

EMERGENCY MEDICINE @ NJMS

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



Ronald Ikechi, MD, MPH

Resident

I am excited to be at Rutgers-NJMS because of its dedication to foster diversity not only through gender, race, and ethnicity, but also through perspective and experience. I am a first generation American-born Nigerian; and as many can imagine, becoming the first medical doctor in my family is an extraordinary accomplishment. As an "endangered species" in medicine, I am grateful for the opportunities and support afforded to me through my non-traditional journey through physician hood. With opportunities to collaborate in community and urban health through the emergency department at Rutgers-NJMS I am excited to continue my passion of working with the underserved.

Nduka Vernon, MD

Resident

I chose to come to NJMS because I believed that I would be entering a program in which people truly understand that diversity brings with it unique knowledge and experiences that can make our team and patient population better. In my time so far, I have felt firsthand the respect and appreciation that residents and program leadership have for those from different backgrounds. There aren't many places where you'll work with numerous attendings on a shift who can speak a second (or multiple) languages, and I think this speaks to the mentality of our program: in order to best serve our community, we must respect and understand our patients. Because of this, I feel that I am well-positioned to use the experience I have garnered to positively impact the city of Newark while developing in my career as a physician.



Larissa Baker, MD

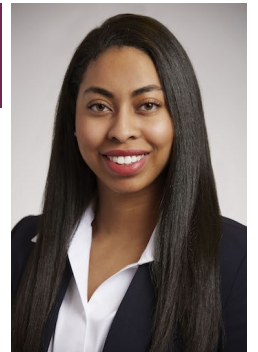
Resident

As a mixed Lenape woman, I was both excited and nervous to live in New Jersey, our homeland, for the first time. It can be difficult as a woman and Indigenous person to navigate a career in medicine, but we have incredible role models here. The faculty and residents at Rutgers NJMS EM have been welcoming and supportive of my goals. I am inspired by our staff to advocate for our patients and engage with the underserved communities of Newark - the same way I expect Native Americans to be treated. I am proud to be an EM resident at NJMS learning to reclaim a place here and partner with the incredible people now living in Newark.

Sharmi Elamin-Davis, MD

Resident

I am proud to be a part of a program whose faculty and leadership not only understand the value of a diverse team, but also the importance of recruiting physicians who resemble the population they are treating because of the positive impacts this has on the health of underserved patients and their career aspirations. As the first person in my family to earn a medical degree, I know first-hand how challenging it can be. As a Black woman and a mom, these are core parts of my identity and I am proud to have matched into a program that views the contributions of diverse individuals as an asset. As a medical student, I developed a passion for mentoring students who aspired to be health professionals and for talking to the community about issues that impact their health. I am excited about the vast opportunities and resources that are available at NJMS so that I can continue this passion in the Newark community.



Rutgers Health/New Jersey Medical School (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 Emergency Medicine is committed to the need for a diverse healthcare workforce that resembles the diversity of today's patients:

- Residents: 21% URiM and 47% women
- Faculty: 13% URiM and 53% women