

THE CUTTING EDGE

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2
SUMMER 2024

A Message from Our Chair: Celebrations & New Beginnings

As we embark on a new academic year, it is with great pride and optimism that I reflect on the recent achievements of our NYU Langone Health Department of Surgery. *The Cutting Edge – Summer Edition* showcases just a glimpse of the remarkable milestones we have collectively reached this quarter, reaffirming our commitment to excellence in patient care, education, and innovation.

This summer marks a significant milestone for NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn's Level 1 Trauma Center, 25 years of steadfast service to the Brooklyn community. Under the leadership of Dr. Samuel Hawkins, medical director, and Dr. Akuezunkpa Ude Welcome, chief of surgery at NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn, this service remains one of the busiest in the Northeast, admitting over 1300 trauma patients annually. Their dedication exemplifies our department's mission to provide exceptional care when it matters most.

We also take pride in our graduating residents and fellows, the backbone of our department and the future of surgical excellence. Honoring 8 surgical residents – Joav Birjiniuk, Yanjie He, Sara Kryeziu, Mike Lui, Sarah McIntyre, Taher Mohammadi, Simon Rodier, and Ben Wadowski – and 11 fellows, we celebrate their achievements and eagerly anticipate their surgical contributions as they embark on fellowships, private practice, and new positions across the country. Welcoming our incoming interns and fellows, including our first pediatric surgery fellow, reinforces our commitment to nurturing the next generation of surgical leaders.

The acquisition of the 'Cut Suit' trauma simulation represents a significant advancement in our educational arsenal, thanks to the generous support of \$122,000 in funding. Led by Dr. Michael Klein and Ms. Peggy Gluszak, RN, this state-of-the-art program will enhance our residents' readiness to handle diverse trauma scenarios, preparing them to deliver the highest standards of care.

Another 25-year milestone has been reached by our vascular team in achieving continuous accreditation from the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission for our vascular testing program. This noninvasive vascular tool has been a mainstay of our diagnostic armamentarium. Our vascular team was among the first to make it routine and widely available, setting the incredible standard of care that continues to benefit our patients and inspire our peers.

As we look ahead, let us draw inspiration from our successes and reaffirm our commitment to pushing the boundaries of surgical excellence. Together, we will continue to innovate, educate, and provide compassionate care that defines our department's legacy.

Wishing you a successful academic year ahead and a very enjoyable summer.

Warmly,



Robert Montgomery, MD, DPhil
H. Leon Pachter Chair and Professor of Surgery



Milestone of Excellence: NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn's 25-Year Journey as a Level I Trauma Center

This summer marks a significant milestone for NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn as it celebrates 25 years since establishing its Level I trauma center, a cornerstone in delivering critical care to patients with severe traumatic injuries. From its creation under Dr. Ramanathan Raju, the program has continually elevated its standards, becoming New York City's first trauma center verified by the American College of Surgeons. This achievement underscores NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn's commitment to excellence, employing a multidisciplinary approach that spans trauma care, from emergency department triage to inpatient rehabilitation.

In celebrating 25 years of service, the trauma center reflects on its impact on the Brooklyn community. Helen Poracky, RN, trauma program manager, who has dedicated 37 years to the trauma center, recalls its transformation from the days of Lutheran Hospital. 'We've been serving this community for a long time,' says Poracky, 'but becoming a Level I trauma center 25 years ago was a significant milestone, elevating our role in the regional trauma care system.'

A pivotal aspect of the trauma service extends beyond immediate lifesaving interventions to proactive injury prevention. Leveraging insights from trauma data meticulously recorded in the trauma registry, the hospital identifies and addresses preventable injuries, such as falls among older adults, motor vehicle accidents, incidents involving e-bikes and scooters, and pediatric injuries. Community engagement plays a crucial role as well, with the trauma team actively participating in local events to raise awareness about initiatives like Stop the Bleed and falls prevention programs such as Matter of Balance and Tai Chi. As NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn reflects on its two decades of service, it looks ahead to evolving strategies that promote community safety.

Dr. Samuel Hawkins, trauma medical director, identifies future goals for the trauma center to include a shift in emphasis toward addressing the needs of an aging population susceptible to injuries from falls.

Factory Will Be a Hospital

Flint & Horner
 BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS EVENT
 ALL 3 STORES WILL REMAIN OPEN
 MONDAY NIGHT TILL 9:30 P.M.

IMMEDIATE CLEARANCE

\$128,000 SELECTION OF FLINT & HORNER
BEDROOM & DINING FURNITURE
DRASTICALLY REDUCED REGARDLESS OF COST

BEDROOM FURNITURE		DINING FURNITURE	
HERITAGE \$1095	DREXEL \$1295	DREXEL \$895	HERITAGE \$1795
HENREDON \$1495	THOMASVILLE \$1495	HERITAGE \$1493	AMERICAN \$895
THOMASVILLE \$995	HERITAGE \$1895	HERITAGE \$1295	HIBRITEN \$1849
HICKORY \$1994	THOMASVILLE \$1649	HIBRITEN \$1299	UNITED \$695
SANDS POINT \$695	AMERICAN \$995	HENREDON \$1748	HIBRITEN \$1198
AMERICAN \$795	UNITED \$1795	HIBRITEN \$1179	HICKORY \$1795

Clyde Beatty's Circus

Work when you want to work

New York Times article from March 25, 1973 announcing the switch from factory to hospital

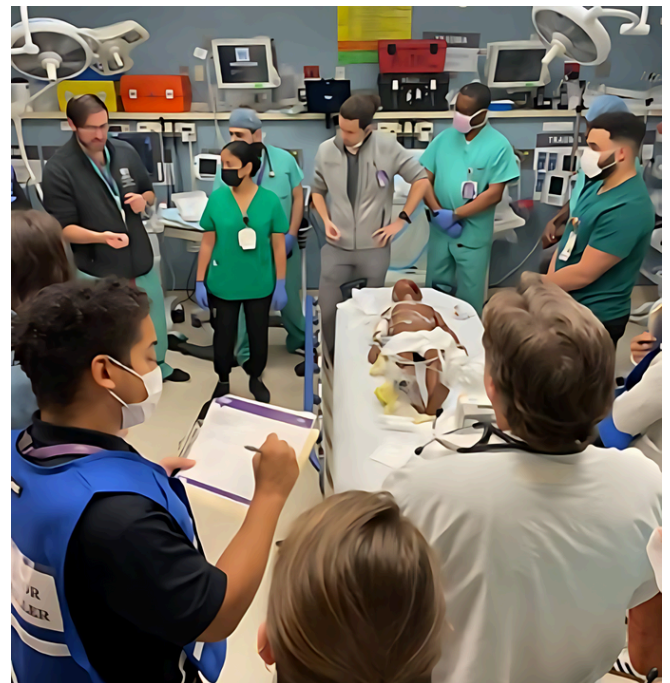
Brooklyn Trauma Center

"When advanced-age patients sustain an injury from a fall, that often becomes the deflection point between decline and maintenance of the function that was most important in their life. It becomes a really important lens through which to look at healthy aging and how we support the oldest members of our community," says Dr. Hawkins. The center aims to equip older adults with tools for fall prevention, facilitate swift recovery post-injury, and enhance overall quality of life through innovative care strategies and ongoing research. This forward-looking approach integrates advanced technologies and multi-level care interventions to support independence and well-being among seniors.

The impact of NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn's trauma center extends beyond patient care to shaping medical education. Trauma care is one of the central paradigms of surgical education. When a resident learns to be a surgeon, one of the most fundamental skill sets is evaluating and managing the injured patient. These experiences prepare future healthcare leaders to manage complex surgical cases across specialties with proficiency and compassion.

In reflecting on the trajectory of the trauma center, there is a deliberate effort to weave together its historical narrative with future aspirations. This narrative aims to honor the hospital's origins, dating back to its earlier roles in the community, and underscores how it evolved into a beacon of trauma care excellence. As preparations continue for the upcoming reverification, there is a concerted effort to articulate this narrative clearly, linking past achievements to a visionary outlook for the future.

NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn's 25-year journey as a Level I trauma center signifies not just a milestone in trauma care but also a testament to its enduring commitment to community health and safety. With a steadfast focus on innovation, education, and compassionate care, the center remains poised to lead in trauma care excellence for years to come.



The Department of Surgery Elevates Trauma Training with an Innovative Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum

NYC Health & Hospitals (H+H), the largest municipal hospital system in the United States, is committed to providing exceptional care to all New Yorkers. As one of only two American College of Surgeons (ACS)-verified Level 1 Adult Trauma Centers in Manhattan, Bellevue Hospital plays a critical role in the New York City Trauma System. With comprehensive trauma care that ranges from prevention to rehabilitation and 24-hour in-house trauma surgery coverage, Bellevue serves as a vital resource for patients in Manhattan and beyond.

Recognizing the importance of continuous education for trauma team members, the Department of Surgery, the Department of Surgery Surgical Skills Lab, and Bellevue Hospital have launched the Open Surgical Simulation curriculum, colloquially known as “Cut Suit” due to its former use of an advanced, human-worn, modular operative simulator of the same name. In 2019, faculty at NYU Grossman School of Medicine partnered with their counterparts at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine to develop the first-ever civilian surgery curriculum for this high-fidelity simulator. Soon after, the NYU General Surgery Residency program was one of the first in the world to use it to train civilian surgeons at the Institute for Medical Simulation and Advanced Learning (IMSAL), NYC’s premier medical training and simulation facility. The simulator is a state-of-the-art trainer that allows surgeons to perform anything from a resuscitative thoracotomy to laparotomy, splenectomy, hepatorrhaphy, retroperitoneal exploration, nephrectomy, and vascular shunting/repair in real time, with real bleeding, without the risk of mortality in an actual patient. This innovative training tool addresses the challenges posed by reduced opportunities for trainees to independently perform critical trauma procedures, particularly those that are considered high-acuity low occurrence (HALO).

In a team effort to adopt the technology, residents Pratik Chandra, MD and Yanzhi Yang, MD worked with Dr. Michael Klein, Bellevue trauma surgeon, Laurie Woldman, assistant director of Education, and Peggy Gluszak, RN, director of the Surgical Skills Lab, to apply for a Committee of Interns and Residents’ Patient Care Trust Fund (CIR PCTF) grant. The introduction of the simulator at Bellevue is poised to enhance the training experience for surgical residents and improve patient outcomes.

Addressing Training Gaps

Since 2003, there has been a notable decline in operative trauma cases nationwide, with residents now graduating with significantly less experience in these procedures. Studies have shown that uninsured patients and those of lower socioeconomic status face significantly higher mortality rates from traumatic injuries, which is why this decline is particularly concerning in public healthcare systems like NYC H+H. Therefore, a robust training program that improves trauma care outcomes is essential.



Central line instruction – Mike Klein, MD; Maggie Ewen, PA; David Andrijevic, MD

Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum

The Role of the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum

To bridge the training gap in these HALO procedures, the Department of Surgery Surgical Skills Lab has implemented several nationally known courses, such as Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM®) and Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET™). While these courses have been beneficial, they have limitations. The Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum addresses these limitations by providing a high-fidelity simulation experience that closely mimics real-world scenarios.

The Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum, used successfully in military surgical training for over a decade, offers realistic replicas of abdominal and thoracic viscera and vasculature. Its advanced design allows it to simulate real arterial bleeding, requiring trainees to perform actual operative procedures in a controlled environment. A recent trial involving six ACS-verified trauma surgery departments across the NYC H+H system demonstrated significant improvements in residents' confidence and competence in handling major operative trauma.

Enhancing Trauma Training at Bellevue

The acquisition of the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum at Bellevue Hospital, supported by a \$122,000 CIR PCTF grant, the largest ever awarded, and funding from the Department of Surgery and Bellevue Hospital, marks a significant advancement in trauma training. This technology will be housed at the Surgical Skills Laboratory, an ACS-Accredited Education Institute, ensuring regular training sessions and preventing skill atrophy seen with less-frequently offered simulation courses.



Discussion of procedure and plan for thoracotomy

By offering the training up to 12 times per year, the Department of Surgery sets a new standard for civilian trauma training programs. Each resident will have the opportunity to take the course three times during their residency, ensuring they develop and maintain critical trauma skills. The comprehensive curriculum includes procedures such as resuscitative thoracotomy, cardiorrhaphy, lung tractotomy, trauma laparotomy, hepatorrhaphy, splenectomy, and more. These HALO procedures are rarely encountered in clinical practice, making the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum an invaluable training tool. PGY4 resident Pratik Chandra says, “Having gone through cut suit training, it’s really helpful to go through the motions in a safe environment, performing an emergent splenectomy or performing an emergent nephrectomy. It helps solidify the muscle memory and makes you more comfortable in the OR in the actual situation.”

Measuring Impact and Ensuring Excellence

To evaluate the impact of the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum on resident training, the Department will implement key metrics and milestones. Pre-course and post-course surveys will assess confidence, knowledge, technical skills, and experience levels. Proctors will evaluate team performance using a predefined curriculum and grading rubric, and residents will have simulation profiles to track their progress.



Thoracotomy procedure

Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum

The introduction of the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum represents a significant commitment to excellence in trauma care and education. By providing high-fidelity training opportunities, the Department of Surgery and Bellevue Hospital aim to ensure a constant state of readiness among its surgical teams. PGY5 resident Yanzhi Yang says, “Cut Suit is actually realistic; it's pretty high fidelity and has helped me be more confident in being able to do some of the HALO procedures. I've done a few of the simulated cases that we practice on in real life, like a splenectomy, and I definitely felt more prepared to handle the procedure.” This initiative will enhance the quality and safety of patient care, ultimately benefiting all New Yorkers who rely on Bellevue's trauma services.



Inaugural session team picture: Christopher Decker, MD; Angeleke Saridakis, MD; David Andrijevic, MD; Sarah Kaslow, MD; Mike Klein, MD; Shimon Jacobs, MD; Peggy Gluszak, RN

For questions on the Open Surgical Simulation Curriculum, please reach out to Dr. Michael Klein at michael.j.klein@nyulangone.org.

100 Pediatric ECMO Runs and Counting!

June 19, 2024 marked a significant milestone for the Pediatric ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) Program at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone as they successfully initiated the 100th ECMO run. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaboration of the entire pediatric ECMO team.

ECMO is a life-saving technology that functions as an artificial heart and lung, providing oxygenation and perfusion for patients who cannot do so themselves. The program, which began in March 2015, has grown to become one of the leading pediatric ECMO centers in the region.

Dr. Jason Fisher, chief of the Pediatric Surgery Division and surgical director of the Pediatric ECMO Program, reflects on the journey: 'When I joined NYU in 2012, there was no pediatric ECMO and limited adult ECMO. Thanks to the institution's support, my partnership with Dr. Arun Chopra as the medical director of the Pediatric ECMO program, and the dedication of our multidisciplinary team, we've been able to build a program that has now treated 100 children, with a survival rate that exceeds national benchmarks.' This culminated with the recognition of the NYU Pediatric and Adult ECMO programs as a Center of Excellence Gold Level in 2020, and Platinum Level in 2023, by the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO).

Of the 100 patients treated, approximately 80 have survived, giving these children a second chance at life. The journey has not been without challenges. As Dr. Fisher notes, 'ECMO is a high-risk therapy, deployed on the sickest children in the hospital, so it can be challenging to build a program where you are sometimes up against insurmountable clinical challenges. But through perseverance and the unwavering commitment of our team, we've achieved a level of success that we are tremendously proud of.'

This milestone highlights the importance of a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to care, with contributions from surgeons, critical care physicians, nurses, perfusionists, respiratory therapists, and countless others who work tirelessly to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pediatric ECMO patients.

As we celebrate this achievement, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the Pediatric ECMO Program. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to excellence. Here's to the next 100 ECMO runs and the lives we will continue to save together. If you have any questions about the Pediatric ECMO program or the Pediatric Surgery Division, please contact Jason Fisher at Jason.fisher@nyulangone.org.



The 2022 virtual ECMO survivor reunion



First ECMO cannulation in March 2015



Three simultaneous pediatric ECMO patients being cared for in the NICU



Pediatric ECMO team

Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence in Vascular Testing: A Commitment to Quality

In May, Vascular Surgery achieved a distinguished milestone by maintaining 25 years of excellence in Vascular Testing. The ultrasound laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Glenn Jacobowitz, medical director and supervised by Lana Yuffe, technical director, is supported by a team of 10 licensed technologists renowned for their dedication to the profession.

Vascular Surgery was among the pioneering facilities accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), representing a select group committed to delivering high-quality patient care. Vascular testing serves as an essential noninvasive diagnostic tool crucial for diagnosing patient conditions, monitoring disease progression, and evaluating outcomes post-intervention.

The IAC was established in response to the need for standardized quality standards and protocols in ultrasound testing. The rigorous accreditation process, requiring comprehensive reviews of practices and protocols every three years, aims to promote appropriate utilization, standardization, and the quality of diagnostic imaging, interventional, and therapeutic procedures.

Congratulations to all members of the Vascular Surgery Lab, past and present, for their significant contribution to this remarkable achievement!



Vascular Ultrasound Lab staff

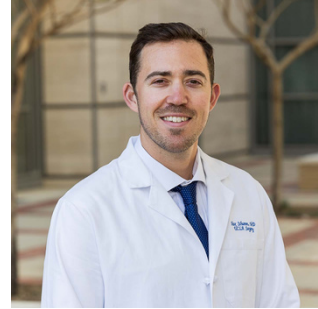
2024-2025 Surgery Fellows



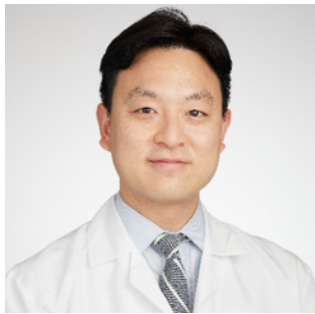
Breast Surgery
Caitlin Marsh, DO



Colorectal Surgery
Yadin Bornstein, MD



Endocrine Surgery
Max Schumm, MD



MIS Bariatric Surgery
James Moon, MD



MIS Bariatric Surgery
Nicole Uzor, MD



MIS Robotic Surgery
Niti Shahi, MD



Pediatric Surgery
Rachel Hanke, MD



Surgical Critical Care
Carlos Soriano, MD



Surgical Critical Care
Daud Lodin, MD



Vascular Surgery
Keval Ray, MD

The Department of Surgery is proud to announce our new 2024-2025 fellows! With a successful match across all fellowship programs, we are welcoming 10 incredibly bright and accomplished trainees to our surgery family. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome when you meet them in August.

Scrubbed In

Why did you become a pediatric surgeon?

I really love general surgery and being a generalist with skills that allow me to take care of the whole patient with a wide variety of conditions. I feel like pediatric surgery is just that, except that there is an emphasis on a group of patients who have unique congenital and developmental conditions. There's also the added benefit of taking care of patients who are fun and have incredible resilience. And I also get to collaborate with other professionals who love caring for children.

How has working for the medical corps impacted your career?

My career in the Navy was really meaningful to me. Being in the Navy gave me a sense of purpose and camaraderie that really went beyond being a physician. Bellevue is somewhat similar in that its calling sets it apart from most hospitals. Its mission as a safety net hospital to provide healthcare to all patients no matter their ability to pay is really central to the belief that healthcare is a basic human right.

What has been the best moment of your career so far?

My two deployments in the Navy were probably the most memorable. In my deployment to Iraq, I took care of injured Marines and Iraqi civilians. It really opened my eyes and gave me an appreciation for our Marines and military and how much these people, mostly very young, give on behalf of all of us. In my other deployment, I was on a hospital ship in Southeast Asia where we traveled to remote countries and islands that had very limited access to healthcare. It was a great feeling that as a surgeon, I could make a tangible difference with my surgical skills.

Congratulations on winning the Leonard J. Tow Humanism in Medicine Award! How has working with medical students impacted your career and your outlook on surgical education?

Working with medical students is really one of the best parts of working at NYU for me! It makes you think about who you are as a physician role model, and it's made me a better physician and a better communicator. It's also really rewarding because the students are just so incredibly appreciative of any kind of teaching you can give them.

Sandy Tomita, MD, FACS, FAAP



Associate Professor of Surgery

Pediatric Surgery Division

Hometown: Gardena, CA

Medical School: Northwestern University Medical School

Residency: Vanderbilt University Hospital

Fellowship: St. Louis University Hospital Pediatric Surgery Fellowship



Sandy Tomita near helicopter. Camp Korean Village, Al Anbar province, Iraq 2004

Sandy Tomita, MD, FACS, FAAP

What is your best tip for teaching students and trainees?

It's a really good question, but I don't think I can give just one tip. There are so many different ways of effective teaching. Each teacher needs to find the right style that suits them. As surgical attendings, we can really watch and learn from our surgical residents because they always surpass us when it comes to teaching medical students.

What does a typical day off look like for you?

I'm essentially a homebody and live a rather boring life on my days off. I love staying at home and cooking for my family and friends, sometimes experimenting with different cuisines and different cooking techniques. I live in Brooklyn, and I feel like I have everything I need there within walking distance—a great park (Prospect Park), a world-class botanical garden (Brooklyn Botanic Garden), an excellent museum (Brooklyn Museum), a great theater (BAM) as well as the gym and grocery stores I like. I live close to Barclays Center and so I can easily see a Nets or Liberty game or go to a concert.



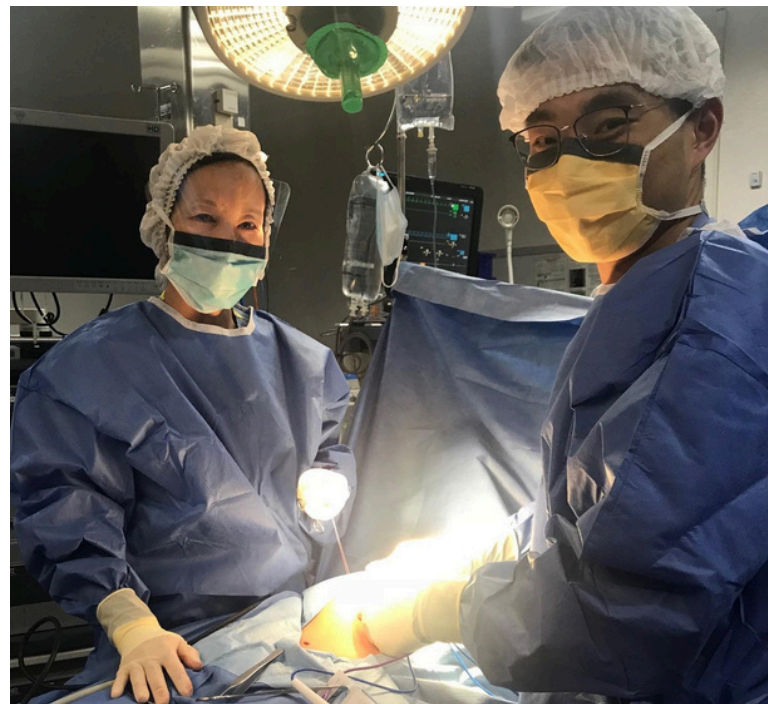
Operating. Chittagong Hospital, Chittagong, Bangladesh 2006



In front of clinic. Banda Aceh, Indonesia 2006



At home in Brooklyn, cooking



Sandy Tomita and Yanjie He, 2024 residency graduate

Jordan Taylor, MD



NYU Robotic Surgery Fellow

Hometown: Walnut Creek, California

Medical School: UC San Diego

Residency: Montefiore Medical Center & Stanford University

Fellowship: Stanford University Esophagus Fellowship

Future Job: Assistant Professor of Surgery, NYULH General Surgery

Why did you become a surgeon?

Becoming a surgeon wasn't always the plan for me. I went into medical school thinking about pediatric critical care as a specialty based on my prior research experience. I remember one surgical resident telling me during my surgical clerkship that if I found any other specialty equally as appealing, I should choose a nonsurgical specialty. Shorter training, better quality of life, perhaps better work-life balance, less stress.... I never found anything equal to surgery, in my mind. I fell in love with operating, with the satisfaction of using my intellect and hands to save or improve lives, and with the dedication of the entire operating room team to the patient on the table. Few places in the hospital function in such harmony toward a single goal as the OR does, even and maybe especially under such high-stress circumstances.

What inspired you to pursue robotic surgery?

I have always been drawn toward innovation and technology. I have an engineering background and enjoy working with technology (robots included) that can benefit patients. Robotic-assisted surgery is growing increasingly more common, not just at large academic centers, but in smaller community hospital systems as well. I want to have the knowledge and skills to help find where the robot is most advantageous and where it benefits patients. There are some operations that are clearly much better performed on the robotic system, often with less surgical trauma and with shorter recovery times. A career in robotic surgery also allows me to be a general surgeon, not limiting myself to a single organ system or a procedure.



Jordan showing a visiting med scholar and a lab assistant a device he helped develop during his research years



Jordan with Dr. Tanuja Damani



Jordan and his wife, Kristie, and kids, Chase, Logan, and Brady (not pictured, just born 6/23/24!).

What would you say is the most memorable case you've scrubbed in on?

It's hard to pick one case; there are so many cases that stay with you for one reason or another. Early on in my residency training, a young man was stabbed in the left upper abdomen and was brought to our trauma center. The typical answer to a stab wound like this would be to take him to the operating room and do an exploratory laparotomy, a big incision all the way down the middle with significant postoperative pain and prolonged recovery. But the surgeon on call was a minimally invasive surgeon, so we were able to use small incisions and a camera to identify the injury. We were able to repair the tear of the diaphragm and stomach laparoscopically, and the patient was discharged home within two days.

What advice would you give to a resident applying to fellowship programs?

It is helpful to be proactive, to keep an open mind and be flexible about where or what type of program you want. And then, find a program and the mentors who will help you establish your niche. Fellowships are becoming increasingly more specialized, so best to establish yourself as an expert in whatever you are interested in, be that a certain approach, procedure, or condition.

What about NYULH Surgery made you want to stay on as an attending?

I am very excited to be staying at NYU Langone. It is a fantastic academic medical center with a superb group of surgeons. There is a lot to be excited about. As an institution, we attract a lot of very complicated cases that require a multidisciplinary approach. NYU has especially embraced innovation and technology as an integral part of surgery, from robotic surgery to endoscopic surgery. I am thrilled to be a part of the resident and medical student education. What ultimately helped me decide to stay at NYU was the knowledge that NYU and my mentors here were going to continue to help me grow as a surgeon.

Do you have a goal for yourself for your first year as an attending?

I am very excited to put to practice the years of specialty and fellowship training I have received. I want to provide the best care to my patients and their families, offering them a range of robotic and endoscopic surgical options for a number of conditions. I, of course, want to grow my practice and strengthen the group with my unique skill set.

What does a typical day off look like for you?

My days off are very much occupied by my three kids, including a newborn baby boy. I spend a lot of time cleaning, playing, and taking them to Astoria Park.



Jordan and his wife, Kristie at the NYU Surgery Graduation

Scrubbed In

What inspired you to pursue surgery?

I started in psychiatry because it matched my personality and interests at the time. However, during medical school, I realized that general surgery fascinated me more, offering a hands-on approach and diverse challenges. Transitioning was not easy—my background was entirely psychiatry focused, but my passion for surgery drove me to make the switch, even though it was a big leap. Surgery is the best job in the world, there's no higher calling, and I love to use my hands to help people.

Why did you choose NYU Brooklyn for your residency?

My work at NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn is truly special because we're serving a highly diverse population, including many Medicaid, undocumented, and uninsured patients. This diverse patient base reminds me of my roots, as I come from an immigrant family. My parents, who are Vietnamese, went through incredible hardships escaping Vietnam and building a life in America. Their resilience and dedication inspire me to serve others, and that is why I love working here. NYU Brooklyn stood out because of its rich history and the unique camaraderie among its staff. The hospital has a storied past, from being a factory to becoming Lutheran and now a significant part of NYU. I was drawn to its legacy and the incredible stories of the surgeons who have worked here. It is a place where remarkable things happen every day, and I am proud to be a part of it.



Surgery Residents, Alex Hien Vu, PGY5 and Katelyn Larson, PGY2

Alex Hien Vu, MD



NYU Brooklyn PGY5 General Surgery Resident

Hometown: Irvine, California

Medical School: Columbia University

Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

What's the most memorable case you've scrubbed in on?

One of the most memorable cases was with the former chief of surgery at NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn, Dr. Michael Timoney. I had the honor of scrubbing in on his first case with me as an intern and his last case before he left. It was a complex ventral hernia repair after cancer eroded through the stomach. This case was significant not only because of its complexity but also because it symbolized mentorship and the passing of knowledge. Another intense experience was performing an open clamshell thoracotomy in the ER, trying to save a patient's life by manually massaging their heart. These experiences have been both challenging and rewarding.

What does the Brooklyn Trauma Center turning 25 mean to you and your education here?

The Brooklyn Trauma Center's 25th anniversary is a testament to its resilience and dedication to patient care. Dr. Sampath Kumar, one of the most respected surgeons here, helped start the trauma program, which has now grown into a large, well-regarded unit. The center has a profound impact on the community, and I've witnessed incredible saves, like the case of a man impaled by a tree trunk.

Alex Hien Vu, MD

The trauma team's ability to save his life and restore his health was extraordinary. Being part of such a committed and capable team has been an invaluable part of my education.

Can you share any personal reflections on the impact of your family's history on your career?

My parents' journey from Vietnam to the U.S. has profoundly impacted my outlook on life and my career. They overcame immense challenges, from escaping war to building a new life from scratch. Their story of perseverance and humility drives me to make the most of the opportunities I have and to give back to the community. Their experiences remind me of the importance of resilience, hard work, and compassion, values that I strive to embody in my practice as a surgeon.

I hear you're a DJ! What's your favorite OR song?

Miley Cyrus, "We Can't Stop," no, I'm just kidding. A breast surgeon at NYU Brooklyn, Dr. Janet Yeh, taught me that you should always play the patient's favorite song as they walk in. It makes a difference.



Alex DJing



Alex with his siblings and parents



Alex operating with Dr. Michael Timoney



Alex operating at a Vietnamese OR in Saigon

Katherine Kim



Fellowship Program Coordinator

Hometown: Wayne, NJ

College: Montclair State University

What does a typical day look like in your role?

My tasks change regularly as the year progresses, but I might start by reviewing applications and communicating with prospective fellows. Throughout the day, I schedule and participate in meetings with faculty to discuss recruitment or program improvement. I'm also completing administrative duties such as maintaining records, completing training verifications, managing budgets, etc. The most consistent part of my day is sipping on my iced coffee while attempting to clear up my never-ending inbox!

How did you choose your career?

I chose my career as a fellowship program coordinator because I am passionate about supporting the development of future healthcare providers. With my background in health administration, I wanted a role where I could use my skills in program and project management. It's fulfilling to support surgical fellows and see them succeed in their specialized fields.

What excites you most about NYU?

What excites me most about NYU is the ample opportunity for growth and connection. NYU is also located in one of the best cities in the world, so working here allows me to explore the city and its vibrant culture.

What are you looking forward to in the new academic year?

I look forward to welcoming the new fellows and helping them navigate their programs. I also always look forward to recruitment season and getting to meet and speak to candidates from all over the world.

What is your favorite thing to do in the summer on your day off?

I live in New Jersey, so I love going down to the Jersey Shore! The beaches are beautiful and, contrary to common belief, it is not like the reality TV show!

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the Department of Surgery!

Mary Gemignani, MD, MPH – Chief, Division of Breast Surgery

Varun Krishnan, MD – Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Colorectal Surgery, NYU Langone Health–Brooklyn

Stanley Cobos, BA – Research Project Manager, Division of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery

Engelbert Morales – Division Administrator, Divisions of General, Endocrine, and Acute Care Surgery

Camila Hidalgo Salinas – Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery

Tameka Alleyne – FGP Office Supervisor, Division of Colorectal Surgery

Ruby Sanchez – FGP Secretary, Division of Colorectal Surgery

Noelle Clark – Patient Care Assistant, Division of Colorectal Surgery

Emma Wilkinson – Project Management Intern, Surgery

Hannah Winter – Physician Assistant, Bellevue Trauma Service

Samantha Williams – Physician Assistant, Bellevue Surgery Clinic

Kevin Richardson – Nurse Practitioner, Bellevue Trauma Service

Jessica Preston – Physician Assistant, Bellevue Robotic Surgery

Shreyas Joshi – Biostatistician, Research

Qian Guo – Postdoctoral Fellow, Research

Maria Urrutia – Program Coordinator, Education

Jared Mitchell – Summer Intern, CSTAR

Ilana Mittleman, MPH – Research Project Manager, CSTAR

Nan-Su Huang, MHS – Data Analyst, CSTAR

Tishmattie Gopal, BS – Research Associate, CSTAR

Eric Chen – Undergraduate Research Associate, CSTAR

Chenxi Gao, MHS – Data Analyst, CSTAR

Kevin Cheng – Summer Intern, CSTAR

Piyawat Kantagowit, MD – Postdoctoral Research Fellow, CSTAR

Malika Wilson, MD – Postdoctoral Research Fellow, CSTAR

Amelia Mogul – Summer Intern, CSTAR

Brandon Chou, BS – Medical Student Training in Aging Research Program Intern, CSTAR

Bayzhan Mukatay – Summer Intern, CSTAR

Parker Pape – Summer Intern, CSTAR

Jasir Nawar – Summer Intern, CSTAR

News, Awards, & Recognitions

Bhama Ramkhelawon, PhD was awarded the Marfan Foundation Innovators Grant Award.

Mara McAdams DeMarco, PhD was awarded the American Society of Transplantation Clinical Investigator Achievement Award.



Ann Lee, MD was presented with the Outstanding Leadership Award by Nate Link, MD, Chief Medical Officer of Bellevue Hospital, in appreciation of her dedication and guidance for achieving the Commission on Cancer Accreditation by the American College of Surgeons.



Mark Hochberg, MD was awarded the Faculty Mentor Award at the 2024 Residency Graduation.

Brock Hewitt, MD, MPH received a Surgical Data Science grant from Intuitive for \$47,270.

Ammar Javed, MD and **Christopher Wolfgang, MD, PhD** received \$100,000 from the PRIA Foundation for pancreatic cancer related research.

NYU Grossman School of Medicine Howard Ginsburg Pediatric Surgery Fellowship received official accreditation from the ACGME with **Keith Kuenzler, MD** as program director.

Sandra Tomita, MD was awarded the Leonard J. Tow Humanism in Medicine Faculty Award from NYU Grossman School of Medicine.

Gaye Arslanbas, MSW, Pediatric Surgery operations lead, earned her master's degree in social work.



News, Awards, & Recognitions

Rajam Raghunathan, MD, PhD was awarded the John A. van Heerden Award for best podium presentation/paper at the 2024 AAES meeting.



Conor Donnelly, PGY4 was awarded the Young Investigator Award at ATC 2024.



Ann Lee, MD has been appointed as the chair of the newly formed NYC Health + Hospitals Surgical Oncology Council.

Congratulations to our vascular surgeons, **Todd Berland, Neal Cayne, Glenn Jacobowitz, Patrick Lamparello, Thomas Maldonado, and Caron Rockman**, for being recognized by *Newsweek* magazine in their list of the top 200 vascular surgeons in the US. We represent one-third of the vascular surgeons from NY State on this prestigious list.

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital Adolescent Bariatric Surgery Program is part of the Bariatric Centers of Excellence (COE) network.

Tresara C. Bell, MD; Janesse Abreu, MS, PA-C; Nicole Schneider, MS, PA-C; and Caroline Sheehan, MS, PA-C, along with their patient navigator, were awarded a \$2,500 Be the CHANGE grant from the NCCPA Foundation for improving access to wigs and hair pieces for Bellevue breast cancer patients with chemotherapy-induced hair loss.

Michal Mankowski, PhD received an NSF grant on AI for his work: *Generative Artificial Intelligence and Racial Bias in Disease Representation*.

Megan Jenkins, MD was nominated chair of the DEI Education Committee.

Dr. Cherisse Berry and Dr. Kepal Patel were elected as fellows to the American Surgical Association.

Robert Montgomery, MD, DPhil was one of the inaugural speakers for the first-ever NYU Langone-branded TEDx event.



Mansour Riachi, MD was awarded the 39th Annual SSAT Residents and Fellows Research Conference Top Presenters Award.

News, Awards, & Recognitions

Congratulations to our Chair of Surgery, **Dr. Robert Montgomery**, on receiving the American College of Surgeons Jacobson Innovation Award. He is the 30th recipient of the award, joining an outstanding list of surgeon innovators who have revolutionized the field of surgery.



Through the Jacobson Innovation Award, the American College of Surgeons recognizes living surgeons who have innovated a new development or technique in any surgical discipline. The award honors Dr. Montgomery's groundbreaking contributions to transplantation surgery.

Educator Recognition

The Surgery Clerkship recognizes outstanding educators in the Department of Surgery based on the following criteria:

- formal faculty/resident evaluations completed by students post-clerkship
- named by students during end-of-clerkship informal feedback sessions as outstanding educators
- have gone above and beyond to further our department's education mission in one or more of the following ways:
 - providing small group instruction
 - providing skills lab instruction
 - completing thoughtful, constructive, and timely evaluations of students (COMET and/or WBAs)
 - recording didactics or precepting other didactic activities
 - serving as education champions
 - serving as role models of the professional commitment, identity, and excellence to which we all aspire

April Educators Recognized

Alex Hien Vu, MD



Jason Zhang, MD



June Educators Recognized

Angelos Papanikolaou, MD



Eric Chuang, MD



July Educators Recognized

David Andrijevic, MD



Adam Golden, MD



Faculty Promotions



Erica Friedman, MD
Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery



Michael Grieco, MD
Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery



Babak J. Orandi, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery
and Medicine

The Department encourages and stands ready to assist eligible colleagues to proceed with the process. If you have served six years at your current rank, please contact Dr. Mark Hochberg to explain the promotion process and Arelis Espinal to coordinate your documents.

The Faculty Academic Appointments and Promotions Team:
Dr. Mark Hochberg, Dr. Kopal Patel, and Arelis Espinal

Staff Promotions



Stephanie Cifuentes
Senior Medical Secretary, Division of
Pediatric Surgery

Publications

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Invited Talks

American College of Surgeons 41st Annual Point Counterpoint Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
Title: Global Surgery: Who Does It Benefit? Sustained Involvement Versus Short-Term Mission; Enhancing Healthcare Provider Training speaker
Date: April 3, 2024
Maryann Hopkins, MD

American College of Academic International Medicine's Academic International Medicine Congress
Title: Importance of Surgery and Surgical Education in Low and Middle Income Countries
Date: June 20, 2024
Maryann Hopkins, MD

2024 Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Conference: Geriatric Trauma and Palliative Care, NYU Langone
Title: Perspectives in Surgery, Geriatric Trauma, and Palliative Care: An Interactive Case Discussion
Date: May 3, 2024
Cherisse Berry, MD

Meet the Mentors Virtual Education Conference for AAST Acute Care Surgery Fellows
Title: Disparities in the Trauma Care System: A Call to Action to Develop Equity Standards for Each Phase of Care Within the Trauma Chain of Survival
Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Cherisse Berry, MD

Morehouse School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Atlanta, GA
Title: At the Intersection of Health Equity and Trauma Systems: Strategies to Eliminate Health Care Disparities within Acute Care Surgery
Date: May 15, 2024
Cherisse Berry, MD

Ghana Lecture Series
Title: Diseases of the head and neck
Date: June 10th, 2024
Kepal Patel, MD

23-24 LISOM Allied Health Professionals Grand Rounds
Title: GLP-1 receptor agonists Crash Course
Date: June 3, 2024
Robert Hold & Holly Lofton, MD

American Association of Endocrine Surgeons annual meeting, Dallas, TX
Title: Endocrine Surgical Innovation: Tips, tricks, and videos from the experts
Date: April 2024
Insoo Suh, MD

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) R&D Salon, New York, NY
Title: Lightness in Surgery: Reflections
Date: June 2024
Insoo Suh, MD

UNOS Transplant Management Forum, Louisville, KY
Title: Living Donation Programs and Ethical Issues in Donor Selection: What Does the Data Show?
Date: May 8, 2024
Macey Levan, JD, PhD

Association of Organ Procurement Organizations, San Antonio, Texas
Title: Improving Equity and Access to Grief Support for Organ Donor Families: Early Results from a Novel Program
Date: June 25, 2024
Macey Levan, JD, PhD

Center for Health Sciences Research, Regenstrief Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana
Title: Multi-objective Optimization for Allocating Livers for Transplantation
Date: April 16, 2024
Sommer E. Gentry, PhD

NYU Langone Health. April 2024
Title: Novel Treatment Approaches in Pancreatic Cancer
Date: April 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

DDW2024, Digestive Disease Week, Washington, D.C.
Title: Intraoperative Pancreatoscopy Is Not Needed to Guide Surgical Resection of Main Duct IPMNs
Date: May 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

DDW2024, Digestive Disease Week, Washington, D.C.
Title: Controversies in the Evaluation and Management of IPMNs- Intraoperative Pancreatoscopy.
Date: May 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

The Finnish Pancreas Club, Helsinki, Finland
Title: Strategies For The Resection Of Locally Advanced Pancreas Cancer
Date: May 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

Chinese Association of Pancreatology (CAP)
Title: Strategies for the resection of locally advanced pancreas cancer
Date: June 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

36th JSHPBS 2024
Title: Treatment Strategies for Unresectable Pancreatic Cancer
Date: June 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

36th JSHPBS 2024
Title: Surgical approach to pancreatic cancer with arterial contact or invasion
Date: June 2024
Christopher L. Wolfgang

Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, Washington DC, USA
Title: Exercise Stimulates Anti-Tumoral Immunity in Metastatic Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma
Date: May 18–21, 2024
Mansour E. Riachi, MD

SAGES annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH,
Title: Minimally Invasive repair of Diastasis Recti
Date: April 19th, 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD

HERNIAU Advanced Course
Title: Live broadcast Robotic Inguinal Hernia repair
Date: April 25, 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD

NYU Langone Annual Hernia Symposia – Alphabet Soup of Hernia Repair, NYU Long Island
Title: The Alphabet Soup of Hernia Repair
Title: Live Broadcast Robotic Inguinal Hernia Repair
Date: May 3, 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD, Course Director

European Hernia Congress, Prague, Czech Republic
Title: Robotic TAPP for Lateral Hernias
Title: Hernia Repair: A vision from North America
Date: May 30, 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD

SRS Meeting, Orlando, FL
CHAIRMAN OF HERNIA PROGRAM
Title: : The perfect MIS Inguinal hernia Repair
Title: Combined repair of inguinal and Ventral Hernias
Date: June 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD

HERNIAU Advanced Course
Title: Live broadcast Robotic Ventral Hernia repair
Date: June 27, 2024
Flavio Malcher, MD

Obesity+Health, NYU Langone
Title: The Evolution of Obesity Treatment
Date: May 14, 2024
Holly Lofton, MD

Presentations

Maldonado, T., Powell, A., Wendorff, H., Arko, F. R., Chung, J., for the STRIDE study group. One-year limb salvage and quality of life following mechanical aspiration thrombectomy in patients with acute lower extremity ischemia. Presentation at Vascular Surgery national meeting, Chicago, IL. June 2024

Berry, C., DiMaggio, C., Jakka, R., Mann, N. C., Duncan, D., **Frangos, S., Pfaff, A.**, Escobar, N., Ogedegbe, O., Wei, R. Ambulance deserts and inequities in access to EMS care in the united states: are patients within socioeconomically disadvantaged areas at an increased risk for delays in pre-hospital care? Accepted Podium Presentation for the 2024 AAST Annual Scientific Meeting.

Esen E, Gulmez M, Wong D, Safar B, Atallah C. Robotic removal of a tailgut cyst. Ongoing video presentation to ASCRS Annual Meeting. June 1-4, Baltimore, MD

Esen E, Gajic Z, Wong D, Gulmez M, Atallah C, Erkan A, Safar B, Remzi FH. Less is more: MIS approaches associated with lower morbidity especially in the medically complex. E-poster presentation to ASCRS Annual Meeting. June 1-4, Baltimore, MD

Gulmez M, Hinduja P, Esen E, O'connell E, Erkan A, Grieco MJ, Da luz Moreira A, Remzi FH. Pouch failure is often caused by remnant mesorectum or long rectal cuff. Quick shot presentation to ASCRS Annual Meeting. June 1-4, Baltimore, MD

Hinduja P, **Gulmez M, Esen E, O'connell E, Erkan A, Grieco MJ, Da luz Moreira A, Remzi FH.** Thirty-Day Hospital Readmission After Redo Ileal Pouch-Anal Anastomosis And/Or Pouch Revision. Quick shot presentation to ASCRS Annual Meeting. June 1-4, Baltimore, MD

Berry, C., Obiajulu, J., **DiMaggio, C.**, Jakka, R., Mann, N. C., Duncan, D., **Frangos, S.**, Escobar, N., Ogedegbe, O., Wei, R. Disparities in Rapid Access to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) within Historically Redlined Areas. Accepted Podium Presentation for the 2024 SBAS Annual Scientific Meeting.

Han, J. Establishing a new hepatobiliary surgery program in a level 1 trauma center community teaching hospital (our open and robotic experience). Accepted for podium presentation for the 2024 Society for Robotic Surgery Meeting.

Anthony Baez, Zeynep Ozdemir, Matthew J. Sporn, Lindsey Chevlin, Alyssa Marmer, Charles Dimaggio, Freya Schnabel. "Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Survivors in the All Of Us Research Program." Accepted for poster presentation at ASBrS 2024 Annual Meeting

Dorsey MP, Phillips K, James L, Kelley E, Duff E, Menghani N, Chan J, Chang S, Geraci T, Moazami N, Smith DE. "An Updated Anticoagulation Protocol for Patients on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Support." Accepted for Oral Presentation at The American Association for Thoracic Surgery Annual Meeting, April 27-30, 2024.

James L, Jacobowitz I, Toreli A, Vaynblat M. "Isolated Congenital Cleft of the Tricuspid Valve Anterior Leaflet in an Adult Following ASD Repair." Accepted for Poster Presentation at Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society Annual Meeting, September 18-21, 2024.

James L, Bhatla P, Mosca RS, Kumar TKS. "Use of a Printed 3D Model for Operative Planning in Complex Congenital Aortic Surgery." Accepted for Poster Presentation at Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society Annual Meeting, September 18-21, 2024.

Garcia-Estrada H, **James L, Kumar A, Saraon T, Barbic M, Moazami N.** "Design and Validation of a Wireless Focal 4-point Myocardium Bioimpedance Measurement System." Accepted for Oral Presentation at ASAIO Annual Meeting, May 29-June 1, 2024.

Patel, KN. "What's new in the management of thyroid disease" Presentation at AAES Annual Meeting, April 20-22, 2024.

Lofton, H. "THE ASSESSMENT-BASED-CERTIFICATE FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS IN OBESITY MEDICINE FOR THE METABOLIC AND BARIATRIC PATIENT - Decision Tree for non-responders". Presented at ASMBS San Diego June 10, 2024.

Su DG, Tsou S, Kelly Y, Sosa JA, Roman SA, Duh QY, Shen WT, Graves CE, **Suh I.** A comprehensive evaluation of biochemical and clinical definitions of permanent hypoparathyroidism after total thyroidectomy. Poster presented at the Endocrine Society annual meeting (ENDO) in Boston, MA, 2024.

Arthurs L, Fredericks S, Atlassy Y, Raghunathan R, Alam IS, Allendorf J, Rothberger G, Prescott J, Patel K, Suh I. Language-based exclusion and the subsequent racial/ethnic disparities in thyroid cancer clinical trials. Presented at the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons annual meeting in Dallas, TX, 2024.

Raghunathan R, Jacobs AR, Sant VR, King LJ, Rothberger GD, Prescott JD, Allendorf JD, Seib CD, Patel KN, Suh I. Assessing large language model (LLM) responses to online patient questions on thyroid cancer and disease: Can LLM address unmet patient information needs and reduce provider burnout? Presented at the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons annual meeting in Dallas, TX, 2024.

Alam IS, Gajic Z, Atlassy Y, Arthurs L, Esen E, Zhou F, Xia R, Prescott J, Rothberger G, Patel KN, Suh I. Is total thyroidectomy necessary for all papillary thyroid cancers with lateral neck nodal metastasis? Poster presented at the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons annual meeting in Dallas, TX, 2024.

Jenkins M., Sergeant H., Gujral A., Schroder C. Comparison of Post-operative Bleeding in Laparoscopic versus Robotic Sleeve Gastrectomy. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Jenkins M., Sergeant H., Gujral A., Schroder C. Comparison of Risks of Laparoscopic versus Robotic Sleeve Gastrectomy. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Jenkins M., Koenigswinter J., Fielding C., Vienna G., Kurian M. Effectiveness and durability of common weight loss methods. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Em S., Vanegas S., **Gujral A., Curado S., Fielding C., Parikh M., Jay M.** Exploring Inflammatory Marker Changes after Bariatric Surgery: Interleukin-17 and Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Fielding, G. The Autumn of Laparoscopy and the Spring of Robotic Surgery. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Ren-Fielding, C. Expert Panelist for Global Leaders in Bariatric Surgery Session. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Ren-Fielding, C. Co-director for the Top Videos Session. ASMBS 2024 Jun.

Lofton, H. Tackling Obesity in Black Communities. Academy of Black Gastroenterologists and Hepatologists Summit. MLK Library in Washington DC. May 17, 2024

Gelb, B. A.I. & Transplantation: Applications of AI to Liver Transplantation. American Society of Transplantation Webinar. May 22, 2024.

Gelb, B. Principles and Framework to Guide the Development of Protocols and Standard Operating Procedures for Face and Hand Transplants "Psychosocial and Ethical Factors that Affect Informed Decision Making About VCA." National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. April 17, 2024.

Damani, T. "How I do it: Robotic revisional hiatal hernia repair with relaxing incision and mesh." Society of Robotic Surgery 2024 annual meeting, Orlando, FL.

Damani, T. "How I do the Perfect Paraesophageal Hernia Repair in Emergent Situations." Masters Foregut Session, Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), 2024 annual meeting, Cleveland, OH.

Damani, T. "Foregut Calamities: It's Stuck, Again!!!" Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), 2024 annual meeting, Cleveland, OH.

Damani, T. "NYU Langone Health's Strategy and Smart Investments for the Future of Robotic Surgery" Becker's Healthcare Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Damani, T. "Investing in the Future of Surgery: da Vinci in Academic Medicine." CONNECT Robotics Forum, Las Vegas, NV.

Kaslow SR, Sacks GD, Kaplan BJ, Griesemer A, Halazun KJ, Torres-Hernandez A. "The role of transplant center and volume status in survival outcomes after resection of hepatobiliary malignancies - an NCDB analysis." Mini-oral presentation at American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Meeting Miami.

Rompen IF, **Habib JR, Sereni E, Cohen SM, Berman RS, Kaplan B, Hewitt DB, Sacks GD, Wolfgang CL, Javed AA.** Outcomes after different surgical approaches for pancreatic neck tumorsHPB 2024 26 S708DOI: 10.1016/j.hpb.2024.04.234. Oral presentation at the American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Meeting Miami Florida 2024 and at the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Meeting Cape Town South Africa 2024.

Rompen IF, Sereni E, Galimberti V, Perez-Rivera L, Vatti D, **Habib JR, Lafaro KJ, Hewitt DB, Sacks GD, Burns WR, et al.** Composite score of CA19-9 dynamics to predict survival in neoadjuvantly treated pancreatic cancerHPB 2024 26 S729DOI: 10.1016/j.hpb.2024.04.271. Oral presentation at the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Meeting Cape Town South Africa 2024.

Krell M, Maglione M, Okpara C, Abdelfatah E, **Allendorf J, Hewitt DB, Cohen SM, Wolfgang CL, Winner M.** Rapid Programmatic Adoption Of Robotic Pancreaticoduodenectomy Can be Done Safely and Efficiently. Mini-oral presentation at American Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Meeting Miami.

The Cutting Edge is a newsletter published by the Department of Surgery at NYU Grossman School of Medicine.

Summer 2024

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