



RUTGERS HEALTH

New Jersey Medical School

Department of Surgery



RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

2022-2024



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GRANTS

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We invite you to learn more about what the faculty and trainees at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School are doing in the Research Report 2022-2024.

Our Distinguished Visiting Professor last year from Harvard Medical School, Dr Elliot Chaikof, MD, PHD said, “Innovation and discovery occur at the interface of disciplines—where diverse viewpoints interact, problems are examined from different perspectives, and ideas germinate into new solutions to intractable clinical problems.”

The Department of Surgery at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School is committed to fostering innovation and discovery. We seek to provide a research environment that nurtures curiosity, originality and collaboration.

Several of our faculty are funded by the National Institute of Health. Drs Keri Lunsford and James Guarrera have advanced the field of liver transplantation with mechanical preservation device and understanding of liver physiology. Dr Alex Wong’s research team is investigating the physiology of lymphedema. Dr Cherrise Berry is studying health care disparities after trauma. While others are exploring simulation, virtual reality and artificial intelligence to improve surgical training.

Our residents frequently take time to do research at Rutgers and elsewhere including Memorial Sloan Kettering, NIH, and industry. Research experiences vary widely from basic science, translational research, education research to global surgery. In the Report we highlight several of our surgical trainees as they embark on their careers in academic surgery.

Dr. Alex Wong as our new Vice Chair of Research and Dr. Keri Lunsford as Director of Translational Research have done a terrific job leading research initiatives within the department. Our faculty are defining their areas of interest and research questions. More and more faculty are applying for competitive research grants. Publications over the last 2 years are listed by Division, many of which are in high impact journals.

We hope that the Report will foster research collaborations across labs in the Rutgers Community and nationally.

Sincerely



Daniel B. Jones, MD

Professor and Benjamin Rush, MD, Jr Endowed Chair
Assistant Dean of Simulation, Innovation & Scholarship
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School



Our Departments' core values include integrity, compassion, innovation, excellence, service, leadership, and collaboration.

VALUES

INTEGRITY:

Reflected in Honesty, Trust, Ethics, and Accountability

COMPASSION:

Reflected in Altruism, Ethical Treatment and Empathy

INNOVATION:

Reflected in Discovery, Creativity, and Open-Mindedness

EXCELLENCE:

Reflected in commitment to Quality, Diligence and Dedication

SERVICE:

Reflected in Community involvement and Pledge to the Underserved

LEADERSHIP:

Reflected in shared Purpose and Vision Expressed in Professionalism, Transparency, and Authenticity

COLLABORATION:

Reflected in Teamwork, Collegiality, Respect for others and for Diversity

The Department of Surgery at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School takes pride in its tripartite mission of:

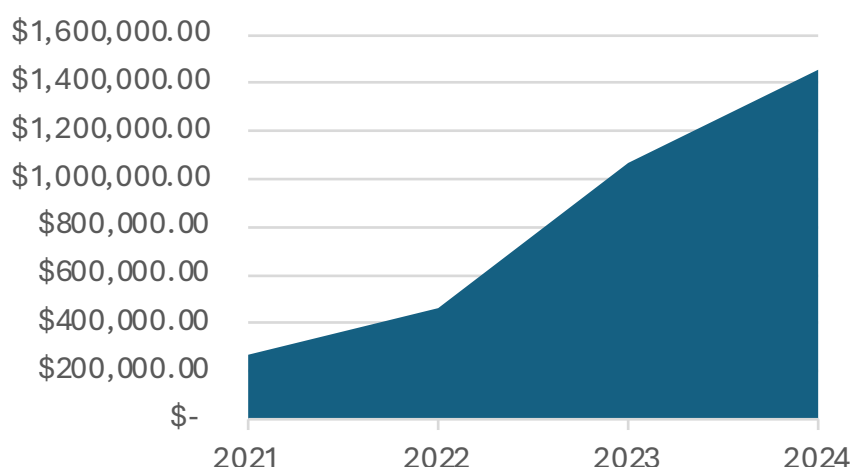
- 1) Delivering state of the art and compassionate clinical care for a diverse population in Northern New Jersey and beyond
- 2) Training the next generation of surgical clinicians, researchers, and educators that will have high impact and lead our field
- 3) Conducting basic, translational, and clinical research that will drive innovation that will shape surgical treatments of the future

All eight Divisions including Cardiothoracic, General Surgery, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery, Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, Urology, and Vascular Surgery have collectively represented the Department at regional, national, and International meetings, published 272 journal articles/book chapters, and contributed to a significant year over year increase in grant funded/sponsored research.

Over the past 2 years, 17 new faculty have joined the Department at the Assistant, Associate, and Professor levels. Two of the senior faculty that were recruited brought their research programs and NIH R01 grant funding to the Department. The Divisions of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery, Vascular Surgery, and Urology secured significant sponsored clinical trials. In 2024, the Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery received new NIH R21 (Dr. James Guarrera and Dr. Keri Lunsford) and R01 (Dr. Keri Lunsford) awards.

We are pleased to present our 2024 Report of Research and Scholarship which highlights the impact of our faculty, residents, and research teams over the past 2 years.

Department of Surgery - Grants and Sponsored Projects



In 1954, the Seton Hall College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (SHCMD) was established as the New Jersey's first medical school. Since that time, the school grown and been renamed several times prior to its current designation as Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. It was not until 1969 that there was an established Department of Surgery which was marked by the recruitment of its inaugural chair, Dr. Benjamin F. Rush, Jr., from the University of Kentucky. As a relatively new medical school and program, Dr. Rush's shed light into his motivation to join the institution: "A marked advantage in establishing and fostering a new school is the great satisfaction that each step upward provides. There is no past track record and no one here is intimidated by the specter of a Halsted, Cushing, Phemister or other giant who previously occupied the chair. It can be, and is, an exciting and yeasty environment for the departmental and sectional chairmen to develop new programs."

At the time, there was no university behind the medical school, the school was in disarray split between Jersey City and Newark and there was no true "university hospital".



Students and residents were scattered, and the department faculty consisted primarily of local surgeons working in multiple "loosely" affiliated hospitals (United, St. Michaels, Newark-Beth Israel, Martland and the East Orange VA). Dr. Rush's first yearbook message set forth his goals for the department which exemplifies his overall approach to academic surgery. "The goal of any medical school service must be to set an example of excellence...The role of our Surgical Service is to render patient care as close to the ideal as possible... Thus, in patient care on a Surgical Service, the diagnosis of the disease, the selection of patients for operation, the preoperative preparation, postoperative care, and

follow up care probably equal or exceed in importance the operative act itself. It is my hope that we will constantly improve our ability to establish or confirm diagnosis; to identify those patients who cannot tolerate surgery; to select accurately the most physiological and appropriate procedures for the disease under treatment to conduct the operation precisely and to carry out the patient through the postoperative period with a thorough understanding of the physiological and biochemical changes we have created...."

The faculty that Dr. Rush inherited was incredibly varied and diverse at a time when most academic surgical departments were comprised of mainly white middle-aged and older men. Some members of that department included Dr. Anita Falla, first woman pediatric surgeon in New Jersey who would go on to become Chief of Pediatric Surgery, Dr. Rene Joyeuse, who had a fascinating story going back to WWII, Dr. Victor Parsonett, who was the first surgeon to implant a permanent pacemaker in NJ and would later perform New Jersey's first heart transplant and, Dr. Saurel Placide, a Haitian orthopedist who would later complete his career at the Brooklyn VA. Two additional members of the department, Dr. Christine Haycock and Dr. Eric Lazaro deserve special mention as it should be noted that Dr. Rush embraced and continued this legacy of recruiting and promoting diversity throughout his career.

The first decade of Dr. Rush's tenure was a time of great growth and change. By the end of that decade, the NJMS campus, including the new University Hospital in Newark, were finally completed and operational. Almost all the surgical residents were now graduates of American medical schools and the department research portfolio increased from zero to over \$1 million dollars. Dr. Rush recruited several faculty members who would go on to have long and productive careers at NJMS and elsewhere including Dr. George Macheido (who stayed following residency as the first "home grown" faculty member), Drs. Ken Swan and

Robert Hobson recruited from the military and Walter Reed and Dr. Paul Bolanowski. These individuals along with several of the original faculty became the backbone of the department through that decade.

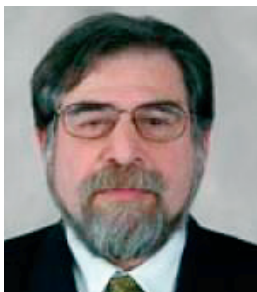
The 1980's began another decade of growth and change in the Department Surgery. As was observed and reflected in other medical schools across the country, many former divisions became departments in their own right. These included orthopedics, ophthalmology, and anesthesia. Several other pivotal changes occurred in the 1980's which would help shape the department for decades to come. The first was the creation of a trauma fellowship in 1982. This was more than a decade before ACGME accreditation and the American Board of Surgery developing the added qualifications certificate for Surgical Critical Care. Although there is no official (or unofficial) list of programs in 1982, to this author's knowledge there were only a handful of such programs around the country, most being filled by "word of mouth". The third fellow (1984-1985) was C. Clayton Griffin, MD. Dr. Griffin was a spectacular administrator as well as surgeon and with contributed to the developed the statewide trauma system as well as Jemstar aeromedical program. By both design and a bit of luck, New Jersey has had a robust and non-competitive trauma system from its inception. This system also included being one of the earliest states to verify their trauma centers by the American College of Surgeons.

Following Dr. Griffin's untimely death in 1989, Dr. James Blackwood served as the interim trauma director until Dr. Rush recruited Dr. John Siegel from Maryland Shock Trauma in the spring of 1991. This recruit was also championed by then Dean Ruy Lourenco and Dr. Siegel also became the chair of Anatomy (later renamed Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Injury Sciences). This dual role and allegiances would eventually prove to be too much of a conflict and soon following the arrival of the Dr. Edwin Deitch (second chair of Surgery) Dr. Siegel was replaced by Dr. David H. Livingston.

Dr. Livingston assumed the titles of Wesley J. Howe Professor and Chief of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care as well as being the Trauma Medical Director of the New Jersey Trauma Center at University Hospital. He held these positions for over 25 years until his retirement in 2020. During that time-period, the Department gained a national and international reputation as a premiere academic trauma center. Both the Trauma Center and the Trauma Fellowship have been continuously accredited and verified for over 30 years.

Dr. Rush also made several other pivotal recruits in the 1980's which include Dr. Frank Padberg (1981), Dr. Joyce Rocko (1983), Dr. David Livingston (1988), Dr. Solly Baredes (1988) and Dr. Eric Munoz (1988). The other major event in 1988 that would shape the department was the return of Dr. Dorian Wilson (NJMS class of 1982 and graduate of the surgical residency in 1986) from his transplant fellowship in Pittsburgh. Dr. Wilson brought with him and helped recruit Dr. Baburao Koneru (1988) to begin New Jersey's first liver transplant program. In the ensuing years, the transplant service first under the leadership of Dr. Koneru and presently under Dr. James Guarrera has been another shining star in the Department. Under Dr. Guarrera's leadership, the Rutgers-NJMS liver transplant service was ranked first in the nation in 1 year survival.

In 1994, Dr. Rush stepped down as chair and Dr. Edwin Deitch was recruited from the University of Louisiana at Shreveport. Dr. Rush remained



in the department for the next several years, completing work on his last NIH grant which culminated over 30 years of continuous funding. At the time of his recruit Dr Deitch had a national reputation, was NIH funded and was a past-president of the Society of

University Surgeons. He would later go on to become president of the American Burn Association and The Shock Society. The first half of Dr. Deitch's tenure was another period of great growth in the department with respect to faculty and research. At one time the department was in the top 10 surgical departments in the country with respect to NIH funding including a P50, center grant, a T32 trauma training grant and the CREST trial. Like other academic medical centers, this time period also saw the divisions of Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology and Emergency Medicine split off from General Surgery to become their own departments. By the early to mid-2000's there was an exodus of faculty in the department paralleling the larger unrest within the medical school itself. Ultimately in 2011, Dr. Deitch stepped down as chair to be replaced by Dr. Anne C. Mosenthal as interim chair.

At the time of her appointment, Dr. Mosenthal was the seventh woman chair of surgery in United States. She had a national reputation as one of the



founders of palliative care in surgery and had been a faculty member within the department since 1994. Following a national search, she was appointed chair of surgery in 2013. Dr. Mosenthal also took the reins of the department at another critical time, that is the dissolution of UMDNJ and the takeover by Rutgers. Dr. Mosenthal not only successfully navigated this incredibly complex political environment but stabilized the department but increased recruitment and retention of faculty in all divisions. Major achievements under her leadership include: the resurrection of liver transplant program and the recruitment of Dr. James Guarrera, fund raising and establishing the Benjamin F. Rush, Jr. Chair of Surgery, expanding clinical footprint in New Jersey, resurrection of general surgical care at EOVA, and the development of

current surgical residency combining NJMS with the St. Barnabas program. Dr. Mosenthal left the department in 2020 to become Chief Academic Officer and Academic Dean at Lahey Health and Dr. James Guerrera assumed the role of interim chair.

Dr. Guerrera was another chair of national reputation and continued much of the work that was established in the department. He continued to grow the department and its research portfolio. He was also the chair of the search committee which brought the current chair, Dr. Daniel Jones from Beth-Israel Deaconess to Rutgers-NJMS in 2022. Dr. Jones continues the legacy of Dr. Rush in being nationally recognized as a clinical surgeon and educator. Dr. Jones is Past president of the Association for Surgical Education (ASE) and The Society of Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES).

As with all the past chairs and paralleling the external events in medical education, Dr. Jones assumes the leadership at a time of uncertainty and change. Rutgers, after over two hundred years of being a reluctant participant in medical education, now plans on consolidating both medical schools under one umbrella with the first class planned for 2028. There is great concern among the faculty that what has made the department of surgery at NJMS unique; its commitment to education, diversity, academic excellence and research and the city of Newark itself may be at jeopardy. It has been 55 years since Ben Rush was recruited to NJMS. One can only hope that his legacy and words "The role of our Surgical Service is to render patient care as close to the ideal as possible" will continue to ring out for many years to come.

Edited and Adapted from text provided by:
David H. Livingston, MD FACS
Wesely J. Howe Professor and Chief of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care (1995-2022)
Emeritus Professor (2022-present)
Department of Surgery
Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School



Michael E. Shapiro, MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY
ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM
CHAIR, BIOETHICS COMMITTEE, UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Paj S, Andrews T, Turner A, Merchant A, Shapiro M. Factors that Influence end-of-life decision making amongst attending physicians. American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine 39:1174, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Ethics at the end of life
- Transplant Ethics
- Surgical Ethics

We are interested in the definition of death (e.g., brain death, cardiopulmonary death), and how that interacts with the transplant “dead donor rule.” From both a theoretical viewpoint, and more practically (e.g., transplant surgeon surveys, etc) we are working on end of life decision-making, and ways to satisfy patient wishes while assuring ethically appropriate organ donation.

GRANTS

- Islet Immunomodulation for Transplantation without Recipient Immunosuppression, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation
- Phase III Clinical Trials of Humanized Anti-Tac in First Cadaver Renal Transplantation, Roche, Inc.
- Phase IV Study of Dose vs. Concentration-controlled Cellcept dosing in solid organ transplantation, Roche, Inc.
- Valganciclovir Randomized Study in High Risk Kidney Allografts, Roche, Inc.
- Randomized Multicenter Trial of Oseltamivir in Immunocompromised Patients, Roche, Inc.
- A study of a new, humanized monoclonal anti-class II antibody in renal transplants in macaques, Celltech, Ltd.
- Belatacept Conversion Trial in Renal Transplantation Site Principal Investigator, Bristol Myers Squibb
- HUMC-DRI Islet Cell Research Project, The Molly and Lindsey Diabetes Research Foundation

HONORS

Schering Scholar, American College of Surgeons
American Surgical Association Foundation Fellow
New Jersey Transplant Association, Medical Professional Award
Kidney & Urology Foundation of America, National Medical Award Board of Trustees, New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network

INVITED LECTURES

- “Toward a new organ allocation system,” OPTN/UNOS 15th Management Forum, Washington, DC
- “Ethical issues in organ allocation,” Dallas, TX, OPTM/UNOS Public Forum Kidney Allocation Policy Development, Dallas, TX
- “Ethics: surgery after Roe vs. Wade,” Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
- “Research during the Holocaust: Could it happen again?” Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School



Melissa Alvarez-Downing, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR, NJMS

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Hong M, Ghajar M, Allen W, Jasti S, Alvarez-Downing MM. Evaluating implementation costs of an enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) protocol in colorectal surgery: a systematic review. *World J Surg* 47(7):1589-1596, 2023

Alvarez-Downing MM, da Silva Giovanna. Bumps down under: hemorrhoids, skin tags and all things perianal. *Current Opinion in Gastroenterology* 38(1):61-66, 2022

Oberoi KPS, Scott MT, Schwartzman J, Mahajan J, Patel NM, Alvarez-Downing MM, Merchant AM, Kunac A. Resident endoscopy experience correlates poorly with colonoscopy performance on a VR simulator. *The Surgery Journal* 8(1):82-85, 2022

Oberoi KPS, Scott MT, Schwartzman J, Mahajan J, Patel NM, Alvarez-Downing MM, Merchant AM, Kunac A. Resident endoscopy experience correlates poorly with colonoscopy performance on a VR simulator. *The Surgery Journal* 8(1):80-85, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Strategies to improve student perceptions of surgeons
- How to incorporate surgical faculty into the pre-clinical medical student curriculum
- Creating ambassadors in diversity, equity and inclusion training to create culture change in the Department of Surgery

My current research focuses on two aspects regarding the culture of surgery. The first, is evaluating perceived negative perceptions by medical students of the field of surgery and exploring barriers to surgeon involvement as well as opportunities for added value in the pre-clinical education of medical students.

The second is addressing the culture within the Department of Surgery and exploring strategies aimed to improve inclusivity, collegiality, individual well-being, patient care and employee retention. It is readily apparent as leaders in medicine, surgeons stand in a unique position to be at the forefront of changing the culture within the field of surgery. I am interested in implementing a DEI-based targeted faculty development program which will create ambassadors of change in the Department to serve as role models and be equipped to foster culture change for an equitable and inclusive environment for all.

GRANTS

- "Creating Ambassadors in the Department of Surgery as Agents for Culture Change in our Learning Environments" IDEA Grant 2023-2024, RBHS Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion

HONORS

National Hispanic Medical Association, Council of Surgery Co-Chair
Chair, Department of Surgery DEI Committee, Rutgers NJMS
American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, DEI Committee

INVITED LECTURES

- "Reignite the fire and reinvigorate our teaching faculty workshop." Association of Surgical Education Annual Meeting
- "DEI" Association of Surgical Education Annual Meeting Trainee Quick Shot
- "Troubleshooting your clerkship, bias in assessment and evaluation," Association of Surgical Education Annual Meeting
- "Troubleshooting your clerkship work culture," Association of Surgical Education Annual Meeting
- "So you want to be a surgeon? Tips on how to succeed when considering a career in surgery," Hispanic Medical Association Surgery Council
- "Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee inaugural pathway program: preparing for a future career during medical school," American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons



Daniel B. Jones, MD

PROFESSOR AND BENJAMIN RUSH MD ENDOWED CHAIR OF SURGERY
ASSISTANT DEAN OF SIMULATION, INNOVATION AND SCHOLARSHIP
SURGERY CHIEF OF SERVICE, UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Zoumpou T, Fleishman AJ, Jones DB, Wee CC. Decision regret up to 6 years after sleeve gastrectomy. *Surgical Endoscopy* 37(12):9381-9392. 2023

Bond DS, Smith KE, Schumacher LM, Vithiannanthan S, Jones DB, Papasavas P, Webster J, Thomas JG. Associations of daily weight management-focused social support with weight loss, activity behaviors, and eating regulations in the context of metabolic and bariatric surgery. *Obesity Science and Practice* 10(1):717, 2023

De S, Jackson CD, Jones DB. Intelligent virtual operating room for enhancing nontechnical skills. *JAMA Surgery, Surgical Innovation*. 158(6): 662-663, 2023

Truong H, Qi D, Ryason A, Cudmore J, Alfred S, Jones SB, Sullivan AM, Parra JM, De S, Jones DB. Does your team know how to respond safely to an operating room fire? Outcomes of a virtual reality, AI-enhanced simulation training. *Surgical Endoscopy* 36:3059-3067, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- How can we use simulation to teach Surgery better?

- Clinical outcomes after metabolic operations to treat obesity?

My education-based research has established a technical skills laboratory validating new teaching tools and instituting curriculums for medical students, residents and surgeons in practice. Using group video trainers, we demonstrated that intense skills training improved operative performance in surgery. Computer trainers which provided immediate feedback further improved trainees' ability to perform common procedures such as laparoscopic cholecystectomy. Other simulators included novel models for laparoscopic hernia repair, common bile duct exploration, and ultrasound-guided breast biopsy. Studies demonstrated error with sleep deprivation among post-call surgical residents. Furthermore, programs for medical students suggest the benefit from early exposure to simulation.

Since 2005, we have had continuous NIH funding to support collaborative projects among the Center for Modeling, Simulation and Imaging in Medicine (CeMSIM), Generation (Gen) 2 cognitive simulator seeks to create a Star Trek holodeck experience by creating an environment as close to real surgery as possible, including the operating room environment, devices, avatars, and room noises, making the training very realistic.. We have looked at team decision-making in crisis with four avatars to simulate the operative team. Most recently we studied surgeon response to inappropriate comments and microaggressions in the virtual operating room setting.

GRANTS

- B. Alger Donation, Rutgers simulation for students
- Teaching surgical clinical correlates anatomy with interactive infographics Departments of Anatomy and Surgery, New Jersey Health Foundation.
- Rutgers Student Summer Research Program, New Jersey Health Foundation
- Teaching surgical clinical correlates in anatomy with interactive infographics
- EJM Excellence in Medicine Endowment, Cynthia Stolman Foundation, The New Jersey Health Foundation
- Physically Realistic Virtual Surgery, NIH /NIBIB, 2R01EB0 05807-09A1
- VORTEX, NIH /NIBIB, sub-award, Site PI
- VORTEX COVID-19, NIH /NIBIB, Supplement 3 R01 EB 005807-01 A1S1

HONORS

Benjamin Rush Endowed Chair, Rutgers NJMS

Academy of Master Educators, ACS

Academic Leadership Program Rutgers Health

Asociacion Mexicana De Cirugia Del Aparato Digestive A.C

Kate and Harvey Cushing Lectureship, Zucker School of Medicine Visiting Professor, Hofstra/ Northwell



Danbee H. Kim, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Kim DH, Jones DB, Bariatric surgery, In Jones DB (ed) Pocket surgery. 3rd edition. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia. 2024

Kim DH, Berk LA, ERAS. In Jones DB (ed) Pocket surgery. 3rd edition. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia. 2024

Kim DH, Jones DB., Essentials. In Jones DB (ed) Pocket surgery. 3rd edition. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia. 2024

Pirrola E, Kim DH, Bariatric surgery and transplant. In Lim R, Jones DB (eds), Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Examination and Board Review. McGraw Hill, New York City. 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- What are the barriers to healthcare access for obese patients, and how can we bridge this gap?
- How can we foster a more effective and nurturing training environment for non-designated preliminary surgery residents?
- How can we develop a strong and supportive Korean American community at NJMS that can serve as a foundation to attract Korean American patients to Rutgers NJMS, ultimately building a more robust gastric cancer program?

My primary passion lies in identifying easy and cost-effective ways to overcome barriers to health equity for obese patients in Newark. Currently, I am exploring initiatives such as virtual follow-up visits for patients in the bariatric surgical pathway to shorten the duration from preoperative workup to surgery and assess their cost-effectiveness. Recognizing that each community has its own unique barriers, we are collaborating with East Carolina University, where similar efforts have been successful for their poor rural community, to see if this success can be replicated in our poor urban community.

Another focus of mine is developing a training program for international medical graduates and preliminary surgical residents that leverages the strengths of a diverse group of trainees. By analyzing their unique stressors and difficulties and creating tailored mentor/mentee programs, I aim to establish a residency program that celebrates diversity.

HONORS

2nd Place Top Gun Laparoscopic Skills and Suturing Competition Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons

INVITED LECTURES

- "General surgery training in the US," American College of Surgeons. Korean Chapter Meeting
- "Career as a general surgeon," Jakarta Intercultural School 70th anniversary international virtual career fair; Jakarta, Indonesia
- "One-versus two-stage conversion of failed adjustable gastric band to laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy: analysis of outcomes and costs." Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons; Denver, Colorado
- "Minimally invasive treatments of gastric cancer: lesson learned from the East," Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School



Baburao Koneru, MD, MPH
PROFESSOR OF SURGERY WITH TENURE

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Oliver JB, Merchant AM, Koneru B. Management of patients with chronic liver disease in the perioperative period. *J Invest Surg* 36(1), 2023

Koneru B, Jones DB. Surgical journal clubs in the digital world: old wine in new barrels. *Surgery* 2024, in press

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Clinical Trials in deceased donor organ preconditioning
- Multi-center collaborative studies of posttransplant complications, transplant candidate evaluations and immunosuppressants
- Improved methods of organ evaluation

My research interests are in improving outcomes in organ transplantation including preconditioning and liver transplantation.

GRANTS

- Mobilization of Stem Cells with G-CSF and Mozobil in Patients with Chronic Liver Disease – A Phase I Study & Phase III Clinical Trials of Humanized Anti-Tac in First Cadaver Renal Transplantation, Proteonomix Inc.
- Remote Ischemic Preconditioning in Neurological Death Donors; A Multi-Center study, Health Resources and Services Administration - Clinical Interventions to Increase Organ Procurement

HONORS

University Clinical Excellence Award Lifetime Teaching Award
Golden Apple Teaching Award
Board of Directors of United Network for Organ Sharing



Bao Nasri, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Nasri B, Mitchell J, Jackson C, Nakamoto K, Jones DB. Distractions in the operating room: a survey of the healthcare team; Surgical Endoscopy 37(3):2316-2325, 2022

Nasri B, Jones D; Laparoscopic adjustable gastric band remains a safe, effective, and durable option for surgical weight loss. Surgical Endoscopy 36(10):7781-7788, 2022

Nasri BN. Laparoscopy and pneumoperitoneum, In Jones DB, Pocket Surgery 3rd Edition, Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Is metabolic bariatric surgery better than medical weight loss in patients living with HIV?
- Does standardized robotic training curriculum improve surgical resident skill?
- Is robotic surgery better than laparoscopic or open surgery in general surgical procedures including cholecystectomy, inguinal hernia and ventral hernia?
- Is endoscopic gastroplasty non inferior compared to surgical gastric sleeve?

My research focuses on how to utilize robotic surgery techniques to improve outcomes in general and bariatric surgery.

GRANTS

- "Advancing Surgical Education: Developing a standardized Robotic Surgery Curriculum for General Surgery Residents, New Jersey Health Foundation Grant
- "Teaching Surgical Clinical Correlates in Anatomy with Interactive Infographics – Reimaging the role of Surgery in preclinical Medical Education, New Jersey Health Foundation Grant

HONORS

Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (Educational Resources Committee & Robotic Committee)
Association for Surgical Education
Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract

INVITED LECTURES

- "Bariatric surgery vs fundoplication with GERD," New Jersey Chapter ACS Annual Meeting
- "The fundamentals of robotic surgery," Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers NJMS



Nisha Narula, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Keller D, Narula N, Schwarz E, Mellinger JD, Feldman LS, Dort J, Asbun H, Romanelli J. A cross sectional survey on burnout and career satisfaction in surgeons. A joint work from the SAGES Quality, Outcomes, and Safety and Reimagining the Practice of Surgery Burnout Task Forces. *Surgical Endoscopy* 38(9):4776-4787, 2024

Ore AS, Liu BS*, Chen HW, Kent, TS, Parsons CS, Narula N. General surgery trainee cases over time: postgraduate year matters. *The American Surgeon* 89(12):5325-5331, 2023

Lamm R, Kumar SS, Collings AT, Haskins IN, Abou-Setta A, Narula N, Nepal P, Hanna NM, Athanasiadis DI, Scholz S, Bradley JF 3rd, Train AT, Pucher PH, Quinteros F, Slater B. Diagnosis and treatment of appendicitis: systematic review and meta-analysis. *Surgical Endoscopy* 37(12):8933-8990, 2023

Kumar SS, Collings AT, Lamm R, Haskins IN, Scholz S, Nepal P, Train AT, Athanasiadis DI, Pucher PH, Bradley JF, Hanna NM, Quinteros F, Narula N, Slater BJ. SAGES guideline for the diagnosis and treatment of appendicitis. *Surgical Endoscopy* 38(6):2974-2994, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Surgical ergonomics
- Operating Room Efficiency
- Process of care and outcome measures

My research focus pertains to surgical ergonomics, operating room efficiency, and processes of care and outcome measures for patients. My goal is to understand and improve quality of life for surgeons and patients

HONORS

SAGES Guidelines Patient Engagement Taskforce, Co-Lead
Medical Student Teacher Award Core Surgery Clerkship

INVITED LECTURES

- "Hiatal Hernia," Grand Rounds (Virtual), Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
- "Hiatal Hernia," Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School



Elijah Riddle, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

DIRECTOR EMERGENCY GENERAL SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Lu P, Nguyen T, Thanh T, Riddle EW. Faculty development in competency-based medical education in Vietnam, Medical Education 56: 1139-1140, 2022

Riddle EW, Haisch CE. How to teach technical and judgment skills effectively from outside the operating room (including virtually). In Hardy MA, Hochman B. Global Surgery: How to Work and Teach in Low- and Middle-Income Countries, 169-184; Springer, Switzerland, 2023

Riddle EW, Kewalramani D, Narayan M, Jones DB. Surgical simulation: virtual reality to artificial intelligence. Current Problems in Surgery 61(11):101625, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Medical Student and resident surgical education, training and simulation
- Global Surgery
- Biomechanics of abdominal wall

I am focused on surgical education, training, and simulation working with students and residents. I am leading the implementation of the ACS/ ASE Medical Student Simulation-Based Surgical Skills Curriculum at NJMS. I am interested in finding the most effective and engaging ways to teach technical skills to our trainees.

Prior to joining the Rutgers faculty, I was the founding program director for the General Surgery residency program at Vin University in Hanoi, Vietnam. I remain interested in global surgery education and remain engaged with colleagues and trainees in Vietnam as well as through my work with the Association for Academic Global Surgery.

I am also interested in biomechanical understanding of the abdominal wall, particularly related to best practices in abdominal wall closure, hernia prevention, and hernia repair

HONORS

Association for Academic Global Surgery, Chair of Accreditation Committee
Leonard D. Miller Award

INVITED LECTURES

- "Trauma resident education and simulation," Trauma Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School/University Hospital, Newark, New Jersey
- "Implementing a competency-based training framework in Vietnam, Department of Surgery," Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey
- "Review of vascular exposures," Trauma Grand Rounds, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School/University Hospital, Newark, New Jersey
- "Simulation in surgery and the ACS/ASE Medical Student Simulation-Based Surgical Skills Curriculum," Ben Rush Society, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey
- "Teaching procedural skills" Vin University Teaching and Learning Summit, Hanoi, Vietnam
- "Assessment by direct observation," Vin University Teaching and Learning Summit, Hanoi, Vietnam
- "Mock code simulation." Vin University Teaching and Learning Summit, Hanoi, Vietnam



Justin Sambol, MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR CLINICAL AFFAIRS
CHIEF, DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Shah AM, Siddiqui E, Cuenca C, Drotar P, Okoh A, Salemi A, Waxman S, Sambol J. Trends in the utilization and reimbursement of coronary revascularization in the United States Medicare population from 2010-2018. Catheterization & Cardiovascular Interventions 98(2):E205-E212, 2021

Yu Y, Sambol JT, Shakir HA. Conservative management of large tracheal perforation due to traumatic Intubation Am Surg 89(6):2838-2840, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Effects on hemorrhagic shock on myocardial dysfunction
- Clinical outcomes after general cardiac and thoracic surgery.

GRANTS

- Phase 2, Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety Using Autologous Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (LN-145) in Patients with Recurrent, Metastatic, or Persistent Cervical Carcinoma, Iovance Biotherapeutics

HONORS

American College of Surgeons, Board of Governors
American Association of Medical Colleges, Chief Medical Office Group
Chapter American College of Surgeons, President
NJ Society of Thoracic Surgeons, President

INVITED LECTURES

- Trends in traditional cardiothoracic resident operative experience for cardiac cases: an analysis of Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education case logs. 100th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Thoracic Surgery



Huzaifa Shakir, MD, MBA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Hsiung, T, Thota B, Sambol JT, Guarrera JV, Shakir H. Robotic-assisted thoracoscopic resection of a mature anterior mediastinal teratoma in an adult. *Annals of Surgical Case Reports and Images* 1(2):1015 2024

Jacobs Tyler, Marvens Jean, Shakir H. Descending necrotizing mediastinitis after dental extractions in an uncontrolled diabetic: a case report. *Oral and Maxillofacial Journal of Macedonian Surgery* 2024 Epub ahead of print

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Endocarditis
- Large date set reviews of CT surgery evaluating faculty
- Healthcare disparities in CT Surgery Patients

My research interests are in improving outcomes in cardiac surgery in patients with limited resources and specialized cardiac disease.

HONORS

Upsilon Phi Delta Honor Society, Rutgers University - Edward Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

Top Doctor Award, New Jersey Monthly Magazine/Castle Connolly

Richard J. Elkort Memorial Award for Excellence in Surgery, Boston University

INVITED LECTURES

- "Transcatheter aortic valve replacement: From Niche Therapy to Standard of Care" Department of Anesthesia, Grand Rounds
- "Transcatheter aortic valve replacement" Department of Medicine, Grand Rounds
- "Transcatheter aortic valve replacement" Department of Surgery, Grand Rounds
- "Professional obligations in the face of risks to personal health, debate" Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society, Standards and Ethics Committee
- "COVID-19 and Healthcare resilience: past, present, future" Rutgers MHA Program as the Rutgers University Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and American College of Healthcare Executives of New Jersey



James V. Guarrera, MD

PROFESSOR AND EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF LIVER TRANSPLANT AND HEPATOBILIARY SURGERY
PROGRAM DIRECTOR, LIVER TRANSPLANTATION, UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Medina-Morales JE*, Panayotova GG*, Nguyen DT, Graviss EA, Prakash GS, Marsh JA, Simonishvili S, Shah Y, Ayorinde T, Qin Y, Jin L, Zoumpou T, Minze LJ, Paterno F, Amin A, Riddle GL, Ghobrial RM, Guarrera JV, Lunsford KE. Pre-transplant biomarkers of immune dysfunction improve risk assessment of post-transplant mortality compared to conventional clinical risk scores. Res Sq 21:rs.3.rs-2548184, 2023

Ramírez-Del Val A, Guarrera J, Porte RJ, Selzner M, Spiro M, Raptis DA, Friend PJ. Does machine perfusion improve immediate and short-term outcomes by enhancing graft function and recipient recovery after liver transplantation? - A systematic review of the literature, meta-analysis and expert panel recommendations. Clinical Transplantation 36(10):e14638. 2022

Azer A, Panayotova GG, Kong K, Hakakian D, Sheikh F, Gorman E, Sutherland A, Tafesh Z, Horng H, Guarrera JV, Glass NE. Clinical application of thromboelastography in patients with cirrhosis: a single center experience. J Surg Res 287:142-148, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Preservation of Donor Organs

My research focusses on ex-vivo machine preservation of donor organs. Our group has clinically preserved human livers using ex-vivo continuous machine perfusion. Our research has paved the way for clinical trials by other groups in North America, Europe, and Asia.

GRANTS

- "Molecular Targets of Preservation Injury Mitigated by Hypothermic Oxygenated Machine Perfusion in Liver Transplant." NIH R21 (R21AI180739-A1) [MPI: Guarrera/Lunsford],
- "Randomized Multicenter Trial of the Use of the LifePort™ Liver Transporter with Vasosol Compared to Static Cold Storage in Orthotopic Liver Transplantation" (The PILOT Trial), Sponsored Research Agreement with Organ Recovery Systems
- "Pathologic and Molecular Mechanisms of Protection Associated with Hypothermic Machine Perfusion for Liver Transplantation", Sponsored Research Agreement with Organ Recovery Systems,
- "Machine Preservation of Extended Criteria Liver Allografts for Transplantation" R38OT10588 H.R.S.A-Clinical Interventions to Increase Organ Procurement

HONORS

Chancellor Distinguished Innovator Award, Rutgers University
Toast to Our Heroes Award, University Hospital Foundation
Excellence in Teaching, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Department of Surgery
Pipeline Award, American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS)

INVITED LECTURES

- "Liver disorders and transplantation: innovations and evolving indications." ILTS Annual Congress in Rotterdam, Netherlands
- "Challenges to implement a machine perfusion program." International Liver Transplant Society Webinar Series
- "Debate: normothermic vs. hypothermic machine perfusion," International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA) 15th IHPBA World Congress, New York City, NY
- "How hypothermic liver perfusion changed my program", Featured Symposium, American Transplant Congress, Philadelphia, PA
- Visiting Professor, USC- Keck Medicine Dept of Surgery, Los Angeles CA
- "The data on machine perfusion," ASTS Winter Symposium, Miami, FL
- "Machine perfusion strategies in liver transplantation: Hypothermic machine perfusion." American Hepatopancreatobiliary Association. Miami, FL
- "Hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion: U.S. results." American Association for the Study of Liver Disease Industry Symposium. Washington DC



Arpit Amin, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Amin A, Emmaneul B, Raghu V, Khanna A, Soltys K, Sindhi R, Tevar A, Moritz M, Humar A, Mazariegos G, Ganoza A, Kidney transplant in pediatric gut transplant recipients: technical challenges and outcomes. *Pediatric Transplantation* 28 (3), 2024

Panayotova, GG*, Lunsford KE*, Quillin RC, Rana A, Agopian VG, Lee-Riddle GS, Markovic D, Paterno F, Griesemer AD, Amin A, Alonso D, Rocca JP, Borja-Cacho D, Hernandez-Alejandro R, Fung JJ, Pelletier SJ, Shah SA, Guarrera JV. Portable hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion for organ preservation in liver transplantation (PILOTTM): a randomized, open-label, clinical trial. *Hepatology* 79(5):1033-1047, 2024

Amin A, Panayotova G, Guarrera JV. Maximizing the donor potential for patients with acute-on-chronic liver failure for liver transplant. *Clin Liver Dis* 3:763-765, 2023

Amin A, Panayotova G, Guarrera JV. Hypothermic machine perfusion for liver graft preservation. *Current Opinion in Organ Transplant* 27 (2):98-105, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Outcomes of ventral hernia repair in patients with cirrhosis
 - Impact of transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt on splenic volume and incidence of pancytopenia in liver transplant recipients
- My research interests are in improving outcomes in transplant surgery and complex ventral hernia repair in patients with liver disease.

HONORS

Society of Pediatric Liver Transplantation (SPLIT) Scientific Award, 24th Annual Society of Pediatric Liver Transplantation
The Transplantation Society Scientific Award, 16th Congress of Intestinal Rehabilitation and Transplant Association

INVITED LECTURES

- "Update on liver transplantation for non-resectable colorectal liver metastases," American College of Surgeons 70th Annual Clinical Symposium New Jersey Chapter
- "Pancreas transplantation," Grand Rounds, Division of Abdominal Transplant Surgery, Hartford Hospital
- "Kidney transplant in pediatric gut transplant recipients: technical challenges and outcomes," 11th Congress of the International Pediatric Transplant Association
- "Hypothermic machine perfusion improves biomarkers of injury prior to liver transplantation," 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress
- "Kidney machine perfusion improves survival in high-acuity combined liver-kidney transplant recipients," 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress
- "Pre-liver transplant immune dysfunction results in lymphocyte dysregulation," 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress
- "Intestinal and multivisceral transplantation: the ultimate treatment for intestinal failure," Grand Rounds. Rutgers NJMS



Grace Lee-Riddle, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Lee-Riddle GS, Schmidt HJ, Reese PP, Nelson MN, Neergaard R, Barg FK, Serper M. Transplant recipient, care partner, and clinician perceptions of medication adherence monitoring technology: A mixed methods study. *American Journal of Transplantation*. 24(4):669-680, 2024

Kaplan A, Lee-Riddle GS, Nobel Y, Dove L, Shenoy A, Rosenblatt R, Samstein B, Emond JC, Brown RS Jr. National survey of second opinions for hospitalized patients in need of liver transplantation. *Liver Transplantation* 29(12):1264-1271, 2023

Panayotova GG*, Lunsford KE*, Quillin RC 3rd, Rana A, Agopian VG, Lee-Riddle GS, Markovic D, Paterno F, Griesemer AD, Amin A, Alonso D, Rocca JP, Borja-Cacho D, Hernandez-Alejandro R, Fung JJ, Pelletier SJ, Shah SA, Guarrera JV. Portable hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion for organ reservation in liver transplantation. *Hepatology* 79(5):1033-1047, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Loneliness and social isolation in transplant recipients
- Social media use in transplant community
- Clinical outcomes of liver transplant, kidney transplant

My research focuses on the psychosocial aspects of peritransplant care to improve and enhance clinical and quality of life outcomes for transplant recipients, their care partners, and their healthcare team.

GRANTS

- Greenwall Foundation Making a Difference in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas, Understanding Key Stakeholder Attitudes Towards Novel Methods of Remotely Monitoring Medication Adherence after Transplantation

HONORS

American Transplant Congress Travel Award

INVITED LECTURES

- "Overview of hypothermic machine perfusion in liver transplantation," 12th Annual Congress of the International Pediatric Transplant Association, Austin, TX
- "Challenges in second opinions for patients in urgent need of liver transplant," Penn MBE/MSME Alumni Colloquium Series, Philadelphia, PA
- "Transplantation: The ultimate team sport," American Society of Transplant Surgeons Winter Symposium, Miami Beach, FL
- "Ethical issues in organ donation," Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Department of Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Ethical analysis of allocation out of sequence," UNOS Ethics Committee



Keri E. Lunsford, MD, PhD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

DIRECTOR, TRANSLATIONAL AND SURGICAL SCIENCE

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Panayotova GG, Simonishvili S, Nguyen DT, Graviss EA, Aware N, Manner CJ, Minze LJ, Ayorinde T, Qin Y, Jin L, Lemenze AD, Mysore KR, Moore L, Paterno F, Saharia A, Mobley CM, Amin A, Hobeika MJ, Pyrsopoulos N, Li XC, Ghobrial RM, Guarrera JV, Lunsford KE. Development and Internal Validation of a Novel Pre-Transplant Biomarker Panel to Predict Post-Liver Transplant Mortality. *Res Sq*. 2023.

Panayotova GG*, Lunsford KE* (*co-first authors), Quillin R, Rana A, Agopian V, Lee-Riddle GS, Markovic D, Paterno F, Griesemer AD, Amin A, Alonso D, Rocca J, Borja-Cacho D, Hernandez-Alejandro H, Fung JJ, Pelletier SJ, Shah S, Guarrera JV. Portable hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion for organ preservation in liver transplantation: A randomized, open-label, clinical trial. *Hepatology* 79(5):1033-1047, 2024

Bowlus, CL, Arrivé L, Bergquist A, Deneau M, Forman L, Ilyas SI, Lunsford KE, Martinez M, Sapisochin G, Shroff R, Tabibian JH, Assis DN. AASLD Practice Guidance on Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis and Cholangiocarcinoma. *Hepatology*. 2023 Feb 1;77(2):659-702.

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Immune dysfunction in liver transplant patients
 - Effect of physical immune frailty and malnutrition on immune dysfunction in liver transplant patients
 - Immunobiologic effects of hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion on donor livers
- The research interests of my laboratory center around the evaluation of immune dysfunction in the pre-, peri-, and post-liver transplant settings. We systematically investigate the role of immune cell bioenergetics and T cell dysfunction in the development of severe pre-transplant cirrhosis-associated immune dysfunction (ie immunologic frailty). As part of this, we have developed a comprehensive nutritional and physical frailty assessment to evaluate the interface of physical and immune frailty in our recipients. Our approach is not only to define the state of immunologic frailty, but also to pinpoint therapeutic targets to improve long-term pre- and post-transplant outcomes, inclusive of prehabilitation and nutritional interventions to improve both wait-list and early post-transplant mortality. With this research, we have identified the Liver Immune Frailty Index, a novel biomarker panel of pre-liver transplant immune dysfunction which predicts post-liver transplant mortality. Multi-center external validation of this index is currently under way.

GRANTS

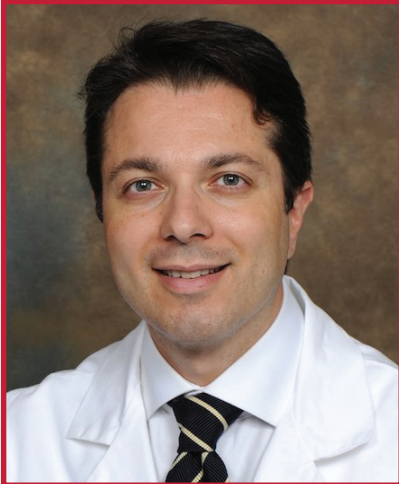
- “Multi-Center Validation and Biologic Assessment of a Novel Pre-Transplant Biomarker Panel to Predict Liver Transplant Recipient Mortality”, NIH R01 (1R01DK137222)
- “Molecular Targets of Preservation Injury Mitigated by Hypothermic Oxygenated Machine Perfusion in Liver Transplant”, NIH R21 (R21AI180739)
- “Defining Immunologic Frailty as a Predictor of Human Liver Allograft Recipient Futility”, NIH NIDDK (3K08DK118187-05S1)
- CD147-CAR-NK Cells for Hepatocellular Carcinoma Treatment”, NCI R21 (R21CA267368 co-investigator)
- “Assessment of Immune Exhaustion in Severe Pre-Transplant Immune Dysfunction Resulting in Early Post-Liver Transplant Mortality”, Feldstein Medical Foundation Grant

HONORS

New Jersey Magazine Top Doctors – Surgeons
International Liver Transplant Society Young Investigator Award
Association of Women Surgeons Foundation Research Fellowship

INVITED LECTURES

- “Liver transplant for intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma,” University of Southern California Transplant Grand Rounds
- “Liver transplant oncology: potential role for extended oncologic indication in liver transplantation,” Emory University Transplant Grand Rounds



Flavio Paterno, MD, MPH

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF HEPATOBILIARY
AND TRANSPLANT SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Paterno F, Amin A, Lunsford KE, Brown LG, Pyrsopoulos N, Lee ES, Guarrera JV. Marginal costotomy: a novel surgical technique to rescue from large-for-size syndrome. *Liver Transplantation* 28(2):317-320, 2022

Paterno F, Lee-Riddle GS, Olivo R, Amin AN, Koneru B, Pyrsopoulos NT, Lunsford KE, Guarrera JV. Acceptable outcomes of liver transplantation in uninsured patients under the coverage of a state assistance program. *Liver Transpl.* 2024 Sep 27.

Abbassi F, Gero D, Muller X, Bueno A, Figiel W, Robin F, Laroche S, Picard B, Shankar S, Ivanics T, van Reeve M, van Leeuwen OB, Braun HJ, Monbaliu D, Breton A, Vachharajani N, Bonaccorsi E, Nowak G, McMillan RR, Abu-Gazala S, Nair A, Bruballa R, Paterno F, et al. Novel benchmark values for redo liver transplantation: does the outcome justify the effort? *Annals of Surgery* 276(5):860-867, 2022

Panayotova GG*, Lunsford KE* (*co-first authors), Quillin R, Rana A, Agopian V, Lee-Riddle GS, Markovic D, Paterno F, Griesemer AD, Amin A, Alonso D, Rocca J, Borja-Cacho D, Hernandez-Alejandro H, Fung JJ, Pelletier SJ, Shah S, Guarrera JV. Portable hypothermic oxygenated machine perfusion for organ preservation in liver transplantation: A randomized, open-label, clinical trial. *Hepatology* 79(5):1033-1047, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Clinical Outcome research and large database analysis in Transplant and General Surgery.
- Disparities in access to healthcare
- Molecular biomarkers in hepatocellular carcinoma

My primary research focus is on biomarkers in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). I was awarded a New Jersey Health Foundation (NJHF) grant to initiate a pilot study on molecular biomarkers in HCC, conducted in collaboration with the Rutgers Genomics Center.

GRANTS

- Identification of a New Diagnostic Biomarker for hepatocellular Carcinoma Based on Circulating Micro RNA, New Jersey Health Foundation
- A Prospective, Multicenter, Randomized Clinical Investigation Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of GATT-Patch versus TachoSil for Hemostasis during Open Liver Surgery. Clinical investigation plan Number: DHF-01-SFT-194
- Timing of Treatment for Chronic Hepatitis C Infection in Patients with End Stage Renal Disease Awaiting Transplantation, Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp MISP 55908

HONORS

Poster of distinction award at American Transplant Congress
UH Healthcare Heroes Award

INVITED LECTURES

- "Long term post liver transplant complications," Liver and Kidney Transplant Lecture Series (by Novartis), New Jersey (virtual)
- "Pre-transplant evaluation in kidney transplant," Liver and Kidney Transplant Lecture Series (by Novartis), New Jersey (virtual)
- "Results from the first US-based multicenter randomized trial using oxygenated hypothermic machine perfusion of the liver" ESOT, European Society for Organ Transplantation, 2021 Congress, Milan, Italy
- "Hepatectomy or transplant for liver cancer?" 9th Annual Update on Liver Disease Symposium, New Jersey (virtual)
- "Introduction to liver transplant," Trauma Grand Rounds, Rutgers NJMS, Newark, NJ
- "Why a robotic minimally invasive approach in HPB and transplant surgery?" American College of Surgeons NJ Chapter, 70th Annual Symposium, Iselin, NJ
- "Kidney transplant," Ghana Global Health – Internal Medicine Education Series, Cape Coast University, Cape Coast, Ghana



Edward Lee, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

CHIEF, DIVISION OF PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENCY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Gupta R, Weisberger J, Herzog I, Lee ES. Utilization of the gastrocnemius flap for post-traumatic knee reconstruction: a systematic review. *Eur J Orthop Surg Traumatol* 34(5):2255-2261, 2024

Maisner R, Kapadia K, Berlin R, Lee ES; Is #Gender Affirmation surgery trending? An analysis of plastic surgery residency social media content, *Transgender Health* 9(3), 2024

Subramanian S, Maisner R, Patel N, Song A, Yuan L, Mistry D, Kapadia K, Lee ES; A Comparison of Plastic Surgery Authorship Trends Under Single Versus Double-Blinded Review, *Journal of Surgical Research* 298:260-268, 2024

Herzog I, Park J, Didzbalis CJ, Weisberger J, Tran BN, Lee ES; Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on Facial Aesthetic Surgery Search Interest. *Annals of Plastic Surgery* 90(6S Suppl 5):S630-S633. 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Oncoplastic Surgery
- Limb Salvage
- Innovation in Plastic Surgery

I am interested in pursuing best outcomes for our plastic surgery patients in oncologic reconstruction as well as trauma reconstruction. These surgical disciplines include breast reconstruction, limb salvage, orthoplastics, oncoplastics, and a number of other plastic surgery subspecialties. I'm interested in improving accessibility and outcomes for patients through use of technology in and out of the operating room. My projects have included clinical studies based on patient outcomes, analysis of the impact of technology on patient understanding of their surgical options, and surgical education.

GRANTS

- The Impact of Blood Glucose Control on Symptomatic Neuroma Formation, Plastic Surgery Research Council/Plastic Surgery Foundation Grant

HONORS

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Graduate Medical Education, Resident Wellness Award
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Alpha Omega Alpha – Faculty Inductee
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Golden Apple Nominee – Teaching Award

INVITED LECTURES

- "Perineal reconstruction after radical pelvic surgery: a cost effectiveness analysis." The New York Regional Society of Plastic Surgeons Residents Night, NY, NY
- "Use of negative pressure therapy in complex arthroplasty," 4th Biennial Disaster Arthroplasty Conference, Miami, FL
- "The impact of double vs. single-blinded review on plastic surgery authorship." ASPS Meeting
- "Promoting publications through plastic surgery journal instagram accounts: is it worth it?" NESPS Annual Meeting
- "The medical student race to research: who presents more at national plastic surgery conferences?" NESPS Annual Meeting
- "Multimetric health literacy analysis of online gender affirmation surgery materials: from facial to genital surgery," Plastic Surgery, Boston, MA
- "Introduction to plastic surgery: applications of the reconstructive ladder," Grand Rounds Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital, Mampong, Ghana
- "Wide awake hand surgery in a low resource environment," Grand Rounds Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital, Mampong, Ghana



Ramazi O. Datiashvili, MD, PhD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Gupta R, Cai Y, Li L, Galan M, Datiashvili RO. Rare case of a cutaneous fingertip schwannoma: a case report and review of literature. *Eplasty* 28;23:e25, 2023

Oleck NC, Malhotra R, Ayyala HS, Datiashvili RO. Pediatric Replantation after Traumatic Amputation at the distal forearm: Rehabilitation Protocol and Outcomes. *J Hand Microsurg.* 13(3):169-172, 2021

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- How can we improve outcomes in hand and reconstructive surgery?

My research is in major limb replantation and specialized techniques to manage the traumatized upper extremity.

HONORS

Top Plastic Surgeon in Newark, New Jersey, International Association of Healthcare Professionals (IAHCP) The Leading Physicians of the World

Top 100 Health Professionals, The International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England
Honorary Lecturer, Tbilisi State Medical University, Tbilisi, Georgia

INVITED LECTURES

- "Head & neck reconstruction," Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Plastic surgery mock orals," Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Reconstructive microsurgery of the hand" Orthopedics Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Major limb replantations," Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Introduction to plastic surgery," Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS



Mark Granick, MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY WITH TENURE

MEDICAL DIRECTOR, WOUND CENTER AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Gala Z, Bai D, Halsey J, Ayyala H, Riddle K, Hohenleitner J, Hoppe I, Lee E, Granick M. Head computed tomography versus maxillofacial computed tomography: an evaluation of the efficacy of facial imaging in the detection of facial fractures. *Eplasty*. 20:22, 2022

Falanga V, Isseroff RR, Soulika AM, Romanelli M, Margolis D, Kapp S, Granick M, Harding K. *Nat Rev Dis Primers* 8(1):50, 2022

Chao J, Cai S, Granick M; Intramedullary Headless Compression Screw Fixation Technique of Metacarpal Fractures. *Eplasty*, Feb 16;22:ic2. 2022

Kim KK, Granick MS, Baum GA, Beninger F, Cahill KV, Donnelly KC, Kaidi AA, Kang AS, Loeding L, Loyo M, Patel PA, Roostaeian J, Taghva GH, Varkarakis GM. American Society of Plastic Surgeons evidence-based clinical practice guideline: eyelid surgery for upper visual field improvement. 150(2):419e-434e, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Surgical wound technologies
- Skin substitutes
- Specialized wound coverage devices

My interest is in developing and refining surgical wound technologies, dressings, and devices.

GRANTS

- Molnlycke, A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled study using cross-over design to evaluate and compare 3 multi-layered foam dressings for the management of chronic wounds.
- Sanuwave, Effect of External Shock Wave Therapy on Skin Perfusion
- Cytori FDA Phase 3 Randomized Double Blinded controlled study of Cytori extracted lipid derived stem cells for the treatment of Scleroderma hand sclerosis (STAR study), co-PI
- Smith and Nephew, Protocol Number 802-247-09-031: A phase 3 Randomized, Double Blind, Vehicle Controlled Study Investigating the Safety and Efficacy of HP802-247 in the Treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers >12cm² to ≤36 cm²
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIH), Biofilm matrix-degrading enzymes for the treatment and prevention of *S. aureus*

HONORS

International Academy of Wound Technology, Board of Directors Founding member, co-Editor-in-chief *ePlasty*

Chair, Upper eyelid blepharoplasty clinical practice guideline committee, American Association of Plastic Surgeons

INVITED LECTURES

- "CT head versus CT maxillofacial: An evaluation of the efficacy of facial imaging in the detection of facial fractures," American Society of Plastic Surgeons Plastic Surgery the Meeting
- "Management of Bioburden in surgical wounds," American Society of Plastic Surgeons Annual Meeting, Austin, TX
- "Biodegradable temporizing matrix: not Just a burn dressing," Symposium on Advanced Wound Care, Las Vegas, Nevada
- "Control of Biofilm in wounds," Department of Plastic Surgery, Renaissance Stony Brook Medical School, Hauppauge, New York
- "Synthetic skin substitutes," Tampa General Hospital, Tampa, FL



Ashley Ignatiuk MD, MSc

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Cadwell JB, Weisberger JS, Gary CS, Patel S, Maisner RS, Ignatiuk A. Discrepancies in work relative value unit assignment based on operative time in hand surgery. *Hand* 19(3):493-498. 2024

Cadwell JB, Salma A, Patel S, Luthringer MM, Weisberger J, Ignatiuk A. Relative value units and operative time in plastic and reconstructive surgery. *Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery* 75(7):2286-2292. 2022

Ignatiuk A, Chow A, Shulzhenko NO, Cece J, Ayyala H, Datiashvili R. Secondary autologous fat grafting as a novel method to improve pain and appearance of the residual fingertip after amputation. *Eplasty* 22:e48. 2022

Herzog I, Weisberger J, Ignatiuk A. Targeted muscle reinnervation in the setting of traumatic bilateral above-knee amputations: a case report. *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery Case Connect* 13(1), 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Clinical outcomes in hand and peripheral nerve surgery

My interest is in complex upper extremity reconstruction and innovations to improve clinical outcomes.

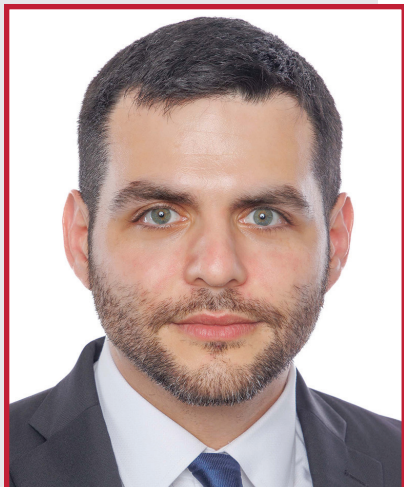
HONORS

Golden Apple Award to Subspecialty Faculty

32nd Annual Adrian E. Flatt Resident and Fellow Scholarship, American Society for Surgery of the Hand

INVITED LECTURES

- "Ulnar artery reconstruction: lateral circumflex femoral arterial graft in the setting of hypothenar hammer syndrome," New Jersey Society of Plastic Surgeons, Annual Meeting. New Brunswick, New Jersey
- "Trapezius muscle activity in children and adolescents with chronic obstetrical brachial plexus birth palsy," American Society for Peripheral Nerve Annual Meeting. Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- "Too hot to handle: an epidemiologic study of burn injuries to the hand," American Association for Hand Surgery Annual Meeting. Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- "Complex synpolydactyly reconstruction with SPY angiography," Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgery. San Diego, California
- "Nitinol compression staples in the treatment of scaphoid waist nonunion," 76th Annual meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. San Francisco, California



Steven Ovadia, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Keller PR, Chen ML, Ovadia SA, Reiche E, Safa B, Coon D. "Revision phalloplasty: evaluation, algorithms and techniques for salvage after major complications". *Plast Reconstr Surg* 154(2):362e-373e. 2024

Ovadia SA, Smartz T, Thaller SR. Management of Velopharyngeal Insufficiency Associated With Cleft palate: sphincter pharyngoplasty and pharyngeal flap. *J Craniofac Surg* 2024 Epub ahead of print

Bellamy JL, Goodrich ER, Sabatini FM, Mounce SD, Ovadia SA, Kolin DA, Odum SM, Cohen-Rosenblum A, Landy DC. Systematic review of gender and sex terminology use in arthroplasty research: there is room for improvement. *J Arthroplasty* 39(12):3114-3118, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Peri-operative safety and peri-operative pain management
- Cost-effective care
- Outcomes of facial trauma and mandible fractures

My research interests are in peri-operative safety and peri-operative pain management, cost-effective care, outcomes of facial trauma and mandible fractures.

HONORS

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

INVITED LECTURES

- "Comparison of costs and outcomes for in-office and operating room excision of cutaneous malignancies," American Society of Plastic Surgeons Meeting, Orlando, FL
- "Gender affirming Surgery," Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS



Alex Wong, MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

VICE CHAIR OF RESEARCH

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Sung C, Wang J, Chang J, Wong AK. Review of treatment strategies after lymphadenectomy: From molecular therapeutics to immediate microsurgical lymphatic reconstruction. *J Vasc Surg Venous Lymphat Disord* 12(5):1, 2024

McGraw JR, Sulkar RS, Amro C, Gala Z, Mehrara BJ, Wong AK, Kovach SJ 3rd, Matros E, Azoury SC. Analysis of the microsurgery fellowship match: 2019-2022 update. *Microsurgery* Sep;44(6):e31217. 2024

Sung C, Jian W, Park SY, Cooper M, Bouz A, Choi D, Jung E, Kim G, Hong YK, Wong AK. Lymphatic endothelial cell RXRa is critical for 9-cis retinoic acid-mediated lymphangiogenesis and prevention of secondary lymphedema. *The FASEB Journal* 7:2267, 2023

Choi D, Park E, Yu RP, Cooper MN, Cho IT, Choi J, Yu J, Zhao L, Yum JI, Yu JS, Nakashima B, Lee S, Seong YJ, Jiao W, Koh CJ, Baluk P, McDonald DM, Saraswathy S, Lee JY, Jeon NL, Zhang Z, Huang AS, Zhou B, Wong AK, Hong YK. Piezo1-regulated mechanotransduction controls flow-activated lymphatic expansion. *Circ Res* 131(2):2-21, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Lymphatic and blood vessel regeneration after damage from surgery and/or radiation
- Pathophysiology of lymphedema
- Wound healing in compromised settings such as after radiation or in diabetic patients.

My clinical expertise is focused on complex breast, lymphatic, and sarcoma reconstruction and the patient I care for have a significant influence on the theme of our research programs which can be unified by interests in fundamental aspects of tissue regeneration. The Wong laboratory investigates therapies to stimulate: 1) lymphatic and blood vessel growth after damage from surgery and/or radiation and 2) wound healing in compromised settings such as after radiation or in diabetic patients.

GRANTS

- "Retinoic Acid Induced Lymphangiogenesis for Prevention of Post-Surgical Lymphedema", NIH R01 HL157626

HONORS

Chair, Lower Extremity Subcommittee of ASPS Curriculum Development Committee
Chair, ASPS EdNet Research and Technology Section
Parliamentarian, Plastic Surgery Research Council
Newsweek Best Plastic Surgeons
Ad Hoc Member, NIH/SAT Study Section

INVITED LECTURES

- "RXRa is essential in 9-cis retinoic acid-induced lymphangiogenesis in lymphatic endothelial cells," 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress, Orlando FL
- "Post-operative eyelid edema in different racial and ethnic populations," Abstract Presentation, Plastic Surgery The Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia
- "A survey of current preferences of plastic surgeons regarding the assessment and reduction of preoperative anxiety in adult patients," Academy of Cosmetic Surgery Annual Meeting
- "Administration of Yoda1 reduces secondary lymphedema in mouse tail model," World Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery. Bologna, Italy



Ravi Chokshi, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Prasath V, Quinn PL, Arjani S, Li S, Oliver JB, Mahmoud O, Jaloudi M, Hajifathalian K, Chokshi RJ. Locally advanced gastric cancer management: a cost-effectiveness analysis. *Am Surg* 90(6):1268-1278, 2024

Jodido MA, Panse N, Prasath V, Trive R, Arjani S, Chokshi RJ. Cost- effectiveness of staging laparoscopy with peritoneal cytology. *Current Problems in Surgery* 61(3):101442 2024

Selvakumar T, Mu S, Prasath V, Arjani S, Chokshi RJ, Kra J. Colon cancer epidemiology, race and socioeconomic status: Comparing trends in counties served by an urban hospital in Newark, NJ with overall NJ-state and nation-wide patterns. *Cancer Epidemiol* 86:102412. 2023

Scott M, William S, Chokshi RJ. Fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma. *Clin Med* 2023 Epub ahead of print

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Cost effectiveness of cancer care
- Disparities in cancer care
- Clinical outcomes of complex malignancy requiring redo or radical operations

We are interested in healthcare costs and disparate outcomes in cancer patients. Working at a safety-net hospital provides a unique opportunity to investigate and make changes. A majority of our research investigates differences in cost delivery and outcomes.

GRANTS

- New Jersey Health Grant #PC11-24 Using Image-Based AI to predict Future Breast and Lung Cancer Risk
- New Jersey Health Grant #PC13-24 The Hope Library: Storytelling as 'Psychosocial Support for Cancer Patients'
- NIH/R01CA136533 Deciphering the Code for Senescence Escape During Cancer Progression in Humans, Co-Investigator

HONORS

Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons Educational Resources Committee, Robotic Committee
Association for Surgical Education
Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract

INVITED LECTURES

- "Laparoscopic distal pancreatectomy and radical antegrade modular Pancreatosplenectomy," Capitulo HPB Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela
- "Cost effectiveness in surgery," Mexican Association of General Surgery (AMCG), XIVII International Congress, Leon, Mexico
- "Management of rare pancreatic tumors, common and uncommon," Mexican Association of General Surgery (AMCG), XIVII International Congress, Leon, Mexico

**Maria Benjamin, MD**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Breast cancer disparities in Newark
- Breast cancer curriculum development
- Medical genetics for oncology

The Oncotype Dx breast cancer recurrence score is a genomic signature used to assess benefit for adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with early breast cancer and this has been incorporated into NCCN guidelines for adjuvant decision-making. However, the Oncotype Dx score has lower prognostic accuracy in Black women, and Black women have higher rates of breast cancer recurrences than white women. This research is a retrospective chart-review of women treated at University Hospital, who were evaluated for adjuvant therapy with this genomic score. Using an intention-to-treat model, we will compare the rates of breast cancer specific mortality and relapse free interval (RFI) in Black women in Newark, treated at University Hospital with non-black women treated at University Hospital. These rates will also be compared to nationally published rates of recurrence. Relapse free interval will be defined as the date from registration to the first recurrence of breast cancer, defined as ipsilateral breast, local-regional or distant recurrence, or to the date of death with recurrence, if death is the first indication of recurrence. This research will help assess whether these genomic assays require a model calibration for Black patients.

INVITED LECTURES

- “Finding your first job,” Women in Surgery, South Shore, NY.
- “Breast cancer disparities: understanding the disparate burden in breast cancer between African American women and White American women”. Grand Rounds, Lifebridge Health, MD.



T. Salewa Oseni, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Chen YH, Chen YW, Chang DC, Oseni TO. Disparities in timely surgery among Asian American women with breast cancer. *Am J Surg* Aug 22;115928 2024

Chen YW, Kim T, Specht MC, Smith BL, Chang DC, Oseni TO. Time to surgery: A health equity metric in breast cancer patients. *Am J Surg* Aug 226(4):432-437, 2023

Chen YW, Molina RL, Kim TD, Chang DC, Oseni TO. Minority-Serving hospitals are associated with low within-hospital disparity. *Am Surg* Vol 0(0):1-8. 2023

Keshinro A, Butler P, Fayanju O, Khabele D, Newman E, Greene W, Ude Welcome A, Joseph KA, Stallion A, Backhus L, Frangos S, DiMaggio C, Berman R, Hasson R, Rodriguez LM, Stain S, Bukur M, Klein MJ, Henry-Tillman R, Barry L, Oseni T, Martin C, Johnson-Mann C, Smith R, Karpeh M, White C, Turner P, Pugh C, Hayes-Jordan A, Berry C. Examination of Intersectionality and the Pipeline for Black Academic Surgeons. *JAMA Surg* 157(4):327-334. 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Breast cancer
- Health disparities and health equity

My research has been shaped by my desire to impact patient outcomes in breast cancer. My background as a military trained physician has afforded me the opportunity to work in an equal access system and evaluate its effect on healthcare disparities. In my transition to a civilian career, I have continued my research in health care disparities and ways of quantifying and addressing this issue especially at minority serving hospitals. In summary, I am committed to lessening disparities in health care and how this can be achieved through health systems. I am also passionate about empowering female surgeons and giving them opportunities to excel.

HONORS

Alpha Omega Alpha, Case Western University
Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, United States Navy
Navy Commendation Medal, United States Navy
Polesky Research Grant, MGH Intramural Award
Commonwealth Fund Fellow, Commonwealth Fund

INVITED LECTURES

- "Being your authentic self in white spaces," Community Conversations Cambridge, MA
- Implicit bias, maternal health and the far-reaching impacts for black women," U.S. Department of Labor- Women's Bureau
- "Healthcare disparities: how we got here and how we get out." Northwest Colorectal Society, Sun Valley, ID
- "Time to surgery- a health equity metric in cancer care." Society of Black Academic Surgeons, Philadelphia, PA



Susan Pories, MD

PROFESSOR AND VICE CHAIR OF QUALITY AND SAFETY
DIRECTOR, RUTGERS BREAST CENTER AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
SECTION CHIEF OF BREAST SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Zieba D, Pories S, Thota HB, Suster DI. Malignant Phyllodes Tumor of the breast with multiple cutaneous metastasis resembling pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma. *Am J Dermatopathol* 2024 Epub ahead of print

Roy R, Man E, Aldakhlallah R, Gonzalez K, Merritt L, Daisy C, Lombardo M, Yordanova V, Sun L, Isaac B, Rockowitz S, Lotz M, Pories S, Moses MA. Mammary adipocytes promote breast tumor cell invasion and angiogenesis in the context of menopause and obesity. *Biochim Biophys Acta Mol Basis Dis* 187(7): 2024 Epub ahead of print

Yue T, Wong LY, Jani C, Agarwal L, Al Omari O, Aghagoli G, Ahmed A, Bhatt P, Lee A, Lotz M, Marmor H, Paliotti G, Pories SE, Richmond J, Shula L, Sandler KL, Conley Thomson C, Backhus LM. Combined breast and lung cancer screening among dual-eligible women: A descriptive study. *J Surg Res* 2024 Epub ahead of print

Harz, D, Schwartz, AW, Lee, T, Wong, LM, Jones, DJ, Pories, SE. Learning harmony: medical student reflections on the intersection of the arts & humanities and medicine: a mixed methods study. *Health Prof Educ* 21;9(2):72-81, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Breast cancer detection and treatment
- Quality and safety

I collaborate with several other investigators from around the country on the role of adiposity in breast cancer, the use of AI for breast and lung cancer screening, the effects of exercise on compliance with oral hormonal medication in breast cancer survivors.

GRANTS

- Internal Funding for Clinical Research, Hoffman Breast Center, The Effect of Increased Physical Activity on Adherence to Oral Hormonal Therapy (Fitbit Study)
- New Jersey Health Foundation, The Hope Library: Storytelling as Psychosocial Support for Cancer Patients.
- New Jersey Health Foundation, Using Image-Based AI to Predict Future Breast and Lung Cancer Risk
- CRICO/RMF RFA Grant Award, SMART training – Smart Appropriate Response Training: A role-playing training toolkit for residents to help address sexual harassment, gender discrimination, and microaggressions in the workplace
- American Cancer Society, Multimodal Intervention Strategies to Improve Lung Cancer Screening for Women Undergoing Breast Screening

HONORS

Honorary Fellow Society of Black Academic Surgeons (SBAS)
Shirley Driscoll Dean's Leadership Award for the Enhancement of Women's Careers
Joint Committee on the Status of Women, Harvard Medical School
American College of Surgeons Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: Distinguished Service Award

INVITED LECTURES

- "A global view of breast cancer," Breast Surgery International World Congress of Surgery, Vienna, Austria
- "A lifetime of progress in breast cancer care," Inaugural Russell Nauta Lecture in Surgery, Mount Auburn Hospital, Combined Medical/Surgical Grand Rounds
- "Progress in breast cancer care," Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Surgery Grand Rounds
- "De-escalation of radiotherapy: whole breast irradiation, partial breast irradiation, and omission," International Surgical Week (ISW), Breast Surgery International



Ziad C. Sifri, MD

WESLEY J. HOWE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF TRAUMA AND SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF GLOBAL HEALTH

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Bono K, Caceda JA, Zhai M, Horng H, Sifri Z. Timing of acquisition of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* nasal carriage: can we limit repeat screening? *J Surg Res* 295:89-94, 2024

Krakauer KN, Wong LY, Tobias J, Majekodunmi O, Sifri Z. Evaluating global surgery partnerships from low- and middle-income country perspectives. *SUS Committee on Academic Global Surgery. J Surg Res* 296:681-688, 2024

Parvin-Nejad FP, Vegunta G, Mele G, Sifri ZC. Stop the Bleed in the era of virtual learning: a novel strategy for remote teaching and evaluation. *Journal of Surgical Research* 296:759-765, 2024

Yang G, Bekele A, Krishnaswami S, Ameh E, Sifri Z. Cultural competency and ethical behavior for collaboration in limited-resource settings: Guidelines from the Society of University Surgeons Academic Global Surgery Committee and the Association for Academic Global Surgery. 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Global Surgery focused on surgical needs of underserved populations
- Stop the Bleed

My current global surgery work is focused on surgical needs of underserved population. It includes evaluation of surgical workforce, access to surgical care, surgical burden as well as teaching and training

Our most recent work on Stop the Bleed training in rural Sierra Leone followed nursing students from Kabala for up to a year after the Stop the Bleed training and demonstrated a significant rate of encounters with injured patients suffering from life-threatening hemorrhage and a very successful high-rate intervention and survival. We are involved in several studies related to trainees and surgeons interested in global surgery as a path to increase surgical capacity and raise awareness of health inequities. We are also involved in a number of studies related to the impact of surgical Missions on local populations.

GRANTS

- IHEAL GRANT AMTUL, Global Health Mentor
- Rutgers Global Health Institute Global Health Seed Grant Online Train-the-Trainer Model for Widespread Dissemination and Use of Bleeding Control Techniques: Pivoting to a Virtual Platform Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Rutgers Global Study Abroad- International Service- Learning Innovation Grant
- Global Advancement and International Affairs education Grant: "Internationalizing of the Curriculum Grant"
- Global Health Institute Seed Grant: "Applying eHealth technology to improve emergency and surgical care in rural Mampong, Ghana"
- NJ Health Foundation Educational Grant

HONORS

Chair, SUS Committee on Global Academic Surgery
Chair, Advisory Board of the Association of Academic Global Surgery (AAGS):
Director, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Global Health Office
Director, New Jersey Medical School Center for Global Surgery

INVITED LECTURES

- "Greening the OR: strategies to start," ACS Clinical Congress, 2023
- "Analysis of pediatric surgeon density and childhood mortality rates in West African Countries at the Academic Surgical Congress," 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress. Orlando, FL
- "The effect of the COVID-19 stay-at-home executive order on trauma in NJ: a multicenter study." 7th Annual Academic Surgical Congress. Orlando, FL



Joanelle Bailey, MD, MPH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Hornor MA, Blank JJ, Hatchimonji JS, Bailey JA, Jacovides CL, Reilly PM, Cannon JW, Holena DN, Seamon MJ, Kaufman EJ. Higher center volume is significantly associated with lower mortality in trauma patients in shock. *Injury* 54(5):1400-1405, 2023

Niziolek G, Keating J, Bailey JA, Klingensmith NJ, Moren AM, Skarupa DJ, Loria A, Vella MA, Maher Z, Moore SA, Smith MC, Leung A, Shuster KM, Seamon MJ. Rethinking protocolized completion angiography following extremity vascular trauma: a prospective observational multicenter trial angiography following extremity vascular trauma. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2023 Jul 1;95(1):105-110

Bailey JA, Jacovides CL, Butler D, Bass GA, Seamon MJ, Cannon J, Martin ND. Adolescent gun violence age patterns may suggest a focus group for prevention. *Journal of Surgical Research* 283:853-857, 2023

Keating JJ, Klingensmith N, Moren AM, Skarupa DJ, Loria A, Maher Z, Moore SA, Smith MC, Seamon MJ, Fasciotomy Group Investigators. Dispelling Dogma: American Association for Surgery of Trauma Prospective, Multicenter Trial of Index vs Delayed Fasciotomy after Extremity Trauma. *J Am Coll Surg*, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Advancing Trauma Surgery
- Health Equity
- Gun Violence Prevention

My work focuses on advancing trauma surgery, health equity, and gun violence prevention. As the principal investigator on studies examining the lives of firearm- acquired disability survivors and as a faculty member leading diversity initiatives, my research agenda seeks to integrate evidence-based clinical practice with public health interventions. My ongoing clinical roles as a trauma and acute care surgeon ensure that my research remains grounded in the realities of patient care. Looking forward, I aim to explore further intersections between trauma care and social determinants of health, with the goal of informing policy and improving surgical care for vulnerable populations and developing primary prevention strategies for the public health problem of urban gun violence.

GRANTS

- New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center at Rutgers University Funding Award Day by Day: Examining the lives of Black and Latinx men with firearm acquired disabilities in Newark, NJ and San Francisco, CA.
- RBHS-IDEA: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Advocacy Innovation Grant THRIVE Tours for Health and Resilience Illuminating Visions for Equity
- Rutgers Mutual Mentoring Grant, Individual Grant Rutgers University Equity and Inclusion Faculty Diversity Collaborative

HONORS

2023 EAST INVEST-C "Research Hackathon" Participant Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma

Advance, Engage, and Mentor (AEM) Faculty Development Program Completion Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence Chair, Alumni Association, Surgical Section, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

INVITED LECTURES

- "Integration of medical care and violence intervention," Panel Discussion. University Hospital Community and Population Health, Department and City of Newark, Brick City Peace Collective
- "Adolescent gun violence shows an age group promising for focused trauma Prevention" Academic Surgical Congress
- "Police transport of trauma patients," Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS



Cherisse D. Berry, MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

VICE CHAIR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Barry C, Jones AT, Rubright JD, Ibáñez B, Abouljoud MS, Berman RS, Berry C, Dent DL, Buyske J. An analysis of surgeon and program characteristics associated with success on American Board of Surgery exam outcomes. *Journal of the American College of Surgery* 2024 Epub ahead of print

Escobar N, Keshinro A, Hambrecht A, Frangos S, Berman RS, DiMaggio C, Joseph KA, Bukur M, Klein MJ, Ude-Welcome A, Berry C. A call to action to train underrepresented minorities in surgical subspecialties and fellowships. *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* 237(1):109-116, 2023

Berry C. Z-Codes An underutilized strategy to identify social determinants of health (SDOH), eliminate health disparities, and achieve health equity. *American Journal of Surgery* 228:52-53, 2023

Adeyemi, O, Bukur, M, Berry, C, DiMaggio, C, Grudsen, C, Konda, S, Akinsola, O, Adenikinju, A, Chodosh, J; Substance use and pre-hospital crash injury severity among U.S. older adults: A national survey. *PLoS One* 18(10): e0293138, 2023.

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- To identify socio-spatial disparities in availability to EMS, access to trauma centers, and transport to trauma centers nationwide
- To use these data to develop predictive models to evaluate the effect of pre-hospital trauma care (expeditious transport by EMS and access to trauma centers) on outcomes among critically injured trauma patients
- To guide public policy at the system level during periods of trauma center surge capacity
- To create a comprehensive web-based online pre-hospital emergency trauma care health equity map that can also be used as a national resource that guides public policy to improve access and availability to life-saving healthcare resources for victims of traumatic injury across the US

GRANTS

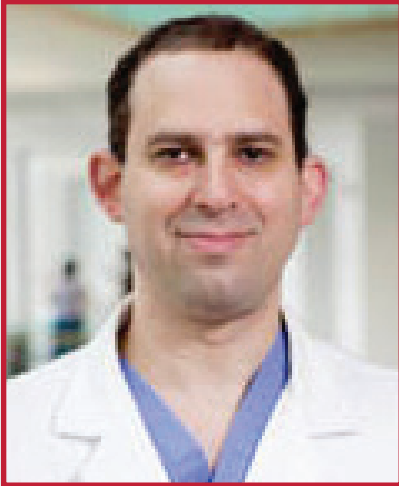
- "Health Equity in Emergency Trauma Care: Analysis of Disparities in the Pre-hospital Emergency Trauma Care System" NIH R01
- "Are There Racial/Ethnic Disparities in New York State Pre-Hospital System?" Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Herbert W. Nickens Faculty Fellowship
- "A Collaborative Approach Establishing Pathways to Medicine through Leading Trauma Organizations", American College of Surgeons, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Regental Grant

HONORS

DEI Distinguished Service
Inducted into the Leadership Academy, AAST
J. Bradley Aust Award for Best Paper
AAST/SBAS Visit Professor

INVITED LECTURES

- "Cecal volvulus - what a pain in the bascule," American College of Surgeons 2023 Clinical Congress, Boston, MA
- "At the intersection of health equity and inclusive excellence: strategies for eliminating health disparities within surgery," Surgery Grand Rounds Visiting Professor, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- "At the intersection of health equity and inclusive excellence: strategies for eliminating health disparities within surgery," Surgery Grand Rounds, University of Texas Health Houston/McGovern Medical School | Houston, TX
- "Mentoring excellence: strategies for effective mentorship and sponsorship," 14th Annual International Women in Surgery Career Symposium 2024 | Tampa, FL
- "At the intersection of health equity and trauma systems: strategies to eliminate health care disparities within acute care surgery," Morehouse School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Atlanta, GA
- "Trauma initiatives in equity," ACS Quality and Safety Conference, Denver, CO



Adam D. Fox, DPM, DO

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Improving outcomes in Trauma

GRANTS

- 1st responder bleeding control program. NJ Department of Health

HONORS

New Jersey National Guard Certificate of Appreciation
COVID-19 Pandemic Civilian Service award and medal. Presented by National Disaster Medical Service (NDMS)/US Health & Human Services (HHS)

INVITED LECTURES

- "The five questions of conscience and other musings on patient care and leadership." The 32nd Annual Patrick E. O'Hara, MD EMS/Emergency Medicine Trauma Teaching Day. Binghamton, NY
- "Penetrating trauma: a primer." The 32nd Annual Patrick E. O'Hara, MD EMS/Emergency Medicine Trauma Teaching Day. Binghamton, NY
- "Humanitarian and disaster response preparation for deployment," Point Counterpoint XL. Baltimore, Maryland
- "The history (and future) of the New Jersey Trauma System." St Joseph's Health Trauma Hot Shots conference
- "Disaster and mass casualty events: a primer and case for surgeon Involvement," The Dr Charles S Venable Lectureship. The University of Virginia Department of Surgery. Charlottesville, VA
- "Survivorship after Trauma discharge, it's just the beginning," Wolfson Hospital Trauma Grand Rounds, The Edith Wolfson University Medical Center. Tel Aviv, Israel



Nina E. Glass, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Fiorentino M, Hwang F, Pentakota SR, Glass NE, Livingston DH, Mosenthal AC. "The geriatric patient one year after trauma: palliative performance scale predicts functional outcomes." *Injury* 54(9), 2023

Glass NE, Salvi A, Wei R, Lin A, Malveau S, Cook J, Mann NC, Burd R, Jenkins PC, Hansen M, Mohr NM, Stephens C, Fallat ME, Lerner B, Carr BC, Wall SP, Newgard CD. Association of transport time, proximity, and emergency department pediatric readiness with pediatric survival at US trauma centers. *JAMA Surgery* 158(10):1078-87, 2023

Kokush EM, Patel R, Boardingham CE, Rothman BF, Ward J, McKay OA, Yonclas P, Glass NE. "Assessing knowledge, usage, and perceptions of the Frazier free eater protocol: a pilot study." *Journal of Surgical Research* 293:381-388, 2024

Kwon BK, Tetreault LA, Martin AR, Arnold PM, Marco RAW, Newcombe VFJ, Zipser CM, McKenna SL, Korupolu R, Neal CJ, Saigal R, Glass NE, Douglas S, Ganau M, Rahimi-Movaghar V, Harrop JS, Aarabi B, Wilson JR, Evaniew N, Skelly AC, Fehlings MG. A clinical practice guideline for the management of patients with acute spinal cord injury: recommendations on hemodynamic management. *Global Spine J* 14(3_suppl):187S-211S, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Trauma
- Acute Care Surgery
- Surgical Critical Care

My interests are in trauma, acute care surgery, and surgical critical care. My overarching goals are to employ existing practices in these clinical areas in a more standardized and equitable fashion.

GRANTS

- PCORI-Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Navigating High Risk Surgery for Elderly Patients
- State Representative (New Jersey) and Early Career Investigator NIH Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Child Health & Human Development Resource-Related Research Projects (R24); The Value of Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Care of Injured Children PI Craig D. Newgard, Oregon Health & Science University

HONORS

Rutgers Integration Advisory, Governance and Administration Subcommittee

INVITED LECTURES

- Moderator, Trauma Track; First Annual Emergency Medicine Triple Track CME Conference, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, Newark, NJ
- "Prone positioning team: briefing for the COVID WARRIORS of the COVID response," NORTHCom Medical teams, Virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams Platform
- "Are legally purchased guns to blame for overall firearm mortality? A state-level analysis of the association between firearm retail availability and firearm mortality," 79th Annual Meeting of AAST and Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery, Virtual
- Moderator: Panel 10: Trauma Quality Improvement and Education II (Societies: IATSIC, AAST, ISTAC, ACSCOT), 5th World Trauma Congress, Virtual
- "Routine CT Screening for Blunt Cerebrovascular Injury Identifies Injuries missed by clinical risk factors" 35th EAST Annual Scientific Assembly, Austin, TX
- "Medical student engagement in research: My experience with summer students," Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers NJMS.



Amy V. Gore, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR, GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Goldstein C, Gore A, La Bagnara S, Jacniacka-Soto IE, Sieck D, Yonclas P, Livingston DH. Center for trauma survivorship improves post-discharge follow-up and retention. J Trauma Acute Care Surg Jul 1;93(1):118-123. 2022

Biffl, WL, Ball CG, Moore EE, et al; WTA Multicenter Trials Group on Pancreatic Injuries. Current use and utility of magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography, endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography, and pancreatic duct stents: a secondary analysis from the Western Trauma Association Multicenter Trials Group on Pancreatic Injuries." J Trauma Acute Care Surg 95(5):719-72, 2022

Azer A, Kong K, Basta D, Modica SF, Gore A, Gorman E, Sutherland A, Tafesh Z, Horng H, Glass NE. Evaluation of coagulopathy in cirrhotic patients: A scoping review of the utility of viscoelastic testing. Am J Surg 227:34-43, 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Trauma survivorship and long-term outcomes following severe traumatic injury
- Effective communication
- Resident and Surgeon Wellness

I am interested in learning more about what happens to our patients following severe injury and how we can better prepare them for recovery and better support them during the process. Knowing what our patients experience can help guide communication during the acute phase of illness, and how we communicate with patients and families can have huge impact on their care experience. Furthermore, I am interested in evidence-based methods to improve surgeon wellbeing both during and after training so that both surgeons and their patients can thrive.

HONORS

"Resident Wellness Award" - Rutgers New Jersey Medical School GME Faculty Recognition Awards

"Michael Shapiro Resident Autonomy Award" – presented by Chief Residents in General Surgery – Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

INVITED LECTURES

- "Life after the ICU: long-term outcomes and the consequences of survival." Oral and Maxillofacial and Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Dysnatremia in TBI." Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Division of Trauma Grand Rounds
- "The AAST ACS fellowship: a fellow's perspective," 80th Annual Meeting of AAST and Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery. Atlanta, GA
- "PICS: post-discharge care." 80th Annual Meeting of AAST and Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery. Atlanta, GA
- "Center for Trauma Survivorship improves post-discharge follow-up and retention." 35th EAST Annual Scientific Assembly. Austin, TX
- "Dollars and sense – the case for dedicated post-trauma center care." AAST. Chicago, IL



Christopher D. Graham, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Qasim Z, Graham C; Telemedicine supervision of resuscitative endovascular balloon occlusion of the aorta (REBOA) catheter placement; Journal of Special Operations Medicine 22(1):108-110, 2022

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Education in the Trauma Bay using video review technology

INVITED LECTURES

- "Massive transfusion protocol." Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS



Melissa Grigsby, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Grigsby, M, Green, T, Lim, D, Cho, K, Greenhalgh, D; A novel human glucocorticoid receptor variant, G459V, is hyperactive in response to steroids; Shock 56: 318-324, 2021

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Surgical Coaching

In training, my research was focused on largely on sepsis, both in the lab—examining the glucocorticoid receptor's response to bacterial components and to steroids, and in the clinical arena—evaluating the predictive value of clinical markers of SIRS and sepsis. Now, as I continue to build my career, my interests have migrated to a focus on performance improvement for both individuals and teams, with an emphasis on surgical coaching.

HONORS

AAST 20 for Twenty In-Training Resident Scholarship
The American Association for the Surgery of Trauma

INVITED LECTURES

- "Perplexing case: traumatic arteriovenous fistula," UC Davis Trauma Care Conference, Sacramento, CA
- "Getting comfortable being uncomfortable," UC Davis Department of Surgery Grand Rounds, Sacramento, CA
- "Mortality of burn patients over two decades: Improving Outcomes in the Elderly," American Burn Association Annual Meeting, Virtual
- "Automated SIRS alert systems are ineffective at predicting sepsis in burn patients," American Burn Association Annual Meeting, Virtual



Fariha Sheikh, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, GENERAL SURGERY
RESIDENCY PROGRAM

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Goldstein C, Deisher D, Gorman E, Sheikh F, Sifri Z, Glass N. Tracheostomy is safe in patients with prolonged intubation after Coronavirus 2019 infection. *Journal of Surgical Research* 266:361-365, 2022

Star A, Ripa V, Sheikh F, Zhang WW. Intussusception after injury to the small intestine during emergent cesarean delivery of a premature triplet pregnancy: A case report. *Case Rep Womens Health* Nov 15;36:e00468. 2022

Azer A, Panayotova GG, Kong K, Hakakian D, Sheikh F, Gorman E, Sutherland A, Tafesh Z, Horng H, Guarrera JV, Glass NE. Clinical Application of Thromboelastography in patients with cirrhosis: a single center experience. *Journal of Surgical Research* 287:142-148, 2023

Hanna G, Mehra S, Haider SF, Tsui GE, Chernock B, Glass NE, Livingston D, Sheikh F. Electric scooter sharing systems: An analysis of injury patterns associated with their introduction. *Injury* 54(7):110781 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Ethics at the end of life
- Transplant Ethics
- Surgical Ethics

I am interested in the definition of death (e.g., brain death, cardiopulmonary death), and how that interacts with the transplant “dead donor rule.” From both a theoretical viewpoint, and more practically (e.g., transplant surgeon surveys, etc) we are working on end of life decision-making, and ways to satisfy patient wishes while assuring ethically appropriate organ donation.

HONORS

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Clinical Competency Committee, General Surgery Chair
Surgical Education Week, Family Feud, Winner, representing Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Chair Clinical Competency Committee NJMS General Surgery Program

Associate Program Director NJMS General Surgery Program

Wellness Faculty Award 2021

Rising Star Award 2022

Michael Shapiro Teaching Award 2023

INVITED LECTURES

- “ECMO: From neonates to adults,” Trauma Grand Rounds, Rutgers, NJMS, Newark, NJ
- “Trauma resuscitation: current and emerging strategies,” First Annual Emergency Medicine Triple Track CME Conference, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Newark, NJ
- “An overview of ATLS,” Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Grand Rounds, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Newark, NJ
- “Organizing your CV,” Professional Development Town Hall Series, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Virtual
- “Harmony In music and surgery,” Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS, Newark, NJ
- “How to obtain a position in the COVID era: jobs, fellowship, and residency,” Moderator New Jersey Chapter American College of Surgeons Resident and Student Session, Iselin, NJ
- “Fluids and Electrolytes,” NJMS, Newark, NJ,
- Moderator New Jersey American College of Surgeons Resident Surgical Olympiad, Iselin, NJ
- “Principles of being a great leader,” Professional Development Town Hall Series, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Virtual



Robert E. Weiss, MD

HARRIS L. WILLITS PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF UROLOGY
DIRECTOR, UROLOGY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Pandher M, Song A, Mahajan J, Srinivasan N, Berg C, Fernandez G, Chang C, Medina C, Alwaal A, Weiss, RE. Characterization of pediatric genital injuries due to consumer products from 2011 to 2020. *Urology* 167:20, 2022

Pandher M, Oparanozie A, Song A, Mahajan J, Berg C, Fernandez G, Chang C, Alwaal A, Weiss RE. Characterization of genital injuries secondary to foreign bodies 2011-2020. *Investig Clin Urology* 64(1):66-73, 2023

Guglin A, Weiss RE, Singh A, Mittal A, Hwang T, Shah A. Concurrent Xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis and upper urinary tract transitional cell carcinoma, case reports in *Urology* 2023

Lichtbroun BJ, Shinder B, Sara TG, Srivastava A, Saraiya B, Mayer TM, Cristelli R, Sadimin E, Weiss RE, Singer EA. Chromophobe renal cell carcinoma with sarcomatoid differentiation, *J Kidney Cancer VHL* 10(3), 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Bladder cancer
- Renal cancer
- Clinical outcomes of liver transplant, kidney transplant

I am interested in improving outcomes for bladder cancer and renal cancer. I also treat patients with prostate cancer, testis cancer, benign prostate problems and renal stones. I am experienced in performing open, laparoscopic and robotic surgery.

I have been the principal investigator on national grants from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the National Institutes of Health, as well as those through the pharmaceutical industry.

GRANTS

- Greenwall Foundation Making a Difference in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas, Understanding Key Stakeholder Attitudes Towards Novel Methods of Remotely Monitoring Medication Adherence after Transplantation

HONORS

Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson "Cornerstone Award"
Urology Teaching Award, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Best Doctors in New Jersey
Newsweek Magazine's Top Doctors for Cancer

INVITED LECTURES

- "Urinary diversions: update and pearls" Grand Rounds and Visiting Professor, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY
- "Urinary diversions update- decreases in national performance of neobladders," The New York Section Annual Meeting, Prague Czechoslovakia
- "The role of lymphadenectomy after radical nephrectomy – Is there anything new?" The New York Section Annual Meeting, Nice France



Amjad Alwaal, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Berg C, Singh A, Hu P, Sura A, Rourke K, Myers J, Alwaal A. "Current trends in the use of buccal grafts during urethroplasty among Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons". *Urology* 191:139-143 2024

Pandher M, Song A, Mahajan J, Srinivasan N, Berg C, Fernandez G, Chang C, Medina C, Alwaal A, Weiss R. "Characterization of genital injuries secondary to foreign bodies from 2011 – 2020". *Investigative and Clinical Urology* 2023 Jan;64(1):66-73 2023

Pandher M, Fernandez G, Alwaal A. "Presentation, management, and outcomes of penile fractures". *Journal of Men's Health* 18(11):1-8. 2022

McCormick BJ, Keihani S, Hagedorn J, Selph JP, Figler BD, Johnsen NV, da Silva RD, Broghammer JA, Gupta S, Miller B, Burks FN, Eswara J, Osterberg EC 3rd, Carney KJ, Erickson BA, Gretzer MB, Chung PH, Harris CR, Murphy GP, Rusilko P, Shridharani A, Benson C, Alwaal A, et al. "A Multi-center retrospective cohort study of endoscopic urethral realignment versus suprapubic cystostomy after complete pelvic fracture urethral injury: Comparison of EUR versus SPT after PFUI". *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 94(2):344-349, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Penile erectile dysfunction histopathology findings
- Prevention of UTI in spinal cord injury patients
- Recurrent priapism risk factors and characteristics

Penile erectile dysfunction histopathology findings: Identify common molecular abnormalities shared by patient with erectile dysfunction who failed PDE5 inhibitors. Prevention of UTI in spinal cord injury patients: Examine the effect of multiple protocols of intravesical Irrisept injection into the bladder in SCI patients in terms of prevention of UTI. Recurrent priapism risk factors and characteristics: through examining databases and retrospective chart review. Lichen sclerosus and urethral stricture: Currently examining clinical patterns of LS on urethral stricture, with the plan to perform histopathological studies.

HONORS

Outstanding Reviewer Award, Asian Journal of Andrology
Sigma Xi Honor Society

INVITED LECTURES

- "Extra-tunical grafting," UC Irvine Men's Health Course
- "Updates on restorative therapy for erectile dysfunction," 41st Congress of the Société Internationale d'Urologie, Montreal, Canada
- "Non-transection urethroplasty and management of panurethral strictures," AUA, Dublin, Ireland



Evan Kovac, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Lee J, Venishetty N, Movassaghi M, Kovac E, Winer A, Anderson CB, Small AC, Badalato GM. The New York Section EMPIRE Collaborative: Piloting a multi-Institutional, simulation-based surgical skills boot camp for junior Urology residents. *Urol Pract.* 11(4):761-768, 2024

Fastenau J, Jain K, Popovic A, Kovac E. Review of active surveillance in underrepresented and high-risk populations: feasibility and safety. *Curr Urol Rep* 24(7):307-315, 2023

Labagnara K, Zhu D, Loloi J, Shreck E, Abeshouse M, Watts KL, Sankin A, Aboumohamed AA, Kovac E. Low risk is low risk, regardless of race or ethnicity: Outcomes of prostate cancer active surveillance and factors associated with reclassification in a racially diverse cohort. *Urol Oncol* 41(4):204.e7-204.e15. 2023

Feiertag N, Barry E, Abramson M, Park JY, Kovac E, Aboumohamed A, Watts K, Sankin A. Urine cytology rarely escalates clinical management in the surveillance of non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer. *Clin Genitourin Cancer* 21(2):258-264 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Prostate cancer diagnosis in vulnerable populations
- Prostate cancer screening decision aid validation in multi-ethnic populations
- Resident training and simulation

I am conducting several prostate cancer-related studies that endeavour to improve prostate cancer care in our vulnerable population. Among several IRB-approved trials as a principal investigator, one is investigating the utility and outcomes of transperineal MRI-Ultrasound fusion prostate biopsy in Black and Latino men.

Another active study that is currently accruing seeks to validate the utility of a novel prostate cancer screening decision aid that I created for minority men. This study has received several grants. In addition, we have recently received IRB approval to investigate the utility of an augmented reality headset for urology resident remote training of office procedures, such as transperineal biopsy.

GRANTS

- Robert A. Winn Career Development Award: Community Innovation Grant Oncology
- Rutgers University RBHS-IDEA Innovation Grant 2023-2024, Evaluating the Efficacy of Prostate Cancer Decision Aid in Increasing PCa Awareness and Screening Rates in a Vulnerable Population.

HONORS

Golden Apple Award, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

INVITED LECTURES

- "Babies and bathwater – the story of PSA," University of Vermont, Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
- "Prostate cancer early detection strategies: baseline PSA, risk stratification and transperineal biopsy," Montefiore Family & Social Medicine Grand Rounds
- "Prostate cancer early detection," American Urological Association, New York
- "Babies and bathwater – The story of PSA" Veterans Administration Primary Ambulatory Care Grand Rounds
- "The pandemic and delays in oncologic care: lessons learned," Société Internationale d'Urologie Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada
- "Localized prostate cancer: Are we over-screening and over-treating, or just underthinking?" Department of Medicine Grand Round and Department of Family Medicine Grand Rounds, NJMS



Michael Curi, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY
CHIEF, DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Leoce BM, Wei HS, Hadley SM, Molnar KZ, Huang JT, Curi MA. Distal brachial artery embolization for the treatment of dialysis access steal syndrome Ann Vasc Surg – Brief Reports & Innovations 2(4), 2022

Patel P, Yu Y, Zia S, Padberg F, Curi M, Huang J. Systemic thrombolysis as Initial treatment of COVID-19 associated acute aortoiliac and lower extremity arterial thrombosis Ann Vasc Surg 70:297-301, 2021

Moore EE, Curi M, Namias N, Kundi R, Lum YW, Fox CJ, Rajani RR, Rasmussen TE, Sokolov O, Niklason LE, Khondker Z, Parikh SJ; CLN-PRO-V005 Investigators and the CLN-PRO-V017 Investigators. Bioengineered human arteries for the repair of vascular injuries. JAMA Surg Nov 20:e244893 2024 Epub ahead of print

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Clinical evaluation of Novel Therapeutic options for patients with Vascular Disease
- Identifying surgical techniques and strategies for improving hemodialysis access
- Identifying factors that lead to best outcomes for pediatric patients who suffer traumatic injury involving major vascular structures

We are participating in various clinical trials evaluating the safety and effectiveness of a novel acellular tissue engineered vessel, the HAV(human acellular vessel) from Humacyte. This novel conduit is being investigated as a replacement for traumatically injured vessels and as a hemodialysis access graft. Our team also uses our clinical experience creating arteriovenous access for patients needing hemodialysis for renal failure to develop techniques and strategies that improve surgical outcomes. And we are reviewing our institutional experience in treating children who suffer traumatic vascular injury to identify best practices that lead to improved outcomes in both the short term perioperative period and long term follow-up.

GRANTS

- HUMACYTE CLN-PRO-V012 Trial – 2023-current
- HUMACYTE CLN-PRO-V005 Trial – 2018-current
- VT=304 Trial – Vascular Therapies Inc. 04/2017-2022
- HUMANITY Trial – Humacyte, Inc. 06/2016-2022
- SENTRY Trial – Novate Medical – 10/2014-2018

HONORS

The Foundation of University Hospital, Board of Trustees (2015-current, and Chair (2020-current)

Vascular and Endovascular Society, Chair Fundraising Committee, 2024-25

Jersey Magazine Top Doctor, Top Doctors NY Metro Area, NY Magazine Top Doctor

INVITED LECTURES

- “Race and sex-based disparities in vascular surgery: clinical outcomes after carotid endarterectomy, endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, and below knee amputation,” SCVS 49th Annual Symposium, Las Vegas, NV
- “Distal brachial artery embolization for the treatment of dialysis access steal syndrome.” Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Society Meeting, Snowmass, CO
- “Current therapy for aortic injury,” Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS



Mallika Gopal, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Carotid Disease
- Aortic Pathology
- Peripheral Vascular Disease

My research has looked at a wide variety of topics within vascular surgery - from new peripheral endovascular techniques for limb salvage to novel management of aortic disease. Through my work, I looked at the utility of venous stenting in patients with vein compression and evaluated criteria for surgical intervention in patients with high grade carotid stenosis.

PRESENTATIONS

- "Surgical management of carotid disease." Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- "Balloon-expandable stenting in the aorta as an alternative treatment for aortoiliac disease." Eastern Vascular Society. 2023
- "Distal arteriovenous fistulas (AVF) creation as an adjunct for prosthetic femoral to tibial bypass." Eastern Vascular Society. 2023



Joe Huang, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Haider SF, Huang JT, Mehra S, Shakir H, Thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR) for primary retrograde type A aortic dissection. *Surgical Case Reports* 2023 Epub ahead of print

Leoce B, Wei H, Molnar K, Hadley S, Huang J, Curi M; Distal brachial artery embolization for the treatment of dialysis access steal syndrome; *Annals of Vascular Surgery – Brief Reports and Innovations* 2(4), 2022

Patel P, Yu Y, Zia S, Padberg FT, Curi MA, Huang JT. Systemic thrombolysis as initial treatment of COVID-19 associated acute aortoiliac and lower extremity arterial thrombosis. *Annals of Vascular Surgery* 70:297-301, 2021

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Complex lower extremity peripheral arterial disease
- Primary care and public knowledge of peripheral arterial disease and effects on PAD outcomes
- Outcomes of dialysis access revisions and interventions

My focus is on peripheral arterial disease in urban and underserved communities. These patients have more complex and advanced disease with suboptimal outcomes with treatment. My research involves studying the outcomes of medical and interventional treatments for peripheral arterial disease in these populations. Related projects include studying the gaps in knowledge of the medical community and the public that may contribute to the worse outcomes for patients with PAD. I have also been involved in NIH-sponsored trials (BEST-CLI) that focus on the outcomes of open and endovascular interventions for critical limb ischemia.

Additional research focuses on the outcomes of dialysis access interventions, specifically revisions for aneurysmal degeneration of arterial-venous fistulas and grafts. I am also involved in multiple clinical trials examining a tissue engineered conduit (human acellular vessel) for dialysis access and lower extremity interventions.

GRANTS

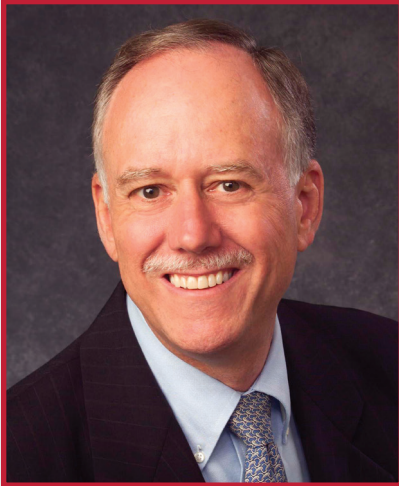
- Humacyte, Inc. Comparison of the Human Acellular Vessel (HAV) with Fistulas as Conduits for Hemodialysis. *ClinicalTrials.gov* Identifier: NCT03183245 Rutgers IRB#Pro20170001206
- National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Randomized, Multicenter, Controlled Trial to Compare Best Endovascular versus Best Surgical Therapy in Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia (BEST-CLI) 2016 – 2022. *ClinicalTrials.gov* Identifier: NCT02060630 Rutgers IRB#Pro20160000759

HONORS

American Transplant Congress Resident Travel Award
American Transplant Congress

INVITED LECTURES

- “Are we managing patients with PAD appropriately?” Surgery Grand Rounds, NJMS
- “Peripheral arterial disease: intrinsic and iatrogenic,” Cardiology Grand Round, Jersey City Medical Center



Frank T. Padberg, Jr., MD

PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Salem K, Padberg FT. Venous thromboembolism risk models may be ready for a makeover. J Vasc Surg Venous Lymphat Dis 12:101732, 2024

Nemeh, Christopher, Yu Yasong, Kunac A, Tsui G, Oliver JB, Anjaria DJ, Padberg FT. Abdominal pelvic varicosities due to unilateral common and external iliac vein occlusion five decades post Injury. American Surgeon Aug;89(8):3557-3559. 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Diagnosis, classification, measurement, and management of severe chronic venous disorders
- Endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair
- Management of hemoaccess for patients with dialysis-dependent renal failure

I am interested in the diagnosis, classification, measurement, and management of severe chronic venous disorders (CVD) provided a major focus during the last two decades. Uniform standards developed for diagnosis, classification, and severity scoring are now widely adopted throughout the world (CEAP, VCSS). A randomized controlled trial evaluated and reported the effects of directed physical therapy in patients with severe CVD. The outcome of surgical intervention and its impact on improvement of hemodynamics, quality of life, and general function in patients with severe CVD is of interest. Characterization of the special problems of chronic venous symptomatology in the morbidly obese patient offers potential for further investigation.

Endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair has now become the predominant method of repair. Our prospective randomized, controlled trial compared EVAR to traditional open repair (the OVER trial). Patient recruitment was completed and interval outcome reporting. A 2-year analysis was presented and published in JAMA in 2009; a 5-year report was published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2012 and generated numerous comparative analyses. Interest in the comparative outcomes of open versus endovascular repair remains a topic of interest with conflicting reports in late follow-up. The late clinical outcome of this trial was published in the New England Journal in May 2019. Derivative projects at VA NJHCS produced ultrasound screening in the Vascular Laboratory offered through an automatic prompt in the electronic medical record.

Lastly, I am interested in management of hemoaccess for patients with dialysis-dependent renal failure in the United States has lagged behind other industrialized nations resulting in the Fistula First initiative. Clinical emphasis on innovative autogenous fistula options, elimination of catheter access, pre-hemodialysis maturation of hemoaccess, and management of complications specific to these procedures has provided an effective clinical algorithm to improve the quality of hemoaccess. Exceeding published Nephrology and VA clinical practice guidelines, 70-77% of ESRD patients at VA-NJHCS are now dialyzed with a fistula.

GRANTS

- Veterans Biomedical Research Institute, via CRADA with Flexitouch, Quality of Life with use of sequenced chamber compression for Lymphedema

HONORS

Academy of Master Surgeon Educators, Associate Member



Karim Salem, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR VASCULAR SURGERY FELLOWSHIP & INTEGRATED RESIDENCY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Philips AR, Andraska EA, Reitz KM, Gabriel L, Salem KM, Sridharan N, Tzeng E, Liang NL. Any postoperative surveillance improves survival after endovascular repair of ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysms. *Annals of Vascular Surgery* 80:P50-59, 2022

Malak OA, Abou Ali AN, Salem KM, Sridharan N, Madigan MC, Eslami MH. Alternative autologous and biologic conduits have worse outcomes than prosthetic grafts for infrainguinal bypass. *Journal of Vascular Surgery* 76(1):188-195, 2022

Abou Ali AN, Malak OA, Hafeez MS, Habib S, Cherfan P, Salem KM, Hager ES, Avgerinos ED, Sridharan ND. Improved outpatient medical visit compliance with sociodemographic discrepancies in vascular telehealth evaluations. *Journal of Vascular Surgery* 77(4):1238-1244. 2023

Mohammed MK, Andraska EA, Mohapatra A, Avgerinos ED, Madigan MC, Salem KM. Incidence and outcomes of visceral ischemia in acute aortic occlusion. *Annals of Vascular Surgery* 98:164-172 2024

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Thoracic and Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms
- Aortic Dissection
- Peripheral Arterial Disease

My interests are in vascular surgery outcomes and education of vascular surgery trainees.

HONORS

SVS Vascular Research Initiatives Conference (VRIC) Travel Award
Society for Vascular Surgery



Saqib Zia, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SURGERY

PROGRAM DIRECTOR VASCULAR SURGERY FELLOWSHIP
& INTEGRATED RESIDENCY

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Bisharat MB, Ichinose E, Veerina K, Khetarpaul V, Azene E, Plotnik A, Hnath J, Trestman E, Harlin S, Bhat A, Li S, Long G, O'Connor D, Winokur R, Zia S, Dexter D, One-year clinical outcomes following mechanical thrombectomy for deep vein thrombosis: a CLOUT registry analysis. J Soc Cardiovasc Angiogr Interv 15;3, 2024

CLOUT study collaborators. Mechanical thrombectomy vs. pharmacomechanical catheter directed thrombolysis for the treatment of iliofemoral deep vein thrombosis: a propensity score reached exploratory analysis of 12 month clinical outcomes. Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg 67(4):644-652, 2024

Mina G, Panse N, Yu Y, Huang J, Padberg FT, Zia S, Curi M. Brachial-brachial fistulas are highly morbid and associated with poor maturation and patency. J Vasc Surg 77(6) : e312-e313, 2023

Mina G, Azer A, Yu Y, Padberg FT, Zia S, Curi M, Huang J. Durability of bovine carotid artery graft for revisions of arteriovenous fistula aneurysms and associated complications. J Vasc Surg 77(6):e314- e315, 2023

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

- Surgical Education utilization endovascular simulators and AI
- Indications and interventions for Carotid Artery Disease and Stroke prevention
- Treatment of Type B Aortic Dissections

My research interests relate to improving outcomes in limb salvage, endovascular and open procedures for peripheral artery disease (PAD), diabetic foot ulcers, abdominal and thoracic aortic aneurysms, stroke Prevention, carotid endarterectomy and carotid stenting, renal and mesenteric arterial disease, and hemodialysis access and maintenance.

GRANTS

- Medtronic Aortic Fellow Travel Grant
- InnAVasc CSP-2022- Sponsored by W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. This study will evaluate the safety and effectiveness of the InnAVasc arteriovenous graft (AVG) when implanted in and used for hemodialysis in participants suffering from end-stage renal failure (ESRD)
- ClotTrier Outcomes (CLOUT) Registry. Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. GORE Educational Grant for Vascular Surgery Fellowship. Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

HONORS

Program Director of the Month, Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery
Society for Vascular Surgery, Social Media Committee
Society for Vascular Surgery, Leadership Development Program
Eastern Vascular Society, DEI Committee
Rutgers Faculty Council, Continuing Medical Education Committee
Vascular Surgery Top Doc, NJ Top Docs

INVITED LECTURES

- Faculty, Big Apple Boot Camp, Weil Cornell-NYP Vascular & Endovascular Surgery
- "When to carotid artery disease and what does the latest data show?" Vasc at the Shore, Long Branch, New Jersey

2022-2023

Fatima Elgammal,MD	Rutgers, NJMS
Mario Figueroa, MD	Medical College of South Carolina
Abhinav Gupta, MD	UCLA
Tom Liu, MD	Northwestern
Shyamin Mehra,MD	Ethicon
Guergana Panayotova, MD, PHD	Rutgers, NJMS, Transplant
Sheila Rugnao, MD	Rutgers, NJMS
Grace Tsui, MD	Rutgers, NJMS

2023-2024

Fatima Elgammal,MD	Rutgers, NJMS
Mario Figueroa, MD	Medical College of South Carolina
Abhinav Gupta, MD	UCLA
Shyamin Mehra,MD	Ethicon
Guergana Panayotova, MD, PHD	Rutgers, NJMS, Transplant
Sheila Rugnao, MD	Rutgers, NJMS

2024-2025

Ryan Benson,DO	Rutgers NJMS, Global Health
Michael Boncaldo,MD	Columbia
Christina Lee, MD	Weill Cornell, MSKCC
Judy Li, MD	Mt. Sinai
Jiyun Lim, MD	Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles
Maximillian Munoz, MD	Rutgers NJMS, Global Health
Christopher Nemeh, MD	Columbia
Jonathan Pineda, MD	Johnson & Johnson, Inc
Yashasvini Sampathkumar, MD	MSKCC
Hima Bindu Thota, MD	Duke



Ryan Benson, MD

Principal Investigators: Dr. Anastasia Kunac (Rutgers NJMS), Dr. Ziad Sifri (Rutgers NJMS), Dr. Amalia Cochran (U. Florida)

PUBLICATIONS:

Benson R, Rego E, Benneh A, Lee ES. <https://www.hmpgloballearningnetwork.com/site/eplasty/case-report/reconstructive-management-severe-mentosternal-contracture-resource-limited>.

MY RESEARCH QUESTION

- Surgical Education
- Impact of Global Surgery

PRESENTATIONS

- Benson R, Woods A, Cochran A. Creating the integration of transgender initiatives into resident learning (ITGIRL) in surgery: A multi-institutional needs assessment, World Professional Association for Transgender Health, Lisbon, Portugal, (Poster)
- "Creating the ITGIRL – Integration of transgender initiatives into resident learning." Grand Rounds Presentation, Valley Health System, Las Vegas, NV
- "Creating the ITGIRL – Integration of transgender initiatives into resident learning." Grand Rounds, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- "Patient's perspectives of surgical delays following the COVID pandemic in Peru." ASC
- Benson R, Rego E, Lee E. Patients' perspectives of COVID related surgical delays in a developing nation – a pilot, American College of Surgeons, San Francisco, CA (Poster)
- Benson R, Rego E, Sifri Z. Improving uterine fibroid management on Ghanaian short-term surgical missions, American College of Surgeons San Francisco, CA, (Poster)
- Yang N, Benson R, Sifri Z. Post-operative complication rates from lapses between short-term surgical trips to rural Sierra Leone, American College of Surgeons, San Francisco, CA, (Poster)
- "Surgical Education Research Fellowship project," Association for Surgical Education – Surgical Education Week, Orlando, FL
- "Breaking Barriers: Gender neutral care in short term surgical missions," Academic Surgical Congress, Washington DC, Global Surgery Quickshot Session
- "Impact of global surgery initiatives on hernia burden in LMICs," Academic Surgical Congress, Washington DC
- "Reflection beyond residency: Long-term impact of surgical missions," Academic Surgical Congress, Global Surgery Quickshot Session, Washington DC
- "Transgender education in General Surgery residency programs," Association of Out Surgeons and Allies Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2023
- Benson R, Kunac A, Anjaria D. National trends in Plastic Surgery education: autonomy vs. patient safety, American College of Surgeons – Clinical Congress, Boston, MA, (Poster)

FUNDING

- Association of Out Surgeons and Allies - Travel award for Surgical Education Research Fellowship (SERF) presentation
- Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences – Inclusion, diversity, equity and advocacy innovation grant (RBHS IDEA Grant)
- Association of Out Surgeons and Allies - Scholarship for the Association of Surgical Education's Surgical Education Research Fellowship (SERF) program



Hima Bindu Thota, MD

Principal Investigator: Dr. Ryan Aintel, Pediatric General Surgery, Duke Surgery

Institution/ Location: Duke Surgery at Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC

PUBLICATIONS:

Thota H, Identifying blunt duodenal injury by bicycle handlebar with methylene blue." Trauma Surgery & Acute Care, 2024, in press

Thota H, On this land, there is life worth living. PallCHASE- Palliative Care in Humanitarian Aid Situations and Emergencies, 2024, in press.

Hsiung T, Thota H, Sambol J, Guarrera J, Shakir H. Robotic-assisted thoracoscopic resection of a mature anterior mediastinal teratoma in an adult. Annals of Surgical Case Reports & Images, 2024, in press

MY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What character traits are necessary to sustain calling in surgery?
- How do we promote flourishing in surgical practice?
- What habits and practices are necessary for navigating an increasingly hostile work environment?

PRESENTATIONS

- "IRB and Research in Gaza." Duke University Bass Connection project meeting, Durham, NC
- "The Law of Wellness – Sabbath". Rutgers Surgical Education Conference, Newark, NJ
- "On this land, there is a life worth living – a lament for Gaza healthcare," Conference on Medicine and Religion, Indianapolis, IN
- "What I learned from the healthcare workers in Gaza." Mount Sinai Medical School, New York City, NY
- "When the system collapses – Teach-in on the healthcare catastrophe in Gaza". Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ
- "Islamic ethics and palliative care in the Gaza strip," Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC

FUNDING

- Good Surgeon Project, awarded by Medical College of Wisconsin 2023-2024



Christina Lee, MD

Principal Investigator: Dr. Julio Garcia-Aguilar at Memorial Sloan Kettering in NYC

PUBLICATIONS:

Williams H, Thompson HM, Lee C, Rangnekar A, Gomez JT, Widmar M, Wei IH, Pappou EP, Nash GM, Weiser MR, Paty PB, Smith JJ, Veeraraghavan H, Garcia-Aguilar J. Assessing Endoscopic Response in Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer Treated with Total Neoadjuvant Therapy: Development and Validation of a Highly Accurate Convolutional Neural Network. *Ann Surg Oncol* (10):6443-6451 2024

MY RESEARCH QUESTION

- Tumor microenvironment in locally advanced rectal cancer

PRESENTATIONS

- Lee C, Chen C, Urganci N, Wu F, Firat C, Williams H, Seffar E, Malekzadeh P, Chatila WK, Shia J, Garcia-Aguilar J, Sanchez-Vega F. Association between CD8+ PD-1+ T cell infiltration levels and improved response to total neoadjuvant therapy in mismatch-repair proficient locally advanced rectal cancer, MSK Center for Tumor-Immune Systems Biology Symposium. (Poster)
- Lee C, Chen C, Urganci N, Wu F, Firat C, Williams H, Seffar E, Malekzadeh P, Chatila WK, Shia J, Garcia-Aguilar J, Sanchez-Vega F. Association between CD8+ PD-1+ T cell infiltration levels and improved response to total neoadjuvant therapy in mismatch-repair proficient locally advanced rectal cancer, American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting (Poster)
- "T cell infiltration levels and improved response to total neoadjuvant therapy in mismatch-repair proficient locally advanced rectal cancer," Association of Women Surgeons Annual Meeting

FUNDING

MSK Research Scholar, ASCRS General Surgery Resident Research Initiation Grant (GSRRIG-059)



Judy Li, MD

Principal Investigator: Dr Noah Cohen, Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS LAST YEAR AND THIS YEAR*

*Submitted abstracts to ASCO GI, SSO, ACT, AHPBA for 2025

PUBLICATIONS:

Li J, Khajouinejad N, Sarpel U. Surgical management of gastric gastrointestinal stromal tumors. *Surgical Clinics of North America* 2024

Li J, Khajouinejad, N, Sarfaty E, Yu A, Troob S, Buseck A, Imtiaz S, Mohammad A, Cha D, Pletcher E, Gleeson E, Macfie R, Carr J, Hiotis S, Golas B, Correa-Gallego C, Sarpel U, Magge D, Labow D, Cohen N. A. Anxiety and depression are common in surgical oncology patients: Results of a prospective cohort study. *Surgical Oncology Insight* 1(3), 2024

Li J, Geffner A, Cohen NA. Investigating Differences in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma Mutational Profiles Across Racial and Ethnic Groups: A Lack of Diversity Clouds the Picture. *Ann Surg Oncol* (10):6361-6363. 2024

Li J, Khajouinejad N, Qin Y, Cohen NA. Maximizing how minimal we can go: a narrative review of minimally invasive surgery for gastric gastrointestinal stromal tumors. *Ann Laparosc Endosc Surg* 2024

MY RESEARCH QUESTION

- Patient-Physician communication barriers and postoperative decisional regret in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
- Genetic diversity across racial and ethnic groups in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
- Impact of KRAS-TP53 co-alterations on outcomes in colorectal liver metastases
- Clinical outcomes of early onset vs late onset colorectal cancer in patients with liver metastases
- Standard of care vs intensive neoadjuvant treatment in treatment of gastric adenocarcinoma
- Impact of hyperthermia on postoperative outcomes during CRS/HIPEC

PRESENTATIONS

- "Examining the prevalence of anxiety and depression in Surgical Oncology patients: Results of a prospective cohort study." American Society of Clinical Oncology Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium; Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Meeting
- "DNA damage response mutations associated with worse outcomes in KRAS/TP53 co-altered pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma." Oral presentation at 19th Annual Academic Surgical Congress; New York Surgical Society Fall Scientific Session; 19th Annual Academic Surgical Congress; Karen Zier Annual Medical Student Research Day
- Geffner A, Yu AT, Li J, Hiotis SP, Gunasekaran G, Correa-Gallego C, Sarpel U, Cohen NA. "Adherens junction pathway genetic alterations are associated with worse prognosis in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma." Society of Surgical Oncology Annual Meeting (Poster)

FUNDING

ACGME (research track)



Maximilian Munoz, MD

Principal Investigator: Dr. Ziad Sifri, Rutgers NJMS (Global Surgery Fellowship)

MY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How can we optimize mission organization and leadership with the International Surgical Health Initiative (ISHI)
- What is the impact of Teaching Stop the Bleed Courses, both domestically and abroad, with a focus on expanding the course to underserved regions of Sierra Leone
- How can we improve research and clinical outcomes in global surgery

PRESENTATIONS

- "Patient's perspectives of surgical delays following the COVID pandemic in Peru"
Academic Surgical Congress, 2025



Christopher Nemeh, MD

Principal Investigator: Dr. William Middlesworth Pediatric Surgery Fellowship and ECMO Fellowship Director Columbia University – New York Presbyterian – Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital

MY RESEARCH QUESTION

- How can we improve outcomes in pediatric surgery and pediatric ECMO research?

PUBLICATIONS:

Nemeh C, Almaz B, Ko V, Walsh A, Panasiti R, Gitzelmann C. Ileocecal intussusception due to Meckel's Diverticulum in a pre-term Neonate. *Journal of Pediatric Surgery Case Reports* 88, 2023

Nemeh C, Yu Y, Kunac A, Tsui G, Oliver JB, Anjaria D, Padberg FT Jr. Anterior abdominal varicosities due to unilateral common and external iliac vein occlusion five decades post-injury. *Am Surg* 9(8):3557-3559, 2023

Nemeh C, Hassan IN, Walsh A, Iyer S, Gitzelmann CA. Pediatric ultrasound appendicitis score for the diagnosis of acute appendicitis to reduce computed tomography scan utilization. *Am Surg* 90(2):245-25, 2024

Krishnan A, Schmoke N, Nemeh C, Wu YS, Duron V. Neonate with congenital pulmonary airway malformation concurrent with enteric duplication cyst: a case report of a rare anomaly. *J Surg Case Rep* 15,(9):rjad502, 2023

Schmoke N, Nemeh C, Gennell T, Schapiro D, Hiep-Catarino A, Alexander M, Chalpin AV, Crum RW, Holynskyj L, Kubacki T, Schechter WS, Zitsman J. Enhanced recovery after surgery improves clinical outcomes in adolescent bariatric surgery. *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 20(9):798-802, 2024



Jonathan Pineda, MD

Industry Fellowship: Johnson and Johnson, Ethicon, Raritan NJ

PUBLICATIONS:

Advances in vessel sealing and dissection with Ultrasonic Energy, World Journal of Surgery and Surgical Research, in progress

Safety and performance of a novel tissue sealer in upper gastrointestinal procedures, Journal of Clinical Case Reports and Studies, in progress

Advances in usability and performance of a linear stapler-cutter, Journal of Surgical Research and Open Access, in progress

MY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How can we improve minimally invasive staplers, endo-mechanical energy devices, vascular sealants, negative pressure wound closure systems, and suture formulations

PRESENTATIONS

- "Usability and performance of the curved jaw tissue sealer in gynecological procedures," In progress
- "Postoperative infections: Are residents to blame?," in progress
- "Pancreatic fistulas proxy ICD10 codes," in progress

FUNDING

- Industry

**Yashasvini Sampathkumar, MD**

Principal Investigator: Dr. Katherine Panageas at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

PUBLICATIONS:

Sampathkumar Y, Trends in exercise initiation and participation among employed breast cancer survivors undergoing curative treatment" Breast Cancer Research and Treatment [under review]

MY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How to design care-delivery interventions that address financial toxicity in cancer patients?
 - Which factors are associated with receipt of non-guideline chemotherapy regimens in a population of early-stage breast cancer patients?
- My research assesses the impact of an intervention designed to promote job retention on the employment outcomes in a population of underserved patients with metastatic cancer. I also want to examine the impact of financial hardship screening in community oncology practices on financial worry.

GRANT FUNDING

- National Cancer Institute research training grant (1T32CA275764-01A1), Oncology-focused postdoctoral training in care delivery and symptom science (OPTICS) training program.



Emily Yosh, MD

Industry Fellowship: Johnson and Johnson, Ethicon, Raritan NJ

PUBLICATIONS:

Rojatkar P, Nalagatla A, Ricketts C, Clymer J, Yosh E. The science of stapling: Staple form. Surgical Technology Online March 7(8), 107, 2024

MY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Can we validate a bleeding scale for laparoscopic surgery to expand clinical indications for novel products?
- Can we expand a novel recycling program for single use devices?
- Can we further develop ex-vivo models to minimize usage of live animals for research and product testing

PRESENTATIONS

- "Use of an advanced bipolar tissue sealer (ENSEAL X1) in sealing and transection during lower GI surgery," Digestive Diseases Week (DDW) in Washington, D.C.
- "Sustainability in the operating room: Results of a single-use device recycling program initiative," SAGES 2024 annual meeting in Cleveland, OH

FUNDING

- Industry

CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Haider, SF, Huang, JT, Mehra, S, **Shakir, H**. Thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR) for primary retrograde type a aortic dissection surgical case reports 2613-5965, 2023

Hsiung T, Thota HB, **Sambol JT, Guarrera JV, Shakir HA**. Robotic-assisted thoracoscopic resection of a mature anterior mediastinal teratoma in an adult. *Ann Surg Case Rep Images*. 1(2): 1015, 2024

Jacobs, T, Marvens, J, **Shakir H**. Descending necrotizing mediastinitis after dental extractions in an uncontrolled diabetic: a case report; Oral and Maxillofacial Journal of Macedonian Surgery, 2024, in press.

Liu T, **Shakir H**. That's no moon, it's a giant left ventricular aneurysm: A Case Report and Literature Review. *Heart Surgical Forum* 25(2):E294-E296, 2022

Liu T, St-Victor A, **Shakir H**. Chronic type a dissection secondary to penetrating atherosclerotic ulcers. *Cureus Journal of Medical Science*, 2022

Phansalkar J, Roth J, **Shakir H**: Disparities in access and use of pleural catheters for treatment of malignant pleural effusion: A Literature and Experience Based Review; *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 2023

Shakir H; The COVID effect: making a case for uniform accreditation among healthcare leadership; *The Open Public Health Journal*, 2023

Yu Y, **Sambol JT, Shakir HA**. Conservative management of large tracheal perforation due to traumatic intubation am surg. 89(6):2838-2840, 2023

GENERAL SURGERY

Abdalla M, Abdalla S, **Jones DB**. Modeling the adoption of 5760 clinical studies into practice across 5 surgical specialties, *J Surg Res* 294:269-278, 2024

Allar B, **Jones DB**. Simulation, FLS, FES, FUSE. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) *Pocket Surgery*, Third Edition. pp. 36:1-11. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024.

Alvarez-Downing MM and da Silva Giovanna; Bumps down under: hemorrhoids, skin tags and all things perianal. *Current Opinion in Gastroenterology*, 38(1):61- 66, 2022

Alvarez-Downing, Melissa M. and Cera, Susan M; Chapter 6: Parastomal Hernia; operative techniques in colon and rectal surgery; 1st Edition; Michael W. Mulholland; pages 330-335; Wolters Kluwer Health, Philadelphia, PA, 2022

Azer A, Panayotova GG, Kong K, Hakakian D, **Sheikh F**, Gorman E, Sutherland A, Tafesh Z, Horng H, **Guarrera JV, Glass NE**. Clinical application of thromboelastography in patients with cirrhosis: a single center experience. *J Surg Res*. 287:142-148, 2023

Baillet A, **Jones DB**, Bond D. Associations of weather and air pollution with objective physical activity and sedentary time before and after bariatric surgery: a secondary analysis of a prospective cohort study, *Environmental Research Communications* 2024

Bond DS, Smith KE, Schumacher LM, Vithiananthan S, **Jones DB**, Webster BA, Thomas G. Associations of physical activity and sedentary behavior with appetite sensations and eating regulation behaviors before and during the initial year following bariatric surgery, *Obesity Science & Practice* 28:164-175, 2022

Bond DS, Smith KE, Schumacher LM, Vithiananthan S, **Jones DB**, Papasavas P, Webster J, Thomas JG. . Associations of daily weight management-focused social support with weight loss, activity behaviors, and eating regulations in the context of metabolic and bariatric surgery *Obesity Science and Practice* 10(1):717, 2023

Coughlin JW, Nauman E, Wellman R, Coley Y, McTigue KM, Coleman KJ, **Jones DB**, Tobin JN, Wee CC, Fitzpatrick SL, Desai JR, Murali S, Morrow EH, Rogers AM, Wood GC, Schlundt DG, Apovian CM, Duke MC, McCaly JC, Soans R, Nemr R, Williams N, Courcoulas A, Holmes JH, Anau J Toh S, Sturtevant JL, Horgan CE, Cook A, Arterburn DE, (for the PCORnet Bariatric Surgery Collaborative). Preoperative depression status and five year metabolic and bariatric surgery outcomes in the PCORnet Bariatric Study Cohort, *Annals of Surgery* 1:277(4): 637-646, 2023

Echeverri E, Collins M, Kindel T, Petrick A, **Jones DB**. Bariatric surgeon perceptions of the safety of same-day sleeve gastrectomy in the state of Massachusetts. *Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases*, 19(5):451-457, 2023

Guliani J, Bartelson RI, Eraky F, Mehra S, **Glass NE, Narula N**. Patients with symptomatic cholelithiasis at a safety net hospital: Early surgeon involvement matters. *World J Surg*. 48(12):2855-2862, 2024

Goldschmidt AB, Smith KE, Thomas G, Espel-Huynh HM, **Jones DB**, Vithiananthan S, Bond DS. Real-time vs retrospective self-report assessment of loss of control eating in adults after undergoing bariatric surgery *Obesity* 31(2):363-372, 2023

Hanna G, Mehra S, Haider SF, Tsui GE, Chernock B, **Glass NE, Livingston D, Sheikh F**. Electric scooter sharing systems: An analysis of injury patterns associated with their introduction. *Injury*. Jul;54(7):110781. 2023

Hong M, Ghajar M, Allen W, Jasti S and **Alvarez-Downing MM**; Evaluating implementation costs of an enhanced recovery after surgery protocol: A systematic review. *World Journal of Surgery*, WJS-23-02-0278.R1, 2023

Johnson S, Barajas-Gamboa J, Alford A, Pories S. Navigating an academic career in surgery. In Johnson SM, Qureshi AP, Schluskel AT, Renton D, Jones DB (eds). *The SAGES Manual of Strategy and Leadership*. pp. 477-511, Springer, NY, 2024

Johnson SM, Qureshi AP, Schluskel AT, Renton D, Jones DB (eds). *The SAGES Manual of Strategy and Leadership*, Springer, NY, 2024

Johnson S, Qureshi A, Renton D, Schluskel, **Jones DB**. *The SAGES Manual on Strategy and Leadership*, Springer, New York, NY, 2024

Johnson S, Qureshi A, Schluskel, Renton D, **Jones DB**. *The SAGES Manual of Strategy and Leadership*, Springer, New York, NY, 2024

Jones DB. *Pocket Surgery*, Third Edition. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2020

Kakdas YC, Demiri D, Barker JR, Halic T, Keane J, Mitchell J, Jones SB, **Jones DB**, De S, Jackson C. Virtual reality-based donning and doffing simulator. In 2024 IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces pp.214-222, 2024

Kashtan MA, **Jones DB**. Hernia. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) *Pocket Surgery*, Third Edition. pp. 18:1-9, Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Keller DS, **Narula N**, Schwarz E, Mellinger JD, Feldman LS, Dort J, Asbun HJ, Romanelli J. A cross sectional survey on burnout and career satisfaction in surgeons: a joint work from the SAGES quality, outcomes, and safety and reimaging the practice of surgery burnout task forces. *Surg Endosc*. 38(9):4776-4787, 2024

Kim DH, Jones DB, *ASMBS Essentials*. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) *Pocket Surgery*, Third Edition. pp. 36:1. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Kim DH, Jones DB. Bariatric Surgery. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) *Pocket Surgery*, Third Edition. pp. 20:1-5, Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Koneru B, Jones DB. Surgical journal clubs in the digital world: old wine in new barrels. *Surgery* 2024, in press Kumar SS, Collings AT, Lamm R, Haskins IN, Scholz S, Nepal P, Train AT, Athanasiadis DI, Pucher PH, Bradley JF, Hanna NM, Quinteros F, **Narula N**, Slater BJ. SAGES guideline for the diagnosis and treatment of appendicitis. *Surg Endosc* 38(6):2974-2994, 2024

Lamm R, Kumar SS, Collings AT, Haskins IN, Abou-Setta A, **Narula N**, Nepal P, Hanna NM, Athanasiadis DI, Scholz S, Bradley JF 3rd, Train AT, Pucher PH, Quinteros F, Slater B. Diagnosis and treatment of appendicitis: systematic review and meta-analysis. *Surgical Endoscopy*. 37(12):8933-8990, 2023

Lim R, **Jones DB**. Bariatric Surgery Examination and Board Review, McGraw Hill Education, New York, NY, 2023

Lim R, **Jones DB**. General Surgery Examination and Board Review, 2nd edition. McGraw Hill Education, New York, NY, 2023

Lin H, Baker JW, Meister K, Lak KL, Martin Del Campo SE, Smith A, Needleman B, Nadzam G, Ying LD, Varban O, Reyes AM, Breckenbridge J, Tabone L, Gentles C, Echeverri C, Jones SB, Gould J, Vosburg W, **Jones DB**, Edwards M, Nimeri A, Kindel T, Petrick A. American society for metabolic and bariatric surgery: intra-operative care pathway for minimally invasive Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 20(10):895-909, 2024

Lu, P; Nguyen, T; Thanh, T; **Riddle, E**; Faculty development in competency-based medical education in Vietnam, *Medical Education*, 56:1139-1140, 2022

Marcoli R, **Jones DB**, Massault C, Harrison PJ, Cate HS, Jerry DR. Barramundi (Lates calcarifer) rare coloration patterns: a multiomics approach to understand the "panda" phenotype. *J Fish Biol* 105(4):1268-1279, 2024

Marey HS, Drummond JR, **Jones DB**, Worden H, Clerbaux C, Borsdorff T, Gille J. A Comparative analysis of satellite-Derived CO retrievals during the 2020 wildfires in North America. *J Geophys Res Atmos* 28:129(22): 2024

McLoughlin L, Zoumpou T, Holan GP, **Nasri B**, **Jones DB**, Grachan JJ. Assessing the value of surgical clinical correlations in a pre-clinical medical gastrointestinal anatomy course. *Global Surgical Education*, 2024, submitted.

Montalvo-Jave EE, Ayala-Moreno EA, Soper NJ, Ashley SW, Stain S, Pawlik TM, Pellegrini C, Cameron JL, Vauthey JN, **Jones DB**, Sarr MG, Callery MP, Shuchleib Chaba. "Mexico: The Inaugural International Chapter of the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract" *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* 26(3):519-522, 2022

Montovano, M., Chernock, B., **Merchant, A.M.**, **Shapiro, M.**, Oliver, J.B., The rare middle mesocolic hernia, *The American Surgeon* 88:1346-1348, 2022

Nakamoto K, **Jones DB**, Adra S, Gamification of robotic simulation to train general surgery residents, *Surgical Endoscopy*, 37:3136-3144, 2023

Narula N, Gibbs KE, Kong F, Mukherjee I. Appendiceal intussusception, diverticula, and

fecalith associated with appendicitis. *The American Surgeon* 89(12):6257-6259, 2023

Nasri B, **Jones DB**. Laparoscopic adjustable gastric band remains a safe, effective, and durable option for surgical weight loss. *Surgical Endoscopy* 36(10):7781-7788, 2022

Nasri BN, Lim RB, Ellsmere J, Fernandes AR, **Jones DB**. Metabolic and bariatric surgery: an update from 2010. *Curr Probl Surg* 61(11) 2024

Nasri B, Lim R, Ellsmere J, **Jones DB**. Metabolic Surgery. In Ashley S, et al, Current Problems in Surgery, Elsevier, 61(1) 101549 Elsevier, New York, Nov 2024.

Nasri B, Mitchell JD, Jackson C, Nakamoto K, **Jones DB**. Distractions in the operating room: a survey of the healthcare team. *Surgical Endoscopy* 37(3):2316-2325, 2023

Oberoi KPS, Scott MT, Schwartzman J, Mahajan J, Patel NM, **Alvarez-Downing MM**, Merchant AM, Kunac A; Resident endoscopy experience correlates poorly with colonoscopy performance on a VR simulator; *The Surgery Journal (NY)*, 8(1):e80-e85, 2022

Olasky J, **Jones DB**. Simulation and OR team performance. In Romanelli J, Dort, Kowalski, Sinha, The SAGES Manual of Quality, Outcomes and Patient Safety 2nd Ed, pp. 561-575, Springer, New York, NY, 2022

Olasky J, Jones E, Robinson T, **Jones DB**. Safer operating room teams: rationale for the Fundamental Use of Surgical Energy (FUSE) Hospital Compliance Module. *Surgical Endoscopy* 36(9):6647-6652, 2022

Oliver JB, **Merchant AM**, **Koneru B**. Management of Patients with Chronic Liver Disease in the Perioperative Period. *J Invest Surg*. 36(1), 2023

Ore AS*, Liu BS, Chen HW, Kent, TS, Parsons CS, **Narula N**. General Surgery trainee cases over time: postgraduate year matters. *The American Surgeon*. 89(12):5325-5331, 2023

Paj, S., Andrews, T., Turner, A., **Merchant, A.**, **Shapiro, M.**, Factors that influence end-of-life decision making amongst attending physicians. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. 39:1174-1181, 2022

Perez-Iglesias CT, Sheikh F, Jones DB. International medical graduates: strategies to mitigate challenges in medical education. In Johnson SM, Qureshi AP, Schluskel AT, Renton D, Jones DB (eds). The SAGES Manual of Strategy and Leadership. pp.675-685, Springer, NY, 2024

Perez-Iglesias CT, Johnson S, **Jones DB**, Gangadharin S. Diversity, equity and inclusion. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) Pocket Surgery, Third Edition. pp. 45:1-5. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Perez-Iglesias CT, **Sheikh F**, **Jones DB**. Strategies to mitigate challenges of international medical graduates. In Johnson S, **Jones DB**, The SAGES Manual for Strategy and Leadership. Springer, New York, NY, 2025

Powers KA, **Jones DB**. Operating room team training. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) Pocket Surgery, Third Edition. pp. 42:1-3. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Qureshi AP, Johnson SM, Sylla P, Pryor AD, Telem D, **Jones DB**, Bingener-Casey J, Feldman LS, Mellinger J; SAGES DLPD Committee. Learning in and moving forward: a call to action and review of diversity initiatives in SAGES. *Surg Endosc*. 38(8):4095-4103, 2024

Riddle EW, Kewalramani D, Narayan M, **Jones DB**. Surgical Simulation: Virtual Reality to Artificial Intelligence. *Curr Probl Surg*. 61(11): 2024

Riddle, E.; Haisch, C.E.; Chapter 17 How to Teach Technical and Judgment Skills Effectively from Outside the Operating Room (Including Virtually); In: Global Surgery: How to Work and Teach in Low- and Middle-Income Countries; Hardy, M.A.; Hochman, B.R.; 169-184; Springer, Switzerland; 2023

Sanders, A. Lim, R. **Jones, DB**. Vosburg, RW. Artificial Intelligence large language model scores highly on focused practice designation in metabolic and bariatric surgery board questions. *SOARD* 2024, submitted.

Scott DJ, **Jones DB**, Rooney DM, Phitayakorn R, Pugh C. Surgical simulation and new ways to improve performance. In Tyler D, et al. (eds.) Sabiston Textbook of Surgery: The Biological Basis of Modern Surgical Practice. 22nd edition, Elsevier, New York, 2024, in press.

Shapiro, M.E., Singer, E. A., Miller, P., Peri-Operative DNR: An Ethical Dilemma, in Difficult Decisions in Surgical Ethics – An Evidence-Based Approach, Lonchyna, V., Kelley, P. and Angelos, P., eds. Springer, 2022

Smith K, Varado A, Graham J, Vithiananthan S, **Jones D**, Papasavas P, Bond D. Characterizing the course of loss of control eating and prognostic factors following bariatric surgery. *Obesity Surgery* 33(4):1170-1177, 2023

Thomas JG, Schumacher LM, Vithiananthan S, **Jones DB**, Smith KE, Chou T, Papasavas PK, Bond DS. Ecological momentary assessment of changes in eating behaviors, appetite, and other aspects of eating regulation in Roux-en-Y gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy patients. *Appetite* 183:106465, 2023

Truong H, Qi D, Ryason A, Cudmore J, Alfred S, Jones SB, Sullivan AM, Parra JM, De S, **Jones DB**. Does your team know how to respond safely to an operating room fire? Outcomes of a virtual reality,

AI-enhanced simulation training. *Surgical Endoscopy* 36:3059-3067, 2022

Wong E, Fleishman A, Brern A, **Jones DB**, Wee C. High risk alcohol use and disordered eating behavior before and one-year after sleeve gastrectomy. *Obesity Surgery* 32:593-598, 2022

Zoumpou T, Fleishman AJ, **Jones DB**, Wee CC. Decision regret up to 6 years after sleeve gastrectomy. *Surgical Endoscopy* 37(12):9381-9392. 2023

Zoumpou T, **Jones DB**. SAGES Masters program for bariatric pathway. In Kroh MD, The SAGES Manual of Bariatric Surgery, 3rd edition. Springer, New York, NY, 2025

Zoumpou T, **Jones DB**. The SAGES Masters Program. In **Jones DB**. (3rd ed.) Pocket Surgery, Third Edition. 43:1. Wolters Kluwer, Philadelphia, PA, 2024

Zoumpou T, Samuel S, Torun N, Yadav P, **Jones DB**. Floppy eyelid syndrome: an overlooked comorbidity among bariatric patients. *Obesity Surgery* 33(2): 523-529, 2023

Zoumpou T, **Jones DB**. What is the Mastery Program? In Johnson SM, Qureshi AP, Schlusell AT, Renton D, **Jones DB** (eds). The SAGES Manual of Strategy and Leadership, pp,1-10, Springer, NY, 2024

LIVER TRANSPLANT AND HEPATOBILIARY SURGERY

Abbassi F, Gero D, Muller X, Bueno A, Figiel W, Robin F, Laroche S, Picard B, Shankar S, Ivanics T, van Reeve M, van Leeuwen OB, Braun HJ, Monbaliu D, Breton A, Vachharajani N, Bonaccorsi Riani E, Nowak G, McMillan RR, Abu-Gazala S, Nair A, Bruballa R, **Paterno F**, Weppeler Sears D, Pinna AD, **Guarrera JV**, de Santibañes E, de Santibañes M, Clavien et al. Novel benchmark values for redo liver transplantation: Does the outcome justify the effort? *Ann Surg.* 2022, Nov 1;276(5):860-867

Aguilera, V, O Andacoglu, C Francoz, G Berlakovich, SL Pai, D Adelman, S Ghosh, **KE Lunsford**, M Montenegro, A Mrzljak, I Scalera, Q Xie, C Becchetti, M Berenguer, N Selzner. Gender and racial disparity among liver transplantation professionals: Report of a global survey. *Transplantation International*. 16;35: 2022

Amin A, Emmaneul B, Raghu V, Khanna A, Soltys K, Sindhi R, Tevar A, Moritz M, Humar A, Mazariegos G, Ganoza A. Kidney transplant in pediatric gut transplant recipients – Technical challenges and outcomes. *Pediatr Transplant*. 28 (3): e14744, 2024

Amin A, Panayotova G, **Guarrera JV**. Hypothermic machine perfusion for liver graft preservation. *Curr Opin Organ Transplant* 27 (2): 98-105, 2022

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Andacoglu, O, M Izzy, D Adelman, V Aguilera, C Becchetti, M Berenguer, GA Berlakovich, S Ghosh, E Giorgakis, N Kemmer, **KE Lunsford**, IF Montasser, MI Montenegro, A Mrzljak, SL Pai, I Scalera, N Selzner. Addressing the burden and management strategies for disparities and inequities among liver transplant professionals: The ILTS experience. *Transplant International*. Jun 2;36:11240. 2023

Azer A, Panayotova GG, Kong K, Hakakian D, **Sheikh F**, Gorman E, Sutherland A, Tafesh Z, Horng H, **Guarrera JV**, **Glass NE**. Clinical application of thromboelastography in patients with cirrhosis: A single center experience. *J Surg Res*. 287:142-148, 2023

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