

# PATHOLOGY @ NJMS

“OUR INCLUSIVENESS IS INTENTIONAL BECAUSE EXCELLENCE REQUIRES A DIVERSE COMMUNITY...”

OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | FALL 2017



## Jessenia Guerrero, MD

PGY 3 Resident

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School made it high on my ranking list because of its openness to diversity and the strong women in the department. Being born and raised in Miami, Florida, cultural diversity is the norm and Rutgers felt like home when I interviewed. I wasn't judged by my background or where I went to medical school; I was welcomed. Also, the

women in the department are all role models and leaders in their fields. They encourage me to work hard to achieve the same. They help me overcome my weaknesses and support my unique strengths because they've all experienced the same obstacles in one point of their lives because they, too, are minorities. The acceptance of diversity/minorities has made my training enjoyable so far.

## Valerie A. Fitzhugh, MD

Associate Professor

My medical career began as a student at New Jersey Medical School. One of the things I was amazed by was the diversity of my class, as I had not seen that level of diversity in any of the other medical schools at which I had interviewed. I went on to complete my residency training at NJMS and after a year of fellowship, returned to the institution. I have been fortunate to work alongside students, residents, and faculty from many backgrounds. I have also been fortunate to help so many people who have been less fortunate than me; it means so much to me that I have been able to give back to the community that has given to me in every aspect of my education. I look forward to continuing to serve the diverse community in which I have the pleasure to work.



### About Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

**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 20 academic departments and many world-renowned scientists and doctors.
- In 2015, NJMS was named #1 in the state for NIH funding.
- 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.
- Underrepresented minorities made up 23 percent of the medical school's enrollment in 2017-2018.
- NJMS ranks in the 80th percentile for underrepresented minority graduates and 85th percentile for minority faculty, according to the 2014 AAMC Missions Management Tool.