocols and expanded postoperative nausea and vomiting prophylaxis.

The DOC performs a broad array of cases including ophthalmological,

wound management, sinus endoscopy and orthopedic surgery. An average of 22 surgeries are performed each day.

Volume in **The Center for Ambulatory Surgery** continues to increase with peak months topping 395 cases. The case cancellation rate hovers at 3%. Patient wait times and time to turn around ORs in between cases continues to drop.

Under the leadership of the Anesthesia Department and Nursing

Administration, a culture of patient centered care continues to grow. The DOC Surgical Suites consistently score highest in Patient Satisfaction.

First year anesthesia residents and off-service residents rotating in Anesthesia, enjoy applying their new clinical skills in the controlled setting of the Center for Ambulatory Surgery.

Dr. Dennis Grech facilitates the OR schedule, monitors complexity of cases for DOC, and is a liaison for the surgical, nursing and dental services.

Currently Active Grants

YX Tao, NIH RO1NS094664,
Epigenetic regulation of
neuropathic pain: Role of DRG
histone methyltransferase G9a,
\$1,994,765, 2016 – 2021

YX Tao, NIH RO1 NS094224,
Dissection of new spinal cord
circuits in pain sensation,
\$883,065, 2016 – 2021

YX Tao, NIH RO1 NS111553,
Role of dorsal root ganglion
FTO, a RNA demethylase, in
neuropathic pain,
\$3,127,416, 2019 – 2024

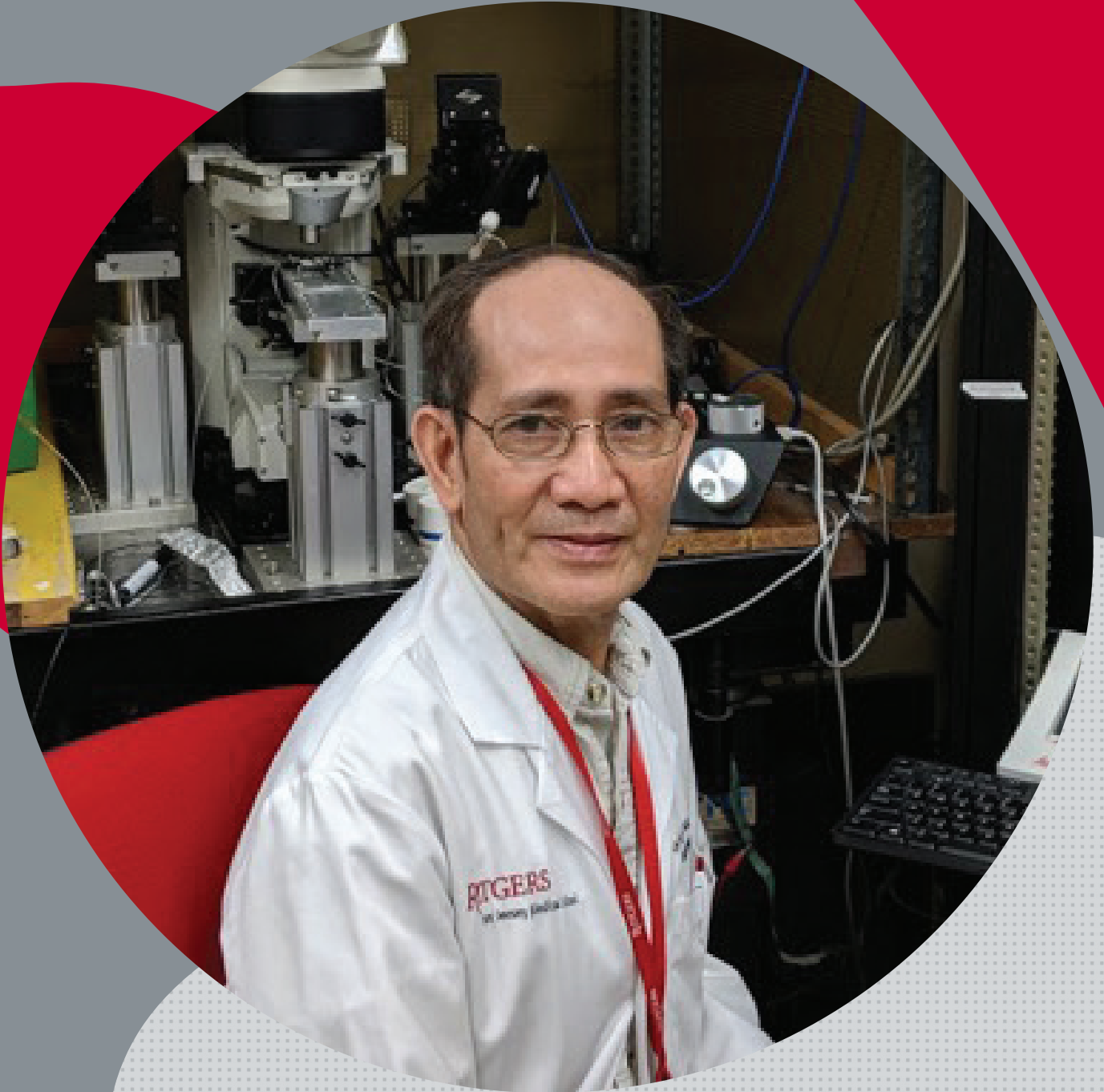
YX Tao, FAER Fellowship,
\$4,200, Summer, 2019

H Hu, NIH RO1 NS087033,
Molecular mechanisms of store-
operated calcium channels in pain,
\$1,711,720, 2014 – 2020

JH Ye, NIH 1R01AA022292 – 01A1,
Role of the rostromedial tegmental
nucleus in alcohol addiction,
\$1,676,232, 2014 – 2020

JH Ye, NIH 1R01AA021657-01A1,
Mechanisms of regulation of ethanol
intake by lateral habenula,
\$1,819,696, 2013 - 2019

**M Gajewski, Mallinckrodt
Pharmaceuticals Inc.,**
Randomized, double-blind, pilot
study on the effect of intravenous
acetaminophen on readiness for
discharge in patients undergoing
surgery with general anesthesia,
\$80,070, 2016 - 2020



RESEARCH LAB NEWS:

Neuronal Mechanisms Research lab

By Jiang-Hong Ye, MD

Professor of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Physiology

Research in my lab aims to understand the specific neuronal mechanisms that underlie changes that contribute to the development of dependence to alcohol and other drugs of abuse (nicotine, cocaine, opiates, cannabis, etc.).

We seek to understand the neural basis of addiction-related brain functions and to identify the underlying neurobiological mechanisms of drug dependence and the associated comorbid anxiety, hyperalgesia, and depression that contribute to relapse.

We use combinatorial cutting-edge techniques including imaging, in vitro electrophysiology, molecular genetics, optogenetic, chemogenetic, immunohistochemistry, PCR and Western blots. We use novel behavioral paradigms of pathological drinking, including operant drug self-administration, tests of pain and mechano-sensitivity, tests of anxiety-like behavior, tests of depressive-like behaviors and locomotor activity, alcohol vapor inhalation, and two-bottle free choice voluntary drinking for induction of physical dependence, behavioral pharmacology. We hope that these studies will shed new light on the neural basis of some essential addictive behaviors and provide therapeutic implications for the treatment of drug use disorders.



RESEARCH LAB NEWS

Seeking New Approaches for Nerve Injury Chronic Pain

By Huijuan Hu, Ph.D., MS
Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

The long-term goal of my research is to understand the mechanisms underlying the development of chronic pain and to identify novel drug targets and drug candidates for the treatment of chronic pain.

My research has been concentrated on the role of store-operated calcium channels (SOCs) in pain plasticity.

Currently, we are identifying endogenous upstream molecules of the SOC signaling and exploring functional consequences of SOC channel activation.

These studies will extend our knowledge of how SOC signaling modulates pain and will provide

novel insights into mechanisms underlying chronic pain.

We hope to identify SOC channels as drug targets and develop new approaches to therapeutic intervention for chronic pain associated with nerve injury and diseases.



RESEARCH LAB NEWS

Translational Research on Chronic Pain and Opioid-Associated Disorders

By YuanXiang Tao, MD, MSC, Ph.D.

Professor and Vice Chair of Research, Department of Anesthesiology

Laboratory research projects underway focus on understanding the molecular and cellular mechanisms that underlie chronic pain and opioid-associated disorders (including tolerance and hyperalgesia).

Researchers are looking for novel molecular targets in preventing and treating chronic pain and chronic opioid tolerance.

The analytical methodology includes molecular biology, morphology, biochemistry, electrophysiology, and behavioral tests.

Chronic pain models as well as opioid-induced analgesic tolerance and hyperalgesia models in animals have been well characterized.

The research laboratory has made great measurable progress, including three approved patents and one pending patent resulting from our laboratory studies.

Research work has been published in top-rated scientific journals, including Nature Neuroscience, Neuron, Journal of Clinical Investigation, Nature Communications, Science Signaling, Journal of Neuroscience, Pain, and Anesthesiology.

WELCOMING

Hello New Chiefs

Thank you for choosing us to be Chiefs! Reflecting on our new roles, we look ahead to serving as your advocates with enthusiasm, compassion, generosity, honesty and reliability.

The three of us, Doctors Batra, Convissar and Ptushko will be coordinating to make this the best year of Anesthesiology training everyone has had, and we couldn't be more excited! We are looking forward to seeing where the up and coming CA-3s match for fellowship and get jobs as they refine their skills to enter the next arena. We look to our rising CA-2s to be role models and teachers to the incoming CA-1s, transitioning them from learners to teachers themselves. Finally, to show

the green CA-1s that Anesthesia is more than just pushing some meds, putting a tube in and going on your cell phone.

We are unbelievably excited for the year to come and look forward to working with and getting to know everyone over the next 12 months! If you need anything or have any questions or concerns, our door is always open!



David Convissar
Rutgers-New Jersey
Medical School



Maksim Ptushko
Belarusian State Medical
University Belarus



Meenu Batra
NKP Salve Institute of
Medical Sciences, India

WELCOME

“

We are
one of you,
we are
by you,
and we are
here for you!

|

NJMS Anesthesiology Chiefs
2019 - 2020

come

Grand Rounds Presentations

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds is a weekly formal presentation that features a renowned visiting professor, a faculty member of New Jersey Medical School, or senior resident case presentations. Third year residents may select to present a Grand Rounds at the conclusion of their research project to partially satisfy the scholarly activity requirement of program requirements for residency education in anesthesiology.

- Elizabeth Baker, MD** - *University of New Mexico, Department of Anesthesiology
Director, University of New Mexico Regional Anesthesia and
Perioperative Pain Medicine Fellowship Program*
- Antonio Gonzalez, MD** - *Yale University, Department of Anesthesiology
Obstetric Anesthesia Fellowship Program Director*
- Lauren Barlog, MD** - *Rutgers NJMS Department of Obstetrics,
Gynecology, and Women's Health
Assistant Professor*
- Richard Pitera, MD** - *Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Department of Anesthesiology
Residency Program Director*
- Jaime Baratta, MD** - *Jefferson Univeristy, Department of Anesthesiology
Director of Regional Anesthesiology*
- Carol Diachun, MD, M.S.Ed** - *Jacksonville Medical Center UFL, Department
of Anesthesiology
Residency Program Director*
- Emily Hagn, MD** - *University of Utah, Department of Anesthesiology
Attending Associate Program Director, Pain Medicine Fellowship*
- Shaheen Shaikh, MD** - *University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center,
Department of Anesthesiology
Associate Professor, Division Chief of Neuroanesthesia*

“

*I look forward to
training the future
generation of
anesthesiologists*

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Raymond Malapero, MD, MPH

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Reflections of a New Attending



The first day as a new attending. Both exciting and anxiety-provoking. A day that every trainee looks forward to, and that every attending remembers.

The thought of returning to NJMS had been on my mind since I graduated. I wanted to give back to the school and the community, all that it had given me. I wanted to return the opportunities that I had received, to those who came after.

As a new attending, I had the advantage of coming home to our department, at NJMS. A

department that had trained me as a medical student. A workplace where I felt more a part of a family, than an employee. The guidance, mentoring, and transition I received from the young attendings all the way to the senior attendings and chairman, really speaks to the people we work with. A privilege I can now enjoy, working alongside my mentors and colleagues.

I look forward to training the future generation of anesthesiologists, as I continue to grow and learn from my colleagues.

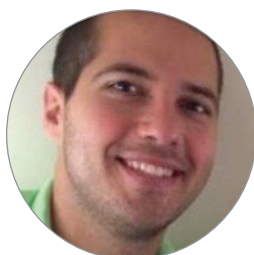
I have had the chance to work with many of the residents, and they have renewed my excitement for knowledge and teaching. I have been able to watch the successes of the residents: getting jobs, matching in fellowships, winning competitions, having research accepted. I have been able to watch the successes of my colleagues: promotions, publications, division chiefs. I thank all of you for welcoming me to your department, and I look forward to the year ahead!

WELCOME NEW FACULTY:

Dr. Evelyn Goné and Dr. Rotem Naftalovich



Dr. Evelyn Goné



Dr. Rotem Naftalovich

Two new faculty members have joined the **Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Care**, according to an announcement by **Dr. Alex Y. Bekker, Department Chair**.

“Please join me in welcoming **Dr. Evelyn Goné** as an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care and **Dr. Rotem Naftalovich** as an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Care,” Dr. Bekker said.

DR. EVELYN GONÉ’

Dr. Goné comes to the department after her Critical Care Medicine fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital. She completed an internship in Internal Medicine at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge. Dr. GONE’ was graduated from the Brigham and Women’s Hospital Anesthesia Residency Program. She served as co-chair for two years in the Multicultural Careers Society for residents and fellows. Dr. GONE’ earned her medical degree from Harvard Medical School.

“Dr. GONE’ is a superbly qualified anesthesiologist who has had additional training in Critical Care. In addition to her clinical skills,” Dr. Bekker said. “I would like to emphasize her significant service to the community. Dr. GONE’ has an unwavering commitment to teaching medical students and residents.”

“Since beginning her career in medicine, Dr. GONE’ has served as

a paragon of excellence for aspiring physicians from underrepresented communities. She will make an excellent addition to our faculty.”

DR. ROTEM NAFTALOVICH

“Dr. Naftalovich is well-trained anesthesiologist who has developed expertise in Regional Anesthesia during his residency training at St Barnabas Medical Center,” Dr. Bekker said.

A graduate of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Dr. Naftalovich earned his B.S. at Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences. In addition, Dr. Naftalovich was the recipient of a full tuition scholarship award for his Master of Business degree from Rutgers Business School.

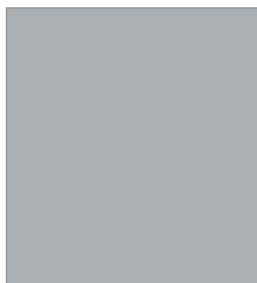
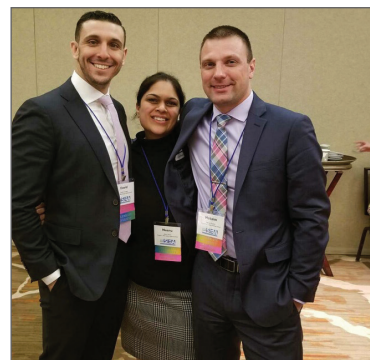
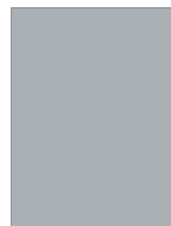
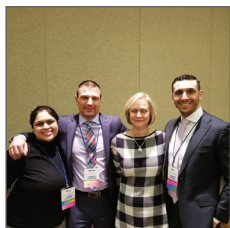
Dr. Bekker said, “Dr. Naftalovich has demonstrated excellent potential as an academician in addition to his clinical proficiency. He has published 11 peer-reviewed articles.”

Dr. Naftalovich has sixteen invited research abstracts accepted to eight high-profile conferences, including major national anesthesiology meetings. “These achievements are a testament to the respect he has among his peers,” Dr. Bekker said.



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ON THE SCENE: Wellness Activities





SUMMER/FALL, 2019

RUTGERS
New Jersey Medical School