

ORTHOPAEDICS @ NJMS

"OUR INCLUSIVENESS IS INTENTIONAL BECAUSE EXCELLENCE REQUIRES A DIVERSE COMMUNITY..."

OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | FALL 2019

STEVEN RIVERO, MD, RESIDENT



I grew up in a bilingual household and my parents were both immigrants from Spain. I completed my undergraduate education at Rutgers-Newark followed by medical school and residency at Rutgers-NJMS. Because of this I feel a connection with this community in both cultural and a geographic sense. These connections help foster a strong patient-physician relationship which is especially important in a surgical sub-speciality such as Orthopaedics. The Office of Diversity and Community Engagement of Orthopaedics helped me get started on this journey by facilitating a research internship during my first year of medical school.



RAHUL RAI, MD, RESIDENT

As a student at NJMS, I was able to receive a firsthand experience and look into the life of an Orthopaedic resident. After observing both the superior clinical knowledge and operative skills of the residents at Rutgers-NJMS, I made my application to this program a top priority. As a resident, the department is extremely supportive and invested in my success. This support is what drives me to become a better resident and surgeon everyday. Although the Indian population is a notable ethnicity in the field of medicine overall, it is not nearly as well represented in the field of Orthopedics. I support diversity not only in academic medicine, but in our program as well. Cultural awareness and diversity allow physicians, colleagues and patients to have a better understanding of one another and lead to advancements and improvement in patients care.

KIAUNTEE MURRAY, MD, RESIDENT

I was born at Newark Beth Israel Hospital and raised in Jersey City. I entered NJMS particularly interested in serving this community. Through my role as co-president of the NJMS chapter of the Student National Medical Association, I was in a unique position to witness the many ways the Office of Diversity and Community Engagement faculty and staff serve the greater Newark area. NJMS's faculty plays an essential role in cultivating a community of service for trainees. A diverse academic community necessitates respect for alternative opinions and approaches. Many members of the NJMS orthopaedics faculty facilitated early shadowing, research, and mentor opportunities that helped to guide my career as a medical student. This willingness to be present and engaged was essential in my decision on where to train, as this is the type of clinician I aspire to be.



KAMIL AMER, MD RESIDENT



I ranked the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Department of Orthopaedics as my top choice for residency training. Not only is it a highly respected program with an excellent reputation, but it also has a significant positive impact on this community. I have been interested in orthopaedic surgery since starting medical school and I strongly feel that there is no better place to train for that in an urban city than Rutgers, NJMS Orthopaedic Surgery program. Growing up in urban locations my entire life, I always wanted to work in a location with a highly diverse patient population and Rutgers-NJMS fits that description perfectly. Being a Muslim and of Arab descent, two underrepresented populations within the orthopaedic community, I feel very welcomed and supported within the program and I am confident in the support and training I am receiving.

O. FOLORUNSHO EDOBOR-OSULA, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Division of Pediatrics

Growing up in Queens, New York, to immigrant parents from Nigeria, there was a great emphasis on hard work and education in my household. When I started my job search, I knew that I wanted to work in an inner city community because that is where I felt I could make the biggest impact professionally, clinically and personally. My department has supported me in all of those endeavors. From the moment I stepped onto the Rutgers NJMS campus I was welcomed with open arms. With the support of the Office for Diversity and Community Engagement and my department, I have attended several conferences and workshops designed to teach me how to succeed as an underrepresented minority in academic medicine. Working in Newark has been quite a reward-ing experience for me. I have the pleasure of taking care of some of the most unique and challenging patients.



NEIL KAUSHAL, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Division of Pediatrics

As a former NJMS medical student, I was always amazed at the diversity of both the student body and the surrounding Newark community. It was this dynamic interplay between the community and NJMS that enriched both the academic and clinical mission of the university. It was only natural that my goal of becoming a pediatric orthopaedic surgeon came full circle as a position opened up at NJMS. Rutgers-NJMS Orthopaedics has provided the infrastructure for me to develop an academic pediatric and scoliosis practice that I hope to benefit the children of Newark and northern New Jersey for years to come.



ALICE CHU, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedics, Division of Pediatrics

We live in a diverse world, so it seems natural that a service-oriented field like medicine would benefit from diversity amongst its providers. Even during my medical student days at NJMS, I could see that there was more laughter, and learning, in groups that were different in external ways yet bonded in their shared interest and passion for medicine. After a decade in New York City, I was proud to return to Rutgers-NJMS. This is an institution that is committed to caring for patients from all walks of life, and a community that values hard work over racial, religious, or socioeconomic differences. The department is truly like a family.



About Rutgers-NJMS and the Department of Orthopaedics

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) is part of Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, one of the country's largest academic health centers. NJMS is dedicated to excellence in education, research, clinical care, and community outreach. Some pertinent facts:

- NJMS has 21 academic departments and many world-renowned scientists and doctors.
- NJMS is located in Newark, NJ, where African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian/Pacific Islanders comprise more than 90 percent of the city's population and face many socioeconomic, educational, and health challenges.
- The Department of Orthopaedics has 8 divisions: Orthopaedic Trauma, Musculoskeletal Oncology, Foot and Ankle Surgery, Hand/Microvascular Surgery, Adult Reconstruction, Spine Surgery, Sports Medicine/Arthroscopy and Pediatric Orthopaedics.
- The Department of Orthopaedics offers 5 offsite rotations during the 5 year program: Veterans Administration Medical Center, Newark Beth Israel and Childrens Hospital of New Jersey, Overlook Hospital, Hackensack University Medical Center and Staten Island University Hospital.
- University Hospital is a Level 1 Trauma Center.