Our education values are to:

Attract and train the medical students and residents with the greatest potential for success as surgeons and leaders.

Celebrate our individual strengths and diversity, and support each other as we overcome our hurdles to success, all while sharing common goals of clinical excellence, scientific discovery and professional growth.

Promote and support our residents to go on to the most highly competitive fellowships and academic positions, and to become successful leaders advancing surgical excellence.
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati
2022-2023 Annual Report

Principal photography by residents and staff of the Department of Surgery, with contributions from UC Academic Health Center Public Relations & Communications. Graphic design by Tammy Adelhardt of Adelgraph Design.
100 YEAR
Celebration of the
UC General Surgery
Residency Training Program

University Hospital
Drs. Heuer and Reid established a superb surgical training program at the Cincinnati General Hospital patterned after that introduced into this country by Dr. Halsted around 1890. The first graduate school of surgery similar in scope to be founded by a Halsted resident was that introduced at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital by Harvey Cushing in 1912. The second was the surgical training program established by Dr. Heuer in 1922 at the Cincinnati General Hospital.

Dr. Heuer started the program with four men—a resident (Dr. Carter) and three assistant residents. By 1924, nine men were training, and by 1927 there were 12. With increasing numbers, it was necessary to organize a schedule of rotations. By 1947 there were still only 16 residents in training. The pyramidal system allowed the residents to finish in about 6 years, but the majority of assistant residents did not reach the final years.

Dr. B. Noland Carter was recognized nationally for his research of tissue injury and burns, and he was a founding member of the American Board of Surgery in 1937. In addition to partnerships with the military and industry investigating antibiotics, isotope and vascular laboratories were established in the department.
The residency program was further enhanced by Dr. William Altemeier, who initiated programs of research in surgical infection, shock and trauma. He was a nationally and internationally renowned surgeon, and an inspiring figure to the surgical residents.

Dr. Josef Fischer was instrumental in transforming the former Cincinnati General Hospital from a city-county hospital into the University Hospital. According to Dr. Michael Nussbaum (graduate and former Interim Chair): “Dr. Fischer was passionate about the care of patients, particularly the most challenging surgical conditions. He set an example for all, rounding on his patients twice a day and always demanding excellence in patient care. The nightly 10:00 pm ‘Fischer call’ to the in-house resident was both legendary and terrifying to his trainees. He imparted that passion to all who were privileged to work with him.”

The residency program was advanced by Dr. Jeffrey Matthews and Interim Chair Dr. Michael Nussbaum (pictured here) with the opening of the Center for Surgical Innovation (originally planned by Drs. Nussbaum and Fischer), a classroom-of-tomorrow for learning techniques outside of the traditional operating room setting and to advance research and training in robotics, telemedicine, and telesurgery.
Dr. Michael Edwards helped to initiate the UC Institute for Military Medicine, an internationally renowned program advancing the care of the acutely injured soldier and civilian. He also began the very popular Surgeons, Scholars and Leaders symposium held annually in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, intended to advance the development of residents and junior faculty into surgeon leaders.

In addition to the chairs, six program directors have led the residency program: William R. Culbertson, MD (1960-1979), John J. (Jack) McDonough, MD (1979-1986), Robert H. Bower, MD (1986-2004), Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD (2004-2010), Bradley R. Davis, MD (2010-2016), and Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD (2016-present).
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I am proud to present the annual report for the Department of Surgery at the University of Cincinnati, where our missions are:

1. To provide comprehensive, compassionate and skilled surgical services for Cincinnati and the surrounding region.

2. To train the next generation of surgeon leaders.

3. To advance the state-of-the-art and scientific basis of the discipline of surgery.

4. To provide leadership in ensuring health care for all members of the Cincinnati community.

To fulfill these missions, we continue to build on our historical foundation of exceptional clinical service, teaching, and research. It is especially noteworthy that this year we celebrate the 100-year anniversary of our General Surgery Residency Program. George Heuer, Associate Professor at Johns Hopkins University under William Stewart Halsted, accepted Cincinnati’s offer as the first Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery in 1922. Dr. Heuer brought several colleagues from Hopkins including Mont Reid (as Associate Professor) and B. Noland Carter (resident), both of whom succeeded him as Chair, as well as Max Zinninger, who later became Interim Chair. Drs. Heuer and Reid established a pyramidal surgical training program patterned after that introduced into the United States by Halsted around 1890, the second such program in the United States (the first being established at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital by Harvey Cushing in 1912). Dr. Heuer started the program with four men—a resident (Dr. Carter) and three assistant residents. We now have an average of 40 or more general surgery residents (approximately 50% women) in training, using the same system of graduated responsibility so that each resident is fully competent when they graduate, a system that has stood the test of time with outstanding results.
These excellent results are possible because the Department of Surgery comprises more than 160 surgical faculty plus advanced practice providers, nurses, pharmacists and support staff who all take great pride in their patient care responsibilities and other clinical duties while maintaining a strong relationship with our institutional colleagues and community partners. We are dedicated to the training of nearly 200 medical students and an average of 100 residents/fellows each year across multiple subspecialties, with the result that our graduates consistently attain the most competitive residencies, fellowships and faculty positions, and provide for the next generation of health care providers.

Our academic achievements have also continued to be exceptionally strong. Included in this report is a representative listing of faculty publications and presentations. The Department of Surgery is proud to have secured new NIH and extramural grants providing funding for the important discoveries coming from our laboratories and clinical trials dedicated to improving the health of our patients.

We celebrate diversity while sharing the goals of surgical excellence, scientific discovery, and professional development. The Surgery Department has continued to respond to the renewed national focus on racial and gender discrimination by extending our outreach during recruitment processes to identify outstanding underrepresented potential residents and faculty, requiring implicit bias training for all those involved in recruitment, promoting disparate care research to better understand how to improve care to our community, and establishing a diversity and inclusion taskforce to advance additional actionable recommendations.

This past year has brought us closer to realizing what the Department of Surgery vision first imagined 100 years ago—to be indispensable through excellence in surgical care, in the training of tomorrow’s surgeons, and in the discoveries that will improve healing and give hope to our patients. Thank you.
UC Department of Surgery Organization Chart

Office of the Chair:

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD – Interim Chair; Vice Chair for Education

J. Taliesin Richards – Executive Director of Business Affairs

Madison Cuffy, MD – Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Michael D. Goodman, MD – Vice Chair for Research

Shimul A. Shah, MD – Vice Chair for Health Services Research

Syed A. Ahmad, MD – Vice Chair for Faculty Development

Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD – Chair of Compensation Committee

Elizabeth A. Shaughnessy, MD, PhD – Vice Chair for Patient Experience

Section of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Sandra Starnes, MD – Chief

Division of Cardiac Surgery

Louis Louis, MD – Director

Division of Thoracic Surgery

Sandra Starnes, MD – Director

Section of General Surgery

Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD – Chief

Division of Trauma, UC Medical Center

Amy Makley, MD – Director

Division of Acute Care Surgery, UC Medical Center

Jason Schrager, MD – Director

Division of Surgical Critical Care, UC Medical Center

Betty Tsuei, MD – Director

Section of Urology

Ayman Mahdy, MD – Interim Chief

Section of Vascular Surgery

Joseph Giglia, MD – Interim Chief

Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

Suhail Masadeh, DPM – Director

Division of Vascular Surgery

Joseph Giglia, MD – Interim Director

Section of Colon & Rectal Surgery

Ian Paquette, MD – Interim Chief

Section of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Deepak Krishnan, DDS – Chief

Section of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

W. John Kitzmiller, MD – Chief

Division of Burn Surgery

Julia Slater, MD – Director

Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

W. John Kitzmiller, MD – Director

Section of Transplantation

Shimul Shah, MD – Chief of Section; Director of Transplantation

Kidney Transplantation

Madison Cuffy, MD – Director

Affiliates:

Gregory Tiao, MD – Chief of General and Thoracic Surgery

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Michael Canady, MD – Chief of Surgery

Holzer Clinic

Fadi Makhoul, MD – Site Director for General Surgery Education, Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Our education values are to:

• Train medical students, residents and fellows to reach their greatest potential for success as surgeons and leaders.

• Celebrate our individual strengths and diversity, and support each other as we overcome our hurdles to success, all while sharing common goals of clinical excellence, scientific discovery and professional growth.

• Promote and support our residents to go on to the most highly competitive fellowships and academic positions, and to become successful leaders advancing surgical excellence.
In September 2010, University of Cincinnati Physicians — the faculty physician practice group of the UC College of Medicine — along with University Hospital and West Chester Hospital — publicly launched the collaborative partnership UC Health. This partnership speaks to the value of discovery-driven medicine that is at the core of University of Cincinnati Physicians and we will continue to strengthen our partnership through our mission of research, education and patient care.

University of Cincinnati Physicians is the multispecialty practice group of the UC College of Medicine. Physicians, surgeons, nurses and other allied health professionals in the group staff the hospitals of UC Health. University of Cincinnati Physicians is the Cincinnati area’s largest and most distinguished group of board-certified physicians, with more than 700 clinicians practicing in every medical and surgical specialty and a powerhouse for health care in the Greater Cincinnati region.

Many clinicians with University of Cincinnati Physicians are fellowship trained in various fields of medicine to provide specialized care to our patients. As clinicians, teachers and researchers of modern medicine, our physicians are able to provide patients with contemporary treatments and methods of care that aren’t typically available outside of an academic medical setting. UC Health provides a comprehensive menu of inpatient and outpatient services, delivered at a cohesive network of hospitals and medical offices throughout the Greater Cincinnati region.

Visions & Goals

Through responsive, innovative and cost-effective care, University of Cincinnati Physicians is committed to provide the very best personalized care for our patients. UC Health will be the health care network of choice in our region and the care we deliver will make a difference today and for a lifetime. Together, the facets of UC Health will represent quality, commitment and strength.

Together, UC Health is:

- world-class physicians
- the largest physician group in the region
- committed to delivering the highest level of patient care
- driven by discovery and innovation
- the trainers of the physicians of tomorrow
- an anchor of health care in Greater Cincinnati.
Goals for Continued Success
To ensure success, UC Health will consistently focus on the following:

- Accessibility to specialty care for patients, referring physicians and insurers.
- Recruiting and retaining world-class physicians.
- Providing the highest level of personalized health care to patients.
- Improving health care delivery while discovering tomorrow’s medical treatments.
- Utilizing more efficient, effective business practices.

UC Health brings together the region’s top clinicians and researchers to provide world-class care to our community. From our flagship University of Cincinnati Medical Center to our state-of-the-art West Chester Hospital, UC Health delivers the absolute best in treatment and care.

Continually recognized for excellence and backed by the academic strength of the University of Cincinnati, one of the nation’s top 25 public research universities, UC Health is revolutionizing how discovery-driven care is delivered.

For more information on UC Health, please visit uchealth.com.
Facilities

UC Health University of Cincinnati Medical Center

UC Health University of Cincinnati Medical Center (UCMC) has been serving the Cincinnati community for over 180 years and is a primary teaching and patient care site for the University of Cincinnati (UC) Department of Surgery. UCMC is a 726-bed tertiary hospital which provides many services not available in any other facility in the region. Specialized services available include the region's best-equipped and busiest Level I trauma center, one of just a few adult burn treatment centers certified by the American College of Surgeons/American Burn Association, and transplantation for heart, liver, pancreas and kidney. The hospital was ranked as the No. 1 regional hospital by U.S. News & World Report and surgery's divisions of urology and heart surgery were noted as “top performing” programs.

Barrett Center

The Barrett Center at the UC Cancer Center (UCCC) provides some of the most advanced and comprehensive cancer services available in the region. This center supports clinical research with its involvement in more than 120 active protocols sponsored by cooperative programs through the National Cancer Institute and private pharmaceutical companies. The UC programs are approved by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The ambulatory office facilities that support the UC Department of Surgery's oncology division are housed in the Barrett Center, the core cancer outpatient facility of the UC Cancer Center. The center encompasses all education, research and clinical programs related to oncology at UC, and is a partnership of the UC College of Medicine, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and UC Health.

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the treatment and research of pediatric and adolescent diseases. As a result, this institution draws patients from all over the United States and over 30 countries each year who need its specialized tertiary care. Cincinnati Children's has 598 beds and is the only Level I pediatric trauma center in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky and southeastern Indiana. The hospital is a major teaching site for UC surgery residents and consistently ranks high in the nation among all Honor Roll hospitals in U.S. News & World Report's annual Best Children's Hospitals ranking.

Holmes Hospital

The Holmes Hospital is an ambulatory facility, located at the corner of Eden Avenue and Albert B. Sabin Way. The hospital is home of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery resident clinic which sees over 12,000 patients annually. In addition, the hospital houses the private practice for the division of plastic, reconstructive, and hand surgery.

Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center is a major 248-bed acute-care hospital for veterans in Southwest Ohio. This facility is a dean's committee medical center and affiliated with the UC College of Medicine. All staff surgeons at the VA Medical Center have academic appointments at the College of Medicine. General surgery, urology and vascular surgery represent three of the largest volume sections within the VA surgical service. The surgical service continues to encounter a wide variety of pathological conditions which require surgical treatment, thus providing a significant opportunity for faculty research and a vital cornerstone for the surgical education of residents and medical students.

The Christ Hospital

The Christ Hospital is a 555-bed acute-care hospital located 1.5 miles from the UC College of Medicine. The hospital remains an important part of the integrated surgical residency in general surgery. UC surgeons utilize The Christ Hospital for patient care in the areas of general, colorectal, vascular, weight loss, transplantation surgery and surgical oncology.

The Christ Hospital Medical Office Building

The Christ Hospital Medical Office Building is an ambulatory office practice location for the UC Department of Surgery. It is home to the division of colon and rectal surgery, with additional offices for general surgery.
CARE/Crawley and Medical Sciences Building

The Medical Sciences Building is the main administrative and laboratory facility of the College of Medicine. The Department of Surgery operations housed in this building include the Chairman’s office, faculty academic offices, teaching facilities, and laboratories.

UC Health Physicians Office Clifton

The UC Health Physicians Office Clifton is the primary ambulatory office practice site for the UC Department of Surgery. Housed on the seventh floor of this 135,000 square foot facility are 21 exam rooms, four procedure rooms, medical records, scheduling center and clinical practice support staff.

UC Health Physicians Office North

The UC Health Physicians Office North is located in West Chester, Ohio just off I-75 in Butler County. This 80,000 square foot facility is home to a full-service center for high-tech diagnostic services. All surgical subspecialties under the Department of Surgery offer convenient clinic hours at this location. The UC Health Physicians Office West Chester is home to The Cosmetic Center, which offers advanced cosmetic surgery and skin care treatments; and to the UC Health Weight Loss Center, which offers a comprehensive medical weight loss program and latest surgical weight loss options.

West Chester Hospital Surgical Center

The UC Health Surgical Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission. This state-of-the-art ambulatory surgery facility has four operating rooms and two endoscopy suites. The facility can accommodate outpatients as well as short-stay procedures requiring hospitalization for up to 72 hours.

UC Health West Chester Hospital

UC Health West Chester Hospital is a 186-bed acute care hospital in West Chester, Ohio, providing the latest technology delivered in a healing environment. The hospital is conveniently located and easily accessible from Interstate 75 at Tylersville Road. Services include a full-service emergency department, and inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment services.

Drake Center

The Drake Center is the region’s full-service post-acute care rehab facility, a not-for-profit health care organization affiliated with the University of Cincinnati. Drake recently completed an extensive $33 million modernization project, creating an efficient, inviting, 300-bed health care center that allows the Drake team to provide medically complex, quality health care into the 21st century. The Drake Center provides the Department of Surgery the opportunity to treat patients who require post-acute care, contributing to the goal of restoring each individual patient to the highest possible level of functioning and independence.

Holzer Clinic

The Holzer Clinic is a modern, 100-plus physician, multispecialty group practice facility located in Gallipolis, Ohio, near the West Virginia border. This clinic provides primary, secondary and tertiary care to patients in the Southeastern Ohio and Western West Virginia region. The Holzer Clinic’s primary service area covers eight counties (six in Ohio and two in West Virginia) with a population base of about 300,000 and over 150,000 clinic visits per year. The Holzer Clinic is affiliated with Holzer Medical Center, a 266-bed community-oriented acute-care hospital located adjacent to the main clinic facility. Approximately 6,000 operations are performed yearly and there are over 16,000 Emergency Department visits per year. Virtually all surgery residents select a two-month elective rotation to this facility. This rotation exposes these residents to a rural, broadly-defined general surgery experience.

Mzuzu Central Hospital, Malawi, Africa

Mzuzu Central Hospital is a 300-bed district hospital and referral center in the Northern region of Malawi serving a catchment area of approximately 2.5 million people. As part of the Global Surgery Rotation, 3rd or 4th year general surgery residents rotating at this hospital perform over 100 operations in a 2-month period of time, including pediatric, gastrointestinal, urology, endoscopic, and head & neck cases.
History of the Department

The UC Department of Surgery was derived from pioneering American surgeons and the evolution of local colleges of medicine and hospitals that parallel the origins and growth of Cincinnati itself, dating as far back as 1788. The “Hopkins Invasion” of 1922 marks the birth of the contemporary Department of Surgery at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. George Heuer and a small group of surgeons from Dr. William Halsted’s department at Johns Hopkins Medical School moved from Baltimore to Cincinnati and established a full-time surgical department with a pyramid-structured general surgery residency training program to graduate highly qualified surgeons after several years of rigorous training. After the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital at Harvard Medical School in Boston, the UC Department of Surgery was the second program in the country to be patterned on the Hopkins model.

Dr. George Heuer, the first Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery, brought Dr. Halsted’s method of surgical training to Cincinnati, along with several of Halsted’s residents including future department chairmen, Mont Reid, B. Noland Carter and Max Zinninger. He established the now routine practice of taking thorough case histories of patients and regular follow-up care. He instituted that all tissue be studied in the lab to confirm a surgeon’s diagnosis, again a now routine practice. The tradition of superior quality and surgical innovation continued under subsequent chairs of the Department.

Dr. Mont Rogers Reid (1931-1943) worked tirelessly to strengthen the relationship between the university medical school and the community. He brought attention to the Department through numerous articles in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine on wound healing processes.

Dr. Max Zinninger (1943-1946) led the Department in the interim years after Dr. Reid’s untimely death. He was one of the first to complete his surgical residency at UC in 1927 under Heuer. Also known for working collaboratively with community physicians on complicated cases requiring highly specialized care, he was considered a consummate surgeon and gentleman who was held in the highest regard by the community, his students and colleagues.

Dr. B. Noland Carter (1946-1952), the third Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery, was recognized nationally for his research of tissue injury and burns. He developed partnerships with the military and industry investigating newer antibiotics. During Carter’s tenure, the isotope laboratory was formed to study and treat neoplasm. Dr. Charles Barrett, forefather of the Barrett Cancer Center, was recruited to lead this effort. Radioisotope and tracer studies for diagnosis were pioneered here. A vascular lab was established and the Department made great progress in cardiothoracic surgery including cardioangiography and the first perfusion carried out. Investigations were also established for lung cancer. In the early 1950’s, UC Department of Surgery was well established as one of the premier centers for study of coronary circulation and artificial circulation. One of the most notable achievements came in 1951, when Dr. James Helmsworth of the UC Department of Surgery joined cardiologist Dr. Samuel Kaplan and chemist Dr. Leland Clark to develop the world’s first functional heart-lung machine, located at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

Dr. William Altemeier (1952-1978), the fourth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery, further expanded the Department with a focus on microbiology and intra-abdominal infections, establishing the Department as a pioneering center for surgical infectious disease. The perineal repair for rectal prolapse is named for Dr. Altemeier, and he was the first to describe cancer of the proximal (hilar) bile ducts, an entity subsequently recognized and named after Klatskin. Dr. Altemeier oversaw the building of the first surgical research facility and the Shriners Burns Hospital, one of three in the nation. The pediatric surgery residency training program was founded at Children’s Hospital in the late 1950’s by Dr. Lester Martin, who raised pediatric surgery to new levels and trained numerous pediatric surgeons who have become leaders in the field. Dr. Martin also pioneered and perfected the surgical technique known as the “pull-through” procedure for ulcerative colitis. Significant developments in thyroid surgery and hand surgery were pioneered by Dr. Vinton “Hoppy” Siler, who was also a great benefactor of the Department. In the mid-1960s, Dr. J. Wesley Alexander led UC’s transplant and immunology program, training many transplant fellows and conducting significant research funded for decades by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Henry Neale, a UC medical school graduate, returned to Cincinnati in 1974 following a fellowship at Duke University and founded the plastic surgery residency program which has attracted and graduated plastic surgeons who are considered among the very best in the country.
Dr. Josef E. Fischer (1978-2001), the fifth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery, was responsible for significant expansion of full-time faculty in the early 1980's, initiating or strengthening subspecialty areas including vascular, trauma and critical care, transplant, burn, plastic surgery and urology. Dr. Fischer was instrumental in transforming the former Cincinnati General Hospital from a city-county hospital into The University Hospital, a tertiary medical center and the flagship of The Health Alliance. The urology residency program again had its center at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center and has since enjoyed great success and growth, as has the oral and maxillofacial surgery residency program. Physical growth was also seen with the building of the Barrett Cancer Center, a critical care tower and new operating rooms.

Dr. Jeffrey B. Matthews, the sixth Christian R. Holmes Professor and Chairman (2001-2006), oversaw unprecedented growth of full-time faculty members. Emphasis was placed on robotic-assisted surgery, telemedicine and technology. The Department was recognized nationally for its academic and training achievements and leadership in American surgery, and continued to be celebrated locally as a specialist resource for the community and a partner in an integrated health care network. Dr. Matthews’ emphasis was on multidisciplinary clinical and research programs that cut across traditional department lines. Partnerships were developed with the University of Cincinnati, local industry, and the military to develop emerging technologies for improved patient care. The Center for Surgical Innovation was opened in 2006 to advance research and training in robotics, telemedicine, and telesurgery. Dr. Matthews accepted the position as Chairman of Surgery at the University of Chicago in October 2006.

Dr. Michael S. Nussbaum, Professor of Surgery and Interim Chairman (2006-2008), was Chief of Staff at the University Hospital and served as Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs in the Department of Surgery. He joined the UC faculty in 1986 when he completed his surgical residency training in the UC Department of Surgery. Dr. Nussbaum was part of the original team that developed the plans for what became the Center for Surgical Innovation. He was involved in outcomes-related studies involving videoscopic surgery, clinical pathway development, surgery for inflammatory bowel disease, and the surgical treatment of swallowing disorders. His longstanding commitment to excellence in patient care continued to advance the Department’s mission of fostering education, research, and innovations for treating surgical patients. Dr. Nussbaum became the first Chair of Surgery at the University of Florida in Jacksonville in 2008, and is now Professor and Chair of Surgery at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke, Virginia.

Dr. Michael J. Edwards, the seventh Christian R. Holmes Professor and Chairman (2008-2019), is an oncologic surgeon who specializes in treating breast disease. Dr. Edwards nurtured the development of the UC Institute for Military Medicine, an internationally renowned program advancing the care of the acutely injured soldier and civilian. He brought a principled approach to the Department with a profound commitment to teaching the discipline of surgery through the highest quality patient care, which reflects and constitutes superior surgical education. In addition to his leadership of the Department of Surgery, Dr. Edwards provided critical leadership for the successful unification of the UC College of Medicine practice plan and its integration into UC Health in 2011. Dr. Edwards stepped down in January 2019 to focus on the international sphingolipid research program that he has built in conjunction with the department’s research team and international collaborators.

Dr. Jeffrey J. Sussman, Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Interim Chairman (2019-Present), is a surgical oncologist who completed tumor immunology research at the National Institutes of Health and fellowships in surgical critical care and surgical oncology research at the University of Michigan and in surgical oncology at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He has been a UC faculty member since 1997 and served as chief of the department’s Section of Surgical Oncology from 2007 until 2015. Dr. Sussman also serves as vice chair for education, program director of the General Surgery Residency, and director of the Skin Cancer and Sarcoma Program at the UC Cancer Institute. Dr. Sussman is active in clinical research, having served as principal investigator for a variety of laboratory and clinical trials, exploring how the human immune response can be altered to improve cancer therapy. He has published numerous articles focused on advancing treatments and understanding of melanoma and other solid tumors. His clinical practice focuses on melanoma, sarcoma, gastrointestinal neoplasms, peritoneal surface and hepatobiliary/pancreas malignancies.
The Office of Education

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD – Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery
Section of Surgical Oncology
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati
Director, Division of Education
Director, Residency Program in General Surgery

Michael D. Goodman, MD – Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery. Dr. Goodman is the administrative lead for our global surgery program and all rotation scheduling. He also serves as Director of General Surgery Research.

Krishna P. Athota, MD – Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery. Dr. Athota has won three consecutive Department of Surgery Outstanding Educator Awards as voted by general surgery residents, as well as the Silver Apple Award from the UC medical students. He leads the incoming surgical intern boot-camp program and surgical skills curriculum.

Kevin L. Grimes, MD – Director, Surgery Student Education. Dr. Grimes was appointed as Director in 2020. He brings his extensive experience in medical student education to the program, overseeing the required M3 and elective M4 clerkships.

Latifa Sage Silski, MD – Associate Director, Surgery Student Education. Dr. Silski, newly appointed to this role, brings her passion and energy for surgical education to the Surgery Student program and serves as a champion for diversity and equality.

Al-Faraaz Kassam, MD – Robert H. Bower Administrative Chief Resident.

Amy T. Makley, MD – Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery. Dr. Makley has been responsible for the curriculum and evaluative process and has brought considerable expertise in assessment and professional development of the surgical residents. She is also in charge of the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) and Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES) programs.
Amy T. Makley, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery
Director, UCMC Trauma Surgery

Michael D. Goodman, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery
Director, General Surgery Research

Krishna P. Athota, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Program Director, Fellowship in Critical Care Surgery
Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery

Kevin L. Grimes, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Director, Surgical Student Education

Latifa Sage Silski, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Section of Transplantation
Associate Director, Surgery Student Education

Al-Faraaz Kassam, MD
Robert H. Bower
Administrative Chief Resident

Administrative Team
Jenna M. Lengerich, MHA,
Residency Coordinator and Manager, Office of Education
Elizabeth Loechle, Administrative Assistant
Gilda Young, Residency Coordinator Emeritus and Special Project Manager
Nikki Norman, Surgery Medical Student Coordinator
Steve Wiesner, Electronic Publishing Coordinator
Debbie Browne, Assistant Residency Coordinator
The Education team has made many significant accomplishments including:

- Expansion of virtual simulation practice opportunities with inanimate and animate models to improve surgical skills prior to entering an operating room. These opportunities exist through virtual reality simulation equipment housed in the Woliver Laboratory for Simulation and Education in Surgery and a fully equipped operating room in the Center for Surgical Innovation.
- Expanded Robotic training and curriculum.
- Continued improvement in teaching conferences and wellness events with virtual and hybrid modifications due to the pandemic.
- Website and recruitment process improvements.
- Expanded new Peer to Peer mentoring and conference programs.
- Expansion of social media presence.
- New APP Critical Care Fellowship.

**Surgical Education Overview**

Education in the Department of Surgery includes medical student clinical clerkships and electives, graduate medical education resident and fellowship programs, basic scientist training, and continuing medical education seminars and classes. At our most recent review, the General Surgery Residency program received full accreditation from the Residency Review Committee of the ACGME. Our surgical clerkship has become a model of innovation for clinical education and has led to a marked increase in the number of medical students at the University of Cincinnati choosing surgery as their career path. Over the past four decades, surgical faculty and residents have held a majority share of best teaching and Gold Humanism awards as voted by the UC medical students.

The Surgical Education Program continues to attract and train the best and brightest medical students and residents from around the country. Residents who graduate from our programs have an outstanding record matching highly competitive fellowships and have been successful in securing positions in academic departments and as leaders in the community practice of surgery.

The Edward Woliver Laboratory for Simulation and Education in Surgery includes an array of simulation equipment designed to allow surgical residents to practice new skills in a safe, non-pressured environment outside the operating room. The lab has both low- and high-tech simulation equipment, including simple models to simulate suturing vessels to robotics. It also includes sophisticated devices that incorporate haptics (sense of touch) and track a surgeon’s performance during the training session. The lab serves as a testing site for the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) course, an education and skills training module which is the ABS requirement for the evaluation of basic skills and knowledge for laparoscopy. The lab is also outfitted to provide needed equipment for the Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES) course curriculum teaching diagnostic and therapeutic upper and lower GI endoscopy. UC serves as a testing site for FES to the greater Cincinnati region.

**Graduate Medical Education**

The Department of Surgery sponsors graduate medical education programs in 12 surgical specialties which encompass 106 residents and fellows. The following lists these resident and fellowship programs for 2022-2023:

**Resident Programs (91):**
- General Surgery (42)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (13)
- Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery (9)
- Pediatric Medicine and Surgery (6)
- Thoracic Surgery (6)
- Urology (10)
- Vascular Surgery (5)

**Fellowship and Advanced Training Programs (15):**
- Congenital Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Program (0)
- Pediatric Surgery (2)
- Pediatric Surgery Subspecialty (5)
- Pediatric Urology (2)
- Pediatric Urology – International (non-accredited) (0)
- Transplant Surgery (3)
- Surgical Critical Care (2)
- APP Critical Care Fellowship (1)

The educational programs are guided by a group of dedicated surgeon educators who have helped to develop an educational environment that attracts many of the best candidates in the country. The combination of talented, committed specialty program directors and faculty and
excellent residents and fellows results in an educational program that is second to none.

The Department of Surgery has a distinguished history of educating its graduates to be leaders in surgery. Our commitment to excellence in patient care, education and advancement of knowledge in the surgical sciences creates an environment in which surgical training can flourish. Residents complete their training programs with exceptional breadth and depth of experience in their specialty.

There is an abundance and variety of clinical experiences in the hospitals and outpatient offices of our integrated and affiliated institutions which include:

- University of Cincinnati Medical Center
- Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
- West Chester Hospital
- The Christ Hospital
- Holzer Clinic, Gallipolis, Ohio
- Mzuzu Central Hospital, Malawi, Africa

Clinical experience is supplemented by an extensive series of educational conferences and surgical simulation experiences. At the core of the educational program are Surgical Grand Rounds, Morbidity and Mortality Conference, Curriculum Conferences, mock oral examinations and skills labs. These weekly conferences are supplemented by numerous specialty- or rotation-specific conferences.

Surgical Simulation Experiences:

- Advanced Laparoscopy
- Advanced Operative Skills
- Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET)
- Robotics Training
- Basic Laparoscopy
- Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES – GI Mentor)
- Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery
- GI Anastomosis
- Vascular Anastomosis
- Solid Organ Transplant
- Introduction to General Surgery (R1 Boot Camp)
- Laparoscopic Colectomy
- Laparoscopic Hernia
- Surgical Stapling
- Trauma Surgery Simulation
- Advanced Trauma Life Support Training

Complementing the clinical training are outstanding opportunities to participate in basic science research in the Department of Surgery, other basic science laboratories within the College of Medicine or extramural institutions. Most residents spend two years in laboratory research with a faculty mentor. Opportunities are available to pursue advanced degrees such as MS, PhD or Doctor of Science. These research projects are supported by an institutional training grant (T32 award) in trauma and several R01 research grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD).
2021-2022 Visiting Professor Program

The Visiting Professor Program of the Department of Surgery is extremely important for the education of both the faculty and the residents. It gives the residents a first-hand opportunity to come into contact with distinguished leaders in American surgery, participate in teaching rounds with them, and get to know them as individuals. In addition, the Visiting Professor gives presentations at Surgical Grand Rounds to faculty, residents and medical students.

During the academic year 2021-2022, we had the privilege of hosting four Visiting Professors and continued to offer virtual Grand Rounds:

September 28-29, 2021
Fourteenth Annual Heekin Family Lectureship
Elizabeth A. Pomfret, MD, PhD, FACS
Professor of Surgery and Igal Kam, MD Endowed Chair in Transplant Surgery
Chief, Division of Transplantation Surgery
Executive Director, Colorado Center for Transplantation Care, Research & Education
University of Colorado – Anschutz Medical Campus
Transplant Grand Rounds: “The Evolution of Adult to Adult Living Donor Liver Transplantation”

April 27, 2022
Second Annual Boyce Family Visiting Professor
Matthew H.G. Katz, MD
Professor of Surgery and Chair
Department of Surgical Oncology
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Surgical Grand Rounds: “Perioperative Therapy for Localized Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?”

May 25, 2022
Melina R. Kibbe, MD
Dean, UVA School of Medicine
James Carroll Flippin Professor of Medical Science
Chief Health Affairs Officer, UVA Health
Professor, Departments of Surgery and Biomedical Engineering
Editor in Chief, JAMA Surgery
Surgical Grand Rounds: “What You Did Not Know About Fluoroquinolones”

October 6, 2021
Eighth Annual John B. Flege, Jr. Visiting Professor
Walter H. Merrill, MD
Senior Associate Chief of Staff
Vanderbilt University Hospital

Professor of Cardiac Surgery
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee
Surgical Grand Rounds: “What is in the Dash?”
Residency Program in General Surgery

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD, Program Director
Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery
Section of Surgical Oncology
Director, Division of Education
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery

Amy T. Makley, MD, Associate Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery

Michael D. Goodman, MD, Associate Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery

Krishna P. Athota, MD, Associate Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Program Director, Fellowship in Critical Care Surgery

Jenna M. Lengerich, MHA, Office Manager & Residency Program Coordinator
513-558-4206
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Debbie Browne, Assistant Residency Coordinator
513-558-5862
browndm@ucmail.uc.edu

Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
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Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558

Residency education in General Surgery comprises five clinical years, with typically six Chief Residents finishing the program annually. A laboratory/professional development experience of two years is completed by the majority of the residents with a wide range of experiences being available individualized to the residents’ career goals. The residency program in General Surgery is fully accredited by the Residency Review Committee for Surgery.

In the first and second postgraduate years, residents receive a broad experience in the essential content areas as well as in surgical specialties. Experience is gained in both inpatient and outpatient care, with appropriate emphasis on evaluation and diagnosis as well as operative therapy and perioperative care. This experience is obtained in a variety of settings including the general surgery services in community hospitals and the academic health center, intensive care units, and the Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

During the third and fourth clinical years, the resident is given additional responsibility as a leader on surgical teams including the trauma service, thoracic surgery, vascular surgery and transplantation surgery. Additional experience is also gained as senior resident in general surgery at the Holzer Clinic, Gallipolis, Ohio. Residents may also choose to do a global health surgery elective in Malawi, Africa.

In the fifth year, Chief Residents lead general surgery teams with faculty supervision at University of Cincinnati Medical Center, general and colorectal surgery services at The Christ Hospital, and the general surgery teams at the VAMC and West Chester Hospital. University of Cincinnati Medical Center provides extensive experience in gastrointestinal disease, hepatobiliary disease, pancreatic disease, colorectal surgery and surgical oncology. Residents at The Christ Hospital are exposed to a wide variety of surgical pathology and have the opportunity to learn about the private practice of surgery. The surgical services at the VAMC and West Chester Hospital care for general, colorectal and thoracic surgery patients.
General Surgery Residents
2021-2022

Graduating Chief Residents:

Jennifer E. Baker, MD – Thomas Jefferson University – Entered Trauma/Critical Care Fellowship, Denver Health, Denver, CO
Alexander R. Cortez, MD – University of Cincinnati – Entered Transplant Surgery Fellowship, University of California - San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
Hannah V. Hayes, MD – University of Cincinnati – Entered Trauma/Critical Care Fellowship, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR
Nick C. Levinsky, Jr., MD – University of Cincinnati – Entered Advanced GI-Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Leah K. Winer, MD – Thomas Jefferson University – Entered Surgical Oncology Fellowship, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA

Research:

M. Ryan Baucom, MD – East Carolina University
Michela M. Carter, MD – University of Cincinnati
Ryan C. Chae, MD – University of Cincinnati
Zishaan A. Farooqui, MD, PhD – University of Michigan
Stephen J. Hartman, MD – University of California, San Diego
Kevin Kulshrestha, MD – University of Pennsylvania
Adam D. Price, MD – University of Cincinnati
Mordechai G. Sadowsky, MD – Wayne State University
Emily J. Schepers, MD – University of Missouri - Columbia
Dhavan N. Shah, MD – University of Cincinnati
Stephanie Sisak, MD – Drexel University
Jenna N. Whitrock, MD – University of Missouri-Columbia

Second Year:

Ellen Arndt Becker, MD – Medical College of Wisconsin
Aron P. Bercz, MD – University of Cincinnati
Szu-Aun Lim, MD – East Carolina University
Catherine G. Pratt, MD – University of Vermont
Alyssa E. Stetson, MD – University of Massachusetts
Lindsey J. Wattley, MD – University of Cincinnati

General Surgery Residents
2022-2023

First Year:

Obieda “Obie” M. Atiyani, MD – University of Louisville
Megan P. Forney, MD – University of Cincinnati
Arti U. Machchhar, MD – University of Texas Southwestern
Allison N. Moore, MD – University of Colorado
Marissa A. Ray, MD – Wayne State University
Darren C. Turner, MD – University of Miami
Gregory C. Wetmore, MD – State University of New York – Upstate

Fourth Year:

Eileen C. Donovan, MD – University of Cincinnati
Michael E. Johnston, MD – Indiana University
Christen Salyer, MD – Indiana University
Kathleen E. Singer, MD – University of Massachusetts
Karthik Thangappan, MD – Thomas Jefferson University
S. Whitney Zingg, MD – University of Tennessee

Chief Year:

Betzaira G. Childers, MD – University of Texas, San Antonio
Al-Faraaz Kassam, MD, MBA – Rush University
Tiffany C. Lee, MD, MS – University of Rochester
Mackenzie C. Morris, MD – Jefferson University
Kasiemobi Pulliam, MD – Indiana University
Monica L. Wagner, MD – University of Cincinnati

Honors and Awards 2021-2022

Faculty:

[A total of 43 surgical faculty were recognized as Top Doctors in Cincinnati by Cincinnati Magazine for 2022.]

Syed A. Ahmad, MD
Appointed as Chair of the Membership Committee of the Central Surgical Association.

Madison C. Cuffy, MD
Appointed to the Young Surgeons Committee of the Central Surgical Association.

Tommaso H. Hinna Danesi, MD
Nominated for the Cincinnati Business Courier’s annual Healthcare Heroes awards in the Health Entrepreneur category.

Lane L. Frasier, MD, MS
Recipient of a UC College of Medicine’s 2021 Research Innovation/Pilot Grant for her project “Resident Non-technical Skills and Patient Outcomes.”

Accepted for the 2022 Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma Research Hackathon.

Michael D. Goodman, MD
Elected for an initial three-year term to the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) as the Governor-at-Large representing the Fellows in the Ohio Chapter of the ACS.

Published a paper featured in the Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery as a “best of” paper.

Tammy M. Holm, MD, PhD
Had three abstracts accepted for “quickshot” oral presentations at SAAS 2021 (Society of Asian Academic Surgeons). The abstracts were written with surgical residents Drs. Allison Ammann and Aaron Delman, and medical student Caroline Lynch.

Deepak G. Krishnan, DDS
Awarded the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) Advocacy Challenge Coin by the AAOMS Board of Trustees and AAOMS Committee on Government Affairs. This is a recognition program for members who go above and beyond to promote the specialty through advocacy.

Jaime D. Lewis, MD
Ranked by Press Ganey Patient Experience Scores in the Top 1% during Fiscal Year 2021.

Ayman E. Mahdy, MD, PhD, MBA
Sat on the review panel for the American Urological Association guidelines on neurogenic bladder voiding dysfunction.

Antonio Panza, MD
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Ian M. Paquette, MD
Named to the editorial board of Annals of Surgery.

Elected to a 3-year term on the Governance Committee of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.

Courtney A. Plattner, MD
Appointed as Secretary for the Ohio Urological Society, effective 2023. Dr. Plattner is currently Member at Large of the Board of Directors.

Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD
Installed as President of the Central Surgical Association.

Recipient of the 2022 Clinical Faculty-to-Faculty Research Mentoring Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment and impressive mentoring at the UC College of Medicine.

Elizabeth Shaughnessy, MD, PhD
Installed as President of the Association of Women Surgeons.

Accepted into the Southern Surgical Association.

Abhinav Sidana, MD
Named the Rising Star in Focal Therapy for 2021 by the Endourological Society/Focal Therapy Society. He is the first to receive this award, given to a urologist within 5 years of training who has contributed most to the advancement of focal therapy for prostate cancer.
Sandra Starnes, MD  
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Mary Stuever, MD  
Winner of the Outstanding Surgical Educator Award for 2022. This award is awarded to a faculty member, who by vote of the surgical resident staff, has made significant contribution to the education and mentoring of surgical residents.

Jonathan Thompson, MD  
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Betty Tsuei, MD  
Winner of Clinical MVP Award at UC Medical Center’s 2022 Doctors’ Day Celebration.

E. Steve Woodle, MD  
Winner of UC College of Medicine Clinical Trialist of the Year Award.

Dr. Woodle and colleagues received the 2021 Leslie B. Brent Award from the Transplantation Society for the best basic science research paper published in the journal *Transplantation* during the year.

Residents:

Allison M. Ammann, MD  
Winner, Department of Surgery Resident Research Competition – Basic Science Section.

Jennifer E. Baker, MD  
2021-2022 Josef E. Fischer Award.

2021-2022 Max Zinninger Award.

M. Ryan Baucom, MD  
Winner of the clinical trauma paper competition and runner-up for the basic science trauma paper competition of the Ohio ACS Committee on Trauma.

Alexander R. Cortez, MD  
Winner of the 2022 Arnold P. Gold Foundation’s Humanism in Excellence Teaching Award.

Department of Surgery Best Teaching Resident Award, as voted by medical students during the third-year Surgery Clerkship.

Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Aaron M. Delman, MD  
Winner, Department of Surgery Resident Research Competition – Clinical Research Section.

Hannah V. Hayes, MD  
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Michael E. Johnston, MD  
Winner of the 2022 Arnold P. Gold Foundation’s Humanism in Excellence Teaching Award.

Al-Faraaz Kassam, MD  
2022-2023 Robert H. Bower Administrative Chief Resident.

Nick C. Levinsky, Jr., MD  
Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons Resident Achievement Award.

Mackenzie C. Morris, MD  
2021-2022 James M. Hurst Trauma Resident of the Year Award.

2022-2023 GME Residency Advisory Committee Resident Representative.

Kasiemobi E. Pulliam, MD  
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.

Kevin M. Turner, MD  
Winner of the 2022 SSO/ACPMP (Society of Surgical Oncology/Appendix Cancer Pseudomyxoma Peritonei Research Foundation) Travel Award.

Taylor E. Wallen, MD  
Received the Raymond H. Alexander, MD Resident Paper Competition Award for the best basic science research presentation at the Annual Scientific Assembly of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma.

Winner of the 44th Annual Conference on Shock Travel Award.

2nd place, Resident Research Competition, Ohio ACS 2021.

1st place, Committee on Trauma Ohio ACS Basic Science Research Competition 2022.

2nd place, Committee on Trauma Ohio ACS Clinical Outcomes Research Competition 2022.

Leah K. Winer, MD  
Inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society.


Mont Reid Surgical Society

The Mont Reid Surgical Society of the University of Cincinnati, founded in 1950, is composed of graduates of the general surgery training program who are active in encouraging professional fellowship among the alumni to advance the art and science of surgery. The Society assists the current resident staff and the Department through funding, lectures, symposiums, publications, and other programs.
The University of Cincinnati Global Surgery Program, which was initiated in 2014, offers an 8-week elective General Surgery Rotation at Mzuzu Central Hospital in Malawi, Africa. [Due to Covid-related travel restrictions, the program was suspended for 2020.]

Our program emphasizes a partnership with our host institution to ensure that we are able to provide and enhance much-needed surgical services consistently over time in exchange for an unparalleled educational experience in General Surgery. Residents at the 3rd and 4th year level participate on rounds, run outpatient clinics, and perform basic and complex general and pediatric surgery cases throughout their time at Mzuzu Central Hospital under the supervision of ABS-certified general surgeons.

In addition to the clinical services provided, University of Cincinnati faculty and residents actively participate in educational programs for the Malawian clinical officers and nursing students in every aspect of patient care.

Mzuzu Central Hospital is a district hospital and referral center in the northern region of Malawi, serving a catchment area of approximately 2.5 million people. Residents perform over 100 operations in a 2-month period of time, including a plethora of pediatric, gastrointestinal, urology, and head and neck cases.

**Vision**
To improve access to quality surgical care in Malawi.

**Mission**
- To enhance surgical care and capacity in Malawi by utilizing senior U.S. surgical residents and consultants to support the infrastructure in place at Mzuzu Central Hospital.
- To provide shared learning experiences and unparalleled educational opportunities in a resource-challenged environment.
- To inspire a transformative approach to global health.

**Core Values**
- Excellence in clinical services provided.
- Respect for colleagues and staff at all levels.
- Compassion for patients and their families.
- Advocacy for those who are dedicated to improving healthcare worldwide.
The Office of Education  |  Page 26

Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Michael J. Grau, Jr., DMD, Program Director
Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery
Department of Surgery
Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Yvonne Hawkins, Program Coordinator
Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
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Yvonne.Hawkins@uc.edu

The oral and maxillofacial surgery residency training program at the University of Cincinnati is considered one of the oldest training programs of its kind in the country and celebrated its centennial mark in 2013. The program, which received full five-year accreditation in February 2016, offers training in treatment for facial trauma, surgical reconstruction of skeletal deformities, pediatric oral and maxillofacial surgery, pathology of the oral and maxillofacial regions, facial esthetic surgery, temporomandibular joint surgery, dento-alveolar surgery and ambulatory anesthesia.

The Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery offers a four-year certificate program whose principal goal is the training of residents to practice the broad scope of oral and maxillofacial surgery and to become qualified and prepared to successfully pass the American Board of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery examination and obtain Diplomate status. Our resident OMSITE (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery In-service Testing Examination) scores are consistently very competitive with the national average.

Oral and maxillofacial surgery provides patient care at University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Veteran's Affairs Medical Center, and West Chester Hospital, and draws patients from the entire tristate area and beyond.

Oral and maxillofacial surgery bridges medicine and dentistry, and training requires exposure to general surgery, otolaryngology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, internal medicine and anesthesia, among other specialties. Some rotations such as anesthesia are extensive for six months with emphasis on pediatric anesthesia, while some rotations such as the cleft lip and palate surgery rotations in India are more peripheral and intended to expose the resident to this surgery, but not train to competency.

Residents are also encouraged to engage in an active clinical or bench research project that should culminate in presentation of an abstract at a national forum and publication of the findings in a peer reviewed journal. Oral and maxillofacial surgery residents and faculty have presented their research findings at the national meetings of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the International Conference of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (ICOMS), and other local and regional forums.

Currently, the section is engaged in research pertaining to long term outcomes for patients receiving full mouth extractions, bicarbonate buffered lidocaine in the presence of odontogenic infections, debridement of stage II MRONJ utilizing fluorescence-tetracycline bone labeling, and the prevalence of psychiatric illness in patients undergoing outpatient Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery procedures. The Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at UC also hosts the annual intern boot camp that trains all the incoming OMS residents from the residencies in Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and Indiana.

Our residents and faculty serve on local, regional, national and international committees and influence policy making as it relates to training and education of oral and maxillofacial surgeons.
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residents 2022-2023

First Year:

Hunter Boone, DDS – University of North Carolina School of Dentistry

Alexander Doye, DDS – Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry

Trevor Liljenquist, DDS – Ohio State University College of Dentistry

Isaac So, DDS – University of Washington School of Dentistry

Second Year:

Alec Bankhead, DMD – East Carolina University School of Dentistry

Logan Herm, DDS – Marquette University School of Dentistry

Soroush Samimi, DMD – Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

Third Year:

Maria Deleonibus, DMD – Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine

Thomas Inman, DDS – University of Tennessee College of Dentistry

Skyler Williams, DMD – University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry

Fourth Year:

Chad Curtis, DDS – Columbia University College of Dental Medicine

Jaehee Hong, DMD – Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine

Justin Kirkwood, DMD – University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine

Residency Program in Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery

Ann Schwentker, MD, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Pediatric Plastic and Craniofacial Surgery
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Kristen Merkhofer, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Section of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand/Burn Surgery
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The Division of Plastic Surgery faculty are committed surgeon educators who have developed an expanded educational environment to help fulfill their mission of providing the best training experience. With the wide variety and volume of clinical opportunities available at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, University of Cincinnati (UC) Medical Center, University of Cincinnati West Chester Hospital, and in the surrounding community, the division provides excellent educational content for students and residents, while delivering first-rate patient care and providing opportunities for collaborative efforts for both clinical and basic science research in plastic surgery.

Although each member of the division has unique areas of interest and expertise, our major strengths are our core values of teamwork, dedication to excellence, and ability to work as a cohesive group. The faculty surgeons are dedicated to providing an environment for training plastic surgeons within the entire spectrum of plastic surgery.

The division provides training in the integrated pathway in plastic surgery training as well as the independent pathway. The integrated program continues to evolve with more intensive plastic surgery and plastics-related rotations earlier in the training schedule for junior residents. The rotations, progression, knowledge, skill and responsibility vary according to the pathway and the individual; however, the ultimate level of proficiency and dedication to core values is the same for all residents. Two month-long content-based rotations during the senior years give the residents an in-depth exposure to the preoperative evaluation of new patients, surgical planning, care in the operating room, and both inpatient and outpatient postoperative care. Senior residents are on call an average of every 6th night.

The Division of Plastic Surgery has used the ACGME’s “Milestones” program for the evaluation of residents, in combination with faculty evaluations, 360 evaluations, surgical skills evaluations, and review of case logs, research, and professionalism by the Clinical Competency Committee. The residency programs have both received continued accreditation from the ACGME.
Conferences

- Monday 5:00-6:00 p.m.– Plastic Surgery Curriculum Conference with attending participation directed by Dr. Julia Slater, Associate Program Director. The full spectrum of plastic surgery is covered in a rotating three-year schedule.
- Wednesday 7:00-8:00 a.m.–Weekly Pre-op Conference
- Wednesday 8:00-9:00 a.m.– Weekly Grand Rounds or monthly M&M
- Thursday or Friday morning –In-Service Prep and Review
- Combined Ortho/Plastics conference 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Hand education is also organized in a rotating two-year schedule.
- Journal Club 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Last Thursday of each month, quarterly on Wednesday morning in place of Grand Rounds.
- Conference schedules are published at the beginning of the year to allow for individuals to plan ahead.
- Residents read the selected articles, Plastic Surgery Education Network modules, and review old in-service questions pertinent to each topic prior to Curriculum, Hand, In-Service Prep, and Plastic Surgery Case Review conferences.
- For Pre-Op Conference, residents are expected to know pertinent clinical details about patients scheduled for operation on their rotation. Residents are asked questions about operative decision-making, alternate options for treatment, and other aspects of patient care.
- Presentation skills are a critical part of plastic surgery education. These skills are acquired by frequent practice. Additionally, the study of one particular topic of interest by reviewing the literature teaches each of us how to research and effectively present new information. In accordance with these goals, the weekly grand rounds conference will consist of both resident and faculty presentations.
- Each plastic surgery resident is required to give 30-minute formal Grand Rounds presentations. Senior residents present three times a year while junior residents present two times per year.
- Plastic Surgery M & M conference occurs monthly at our Wednesday morning conference time. The General Surgery M & M case is determined by the faculty the week before, and is presented by the faculty member and resident involved in the M & M.
- Research conference occurs one Wednesday per quarter. During this conference, residents update the division on their research progress. Any abstracts or posters selected for presentation at national meetings will also be presented during this conference. This coordinates with regular Wednesday pre-op/Grand Rounds.
- The remaining conferences are faculty lectures on different topics and include full-time faculty, volunteer faculty, visiting professors, and non-plastic-surgeon faculty.

Cadaver Lab

Cadaver dissections are planned quarterly to supplement and reinforce topics covered in the didactic sessions.

Resident Cosmetic Clinic

The senior residents see patients presenting for the full spectrum of aesthetic concerns at the Holmes Hospital, staffed by Dr. Kitzmiller and Dr. Schwentker. Those patients electing surgery are presented both pre- and post-operatively at Pre-Op conference so that the entire group can learn and continuity of care is preserved.

Injectables

Residents gain experience with safe use of cosmetic injectables evaluating patients in the resident cosmetic clinic at Holmes Hospital, with injections performed in clinic at the MAB and during quarterly conferences staffed by Dr. Schwentker at the Children’s Hospital.

Micro Lab

Microscopic laboratory sessions are planned at least quarterly to allow hands-on experience with microsurgical techniques utilizing in vivo and in vitro models. There is now a fully functional operating microscope in the conference room for dry lab practice.

Research, Publications, and Travel

Scholarly activity of both attendings and residents is an important component of our division. Each of us shares some responsibility for our own education and to contribute to the betterment of our specialty. Engagement in research activity is mandatory and will be considered for promotion and ultimate completion of the residency.

Residents in every year are expected to make significant progress in a selected research project each academic year. Residents in the senior years are expected to submit an abstract for presentation and/or a paper to a peer-reviewed journal each academic year.
With prior planning, expenses for resident travel to meetings will be paid if the resident is presenting at the meeting. All residents are required to submit an abstract to the Ohio Valley Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons every year.

Residents submit biannual written research reports which are reviewed by Dr. Schwentker to help ensure projects are appropriate and progressing. Research is presented during Grand Rounds twice a year. All residents participate in an annual Q-I project under the direction of Dr. Schwentker.

**Clinical Support**

Physician assistants and/or nurse practitioners at all locations are an integral part of the health care team, helping to decrease service obligations and maximize education.

**Residents as Teachers**

The residents supervise and instruct junior learners in graduated and progressive fashion which allows our residents to consolidate valuable teaching skills. The division educates UC and visiting medical students as well as rotating residents from ENT, OMFS, Ortho, Neurosurgery, Podiatry, Urology, and outside programs. We have instituted a Junior Resident Skills Checklist to track knowledge and skills acquired during the plastic surgery rotation. This serves as a useful metric to the home program and determines when junior residents are able to perform consults and minor procedures without direct supervision.

**Recruitment**

Both residency programs are highly competitive and have been successful in matching well-qualified applicants. The program is known for the breadth of education and the close working relationships among residents and between staff and residents.

**Placement**

The residents have been successful in matching into top plastic surgery fellowships in hand, microsurgery, and craniofacial surgery over the past 10 years. Residents entering practice directly have been highly sought after and have successfully found positions throughout the United States.

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Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery Residents 2022-2023

**Independent Program:**

PGY-6: Henry Huson, MD  
Medical Degree: Florida State University  
General Surgery Residency: Louisiana State University

PGY-7: Liann Casey, MD  
Medical Degree: St. George's University School of Medicine  
General Surgery Residency: Jackson Memorial Hospital

PGY-8 (Chief): Lane Guyton, MD  
Medical Degree: East Carolina University  
General Surgery Residency: East Carolina University

**Integrated Program:**

PGY-1: Kelly Spiller, MD – Wright State University  
PGY-2: Sydni Meunier, MD – Loyola University - Chicago Stritch School of Medicine  
PGY-3: Nathaniel Roberson, MD – University of Cincinnati  
PGY-4: Maleeh Effendi, MD – Texas Tech University  
PGY-5: Joseph Easton, MD – Indiana University  
PGY-6 (Chief): Douglas Dembinski, MD – University of Cincinnati
Residency Program in Urology

Courtney Plattner, MD, Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Violisha Chaney, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery, Section of Urology
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
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The urology residency program continues to sustain the optimal case volume in the nation for resident surgical experiences in several procedural and surgical care areas. Most notable of these are all forms of minimally invasive endoscopic procedures and female incontinence procedures.

The urology program is a five-year program with rotations at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Good Samaritan Hospital, Children’s Hospital Medical Center, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, and West Chester Hospital. Four years of adult urologic surgical training are complemented with six months of training in all forms of pediatric urologic surgery and six months of general surgery.

Recent changes in faculty have fine-tuned our laparoscopic, robotic and female urologic capabilities. As a result, the residents benefit by increased skill upon completion of the program. Residents completing our program historically have had no difficulty being accepted in fellowship programs or developing successful careers in urologic surgery.

Residents whose submitted papers are accepted for presentation at a national or sectional meeting are given funding to attend the meeting. Annually, at the state level, all residents in the program are encouraged to attend the Ohio Urological Society meeting where they are exposed to the expertise of nationally known urologists and issues of managed care and reimbursement.

Conferences

Regularly held conferences include: Morbidity and Mortality, Indications Conference, weekly didactic lectures, adult and pediatric journal clubs, and a pediatric lecture series. Urology has a monthly tumor board meeting in conjunction with Radiology, Oncology, Radiation Oncology, and Pathology.

Urology Visiting Professors

Three times each year, visiting professors meet with faculty and residents (normally twice a year the adult urology interests are addressed and once per year the pediatric area). We also host numerous “visiting” professors from departments within the college who guest lecture at the regularly scheduled weekly urologic educational conferences.

Urology Residents 2022-2023

First Year:
Brian Douglas, MD – St. Louis University
Mahmoud Elhagagy, DO – New York College of Osteopathic Medicine

Second Year:
Christopher Anglin, MD – University of Louisville
Rajiv Karani, MD – University of Cincinnati

Third Year:
Anirudh Guduru, MD – Saint Louis University
Brandon Mudd, MD – University of Louisville

Fourth Year:
Monzer Haj-Hamed, MD – Northeastern Ohio Medical University
Justin Streicher, MD – University of Cincinnati

Fifth Year:
Michael Binner, MD – University of San Francisco
Daniel Lama, MD – University of California, Irvine

Honors and Awards (Residents):

Outstanding Achievement Award:
Daniel Lama, MD

Art Evans Award:
Monzer Haj-Hamed, MD

Faculty Teaching Awards

Educator of the Year:
Nilesh Patil, MD
Bruce Bracken, MD

Michael Daugherty, MD (Cincinnati’s Children’s)

Neil Frankl Award:
Perri Wright
Pediatric Urology Fellowship

W. Robert DeFoor, Jr., MD, MPH, Program Director
Professor of Surgery

Margo Stover, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgical Services
Division of Pediatric Surgery
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
3333 Burnet Avenue, ML 5037
Cincinnati, OH 45229
513-803-3736
margo.stover@cchmc.org

The Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Department of Surgical Services, Division of Pediatric Urology, sponsors the Pediatric Urology Fellowship program. The fellowship is fully accredited by the ACGME. The goal of the fellowship is to prepare our trainees for a career as an academic surgeon. The fellowship meets the American Board of Urology requirements to allow graduates to apply for the Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Pediatric Urology.

This fellowship program covers a full complement of pediatric urologic issues with particular attention to the areas of genitourinary reconstructive surgery (including microsurgical techniques), laparoscopic and robotic assisted surgery, uro-oncology and fetal urology. The majority of the fellowship related clinical activity takes place at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. The program has one or two fellows (we accept one fellow each year) for the duration of two years.

The fellowship comprises 12 months of inpatient and main operating room time, 6 months of outpatient surgery, general urology clinics, and multi-disciplinary clinics, as well as 6 months of dedicated research time. Specialty and multi-disciplinary clinics include the Urogenital Reconstruction Center, the Healthy Bladder Clinic, the Pediatric Stone Center, the Fetal Care Center, the Disorders of Sexual Differentiation Clinic, and a weekly continuity clinic in the Myelomeningocele Clinic. The fellows also spend time in the outpatient surgery center at the Liberty campus.

The research year offers opportunities in basic science or clinical research related to the genitourinary tract. We offer a Pediatric Urology Basic Science Lab under the direct mentorship of Joo-Seop Park, PhD and/or Elizabeth Mann, PhD. Other research opportunities include clinical and outcomes research, quality improvement, and bioinformatics. The fellow may also take up to 4 weeks of electives on Pediatric Nephrology, Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Gynecology, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Colorectal Surgery, or Radiology. During the two-year fellowship, the fellow will also have the ability to audit courses in the University of Cincinnati MPH program.

The fellowship has a strong emphasis on didactics. Our conference schedule is below.

Conferences

Pediatric Urology Grand Rounds (monthly)
Challenging Case Management Conference (monthly)
Pediatric Urology Journal Club (monthly)
Complex Clinic New Patient Case Conference (monthly)
Nephrology/Transplant/Urology Case Conference (monthly)
Colorectal/Urology Conference (monthly)
Morbidity and Mortality Conference (monthly)
Disorders of Sexual Differentiation (monthly)

Current Fellows

Kiersten Craig, MD, MSE
New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell (Urology Residency)
Paul Campbell, MD
Naval Medical Center San Diego (Urology Residency)
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship

Aaron P. Garrison, MD, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Gregory M. Tiao, MD, Associate Program Director
Professor of Surgery
Division Director, Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Meghan Wiesner, Program Coordinator
Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
3333 Burnet Avenue, MLC 2023
Cincinnati, OH 45229
513-803-9226
meghan.wiesner@cchmc.org

The Office of Education  |  Page 32

The division of Pediatric Surgery offers a two-year Residency (Fellowship) in Pediatric Surgery. One new resident is chosen each year through the National Resident Matching Program. To date, over 50 Pediatric Surgery Residents have been trained in the division. The Pediatric Surgery Residency at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital is one of the more renowned programs in the United States. The program matches one resident each year for a two-year position after completion of a General Surgery Chief Residency.

During the training period, the resident assumes graded responsibility and is exposed to the entire spectrum of pediatric surgery, including trauma, neonatal surgery, transplantation, bariatric surgery, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, fetal intervention, and advanced anorectal reconstruction.

The Division of Pediatric Surgery includes 18 full-time pediatric surgeons, 4 PhD researchers, 16 nurse practitioners, general surgery residents from three different programs in Cincinnati, and medical students. The operating room is one of the busiest in the country with over 35,000 cases performed annually. The emergency department evaluates over 100,000 patients each year. Each resident completes approximately 1,000 pediatric surgery cases during their residency. In addition to training the categorical pediatric surgery fellows (residents), the division offers training experiences in Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, Fetal Surgery, Colorectal Surgery and Vascular Malformations/Oncology within the construct called the Subspecialty Fellowship program. Additionally, there are opportunities to perform basic science research in bench work labs led by clinician scientists (Helmrath, Peiro, Bondoc and Tiao) and PhD researchers (Timchenko and Shin). We recently have begun a Global Health/Outcomes focused research fellowship led by Dr. Meera Kotagal.

Within our Subspecialty Fellowship Program, there is the option to obtain a Master’s Degree from the University of Cincinnati. This option, if approved by the program education committee, would coincide with the clinical fellowship and is supported by the division. This option requires a two-year commitment which would include clinical and Master’s Degree work.

The Master’s degree programs that we offer are:

• Master of Science in Clinical Research, including two optional focus areas:
  1. Clinical Epidemiology/Clinical Effectiveness
  2. Clinical Trials
• Master of Education for Physicians and Other Health Care Professionals
• Master of Public Health

We also offer a two-year experience for an International Fellow as well as a one- or two-year training experience in Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO).

Conferences

Morbidity/Mortality (weekly)
Tumor Board (weekly)
Pediatric Surgical Grand Rounds (weekly)
Radiology/Surgery Conferences (bi-weekly)
Trauma M&M (monthly)
Transplant M&M (quarterly)
Fetal M&M (quarterly)
Trauma Case Review (monthly)
Transplant Selection/Management (weekly)
Pathology (Quarterly)

Pediatric Surgery Fellows, 2022-2023

Laura Galganski, MD – Senior Fellow
MD – University of Louisville School of Medicine

Byron Hughes, MD – Junior Fellow
MD – Georgetown University School of Medicine
Advanced Training Program in Cardiothoracic Surgery

Sandra L. Starnes, MD, Program Director
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Director, Division of Thoracic Surgery

Robert Van Haren, MD, Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Thoracic Surgery

Andrea Anderson, C-TAGME, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Division of Thoracic Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558
513-584-1387
andrea.anderson@uc.edu

Applications for the thoracic surgery residency training program can be obtained from the following address:

National Residency Match Program 2501 M Street
Northwest, Suite 1
Washington, DC 20037-1307
Phone: 202-828-0676
http://www.nrmp.org

Integrated Cardiothoracic Residency Program

Our integrated 6-year (I-6) program provides six years of training after completion of medical school, with one resident starting each year. Our program, which started in 2014, is one of 34 in the country. Our programs provide balanced education in all aspects of cardiothoracic surgery, with an emphasis on minimally-invasive procedures. Our goal is to develop, train and mentor the next leaders in cardiac and thoracic surgery.

In collaboration with the Department of Surgery, residents rotate through general surgery, surgical oncology, vascular surgery, transplant surgery, pediatric surgery, critical care, trauma surgery, cardiac surgery, and thoracic surgery during the first three years of the program to establish strong fundamentals of surgical practice. During the last three years, the residents are educated in all aspects of cardiothoracic surgery including adult cardiac surgery, general thoracic surgery and congenital cardiac surgery, resulting in well-rounded and independent thoracic surgeons. Additionally, the trainees have dedicated rotations in echocardiography, cardiac catheterization, interventional pulmonary and cardiothoracic critical care.

Applicants for our ACGME-accredited advanced training programs in cardiothoracic surgery are selected through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP).

Clinical Rotations

Adult Cardiac Surgery

The primary adult cardiac surgery experience is at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center (UCMC). Our residents gain experience, and develop expertise in all aspects of cardiac surgery, including coronary revascularization, valvular heart disease, thoracic aortic disease and surgery for heart failure including heart transplantation, short-term and long-term mechanical circulatory support, and Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO). There is a robust experience with off-pump coronary artery bypass and minimally-invasive cardiac surgery, including minimally-invasive coronary bypass and endoscopic valve surgery. In addition, residents gain experience with modern endovascular procedures including transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), mitral clip and thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR) and transcatheter mitral valve procedures.

Our residents rotate at two community cardiac centers, Mercy Jewish Hospital and the Christ Hospital. These sites provide exposure to a high-volume community cardiac surgery with faculty that are dedicated to resident education. In addition, the Christ Hospital rotation provides a unique experience with a high volume of robotic cardiac procedures, including valve surgery and coronary revascularization.
General Thoracic Surgery

During the thoracic surgery rotation, residents are trained in all aspects of general thoracic surgery and thoracic oncology, including benign and malignant lung and esophageal diseases, airway diseases and mediastinal tumors. The general thoracic rotation has a focus on advanced minimally-invasive techniques such as thoracoscopic (VATS) and robotic lobectomy for lung cancer, minimally-invasive esophagectomy, and robotic mediastinal resections. Residents are also trained in advanced airway and esophageal endoscopic procedures such as laser interventions, stent placement and management, and endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS).

Congenital Heart Surgery

Residents rotate on the congenital cardiac surgery service at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, a world leader in the management of congenital heart disease. They are an integral part of the team during preoperative planning, intraoperative surgical management and postoperative care of neonates, infants, children, teenagers and adults across the entire spectrum of congenital heart disease. There are cutting edge programs for end-stage heart and lung failure, including heart and lung transplant programs and mechanical circulatory support programs. In partnership with the solid organ transplant program, heart/liver and heart/kidney transplants are performed in patients with extrathoracic multiorgan failure.

In collaboration with the Aerodigestive Center at Cincinnati Children’s, the division has the world’s most extensive experience with complex tracheal reconstruction in infants and children. Cincinnati Children’s consistently ranks among the top in the nation for cardiology and heart surgery as measured by U.S. News & World Report.

Education

The thoracic residency has a robust didactic program. A structured weekly cardiothoracic teaching conference using a case-based approach covers all topics included in the Thoracic Surgery Core Curriculum and utilizes the Society of Thoracic Surgeons on-line learning management system. In addition, we have a monthly debate-style journal club, monthly mini-mock oral examinations, and morbidity and mortality conference.

Residents participate in a structured simulation program quarterly, with sessions for open and thoracoscopic lobectomy, chest wall resection, tracheal resection, sleeve lobectomy, esophageal anastomotic techniques, coronary artery bypass, valve repair/replacement, and robotics.

Cardiothoracic Surgery Residents 2022-2023

PGY1:
Valeria V. Farias, MD – SUNY Downstate

PGY2:
Keaton Cooley, MD – University of California, Irvine

PGY3:
John Kennedy, MD – University of Central Florida

PGY4:
Emily R. Wright, MD – University of Cincinnati

PGY5:
James A. Miller, MD – University of Buffalo

PGY6:
James P. Bailey, MD – Michigan State University
Congenital Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Program

David Morales, MD, Program Director
James Scott Tweddell Chair of Congenital Heart Surgery
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics
Director, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Executive Co-Director, The Heart Institute
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Melinda Davies, Program Coordinator
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery
The Heart Institute
3333 Burnet Ave., MLC 2013
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039
513-803-9150
melinda.davies@chmc.org

The UC College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center offer a two-year accredited fellowship in congenital cardiac surgery. We are one of only 16 programs in the country accredited by the ACGME, leading to eligibility for subspecialty certification in Congenital Cardiac Surgery by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Our fellows receive intensive training in all aspects of congenital heart surgery including heart and lung transplantation.

The division performs over 600 cardiac surgeries annually. Cincinnati Children's Hospital consistently ranks among the top programs in the nation for cardiology and heart surgery as measured by U.S. News & World Report Best Children's Hospitals.

Applications for the fellowship can be found at: http://www.tsda.org/the-tsda/congenital-match.

Current Fellows

Nicholas Clarke, MD
Medical School – University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Residency – UTSW/Parkland Hospitals
Fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery – Johns Hopkins Hospital

Ryuma Iwaki, MD
Medical School – Ehime University School of Medicine, Japan
Postgraduate Studies – Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan
Residency in Cardiovascular Surgery – Hyogo Brain and Heart Center, Himeji, Japan
Fellowship in Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery – Kobe Children’s Hospital, Kobe, Japan
Postdoctoral Fellowship – The Center for Regenerative Medicine, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH
Clinical Fellowship in Pediatric Cardiac Surgery – Boston Children’s Hospital

Abdominal Multi-Organ Transplant Fellowship Training Program

R. Cutler Quillin, III, MD, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of Transplantation
Tara Ahmed, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Section of Transplantation
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0519)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0519
513-558-3993
ahmedt3@ucmail.uc.edu

The multi-organ transplantation fellowship had its first fellow starting in 1969. It is approved through the American Society of Transplant Surgeons and employs three fellows (matching 2 and 1 on alternate years). The program has graduated 43 fellows since that time, with many fellows having gone on to lead transplant divisions across the country and abroad.

The fellowship consists of two clinical years of training in liver, kidney and pancreas transplantation including broad exposure to both multi-organ deceased donor procurements and live donor operations. Fellows also receive extensive training in hepatobiliary and complex vascular access surgery. They also have a fully integrated experience in pediatric transplantation at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. The fellows become proficient in not only the surgical aspect of transplantation, but also in the clinical management of the routine and complex transplant patient.

The philosophy of the transplant faculty is to treat the transplant fellow like a junior partner. Fellows are given graded responsibility not only in the operating room, but also in the clinical management of the routine and complex transplant, hepatobiliary and vascular access patients. Most fellows are independent in the multi-organ procurement operation within the first few months of fellowship training and virtually all fellows perform the entirety of the liver and kidney transplantation operation within their
The first six months of their fellowship. The transplant surgery fellow leads the inpatient care of all transplant patients at University of Cincinnati Medical Center. All recipients within their first year of transplant are cared for by the Transplant Surgery service, which consists primarily of attending surgeons, surgery fellows, mid-level providers, surgical residents, and medical students. Structured multidisciplinary rounds are made by the Transplant Surgery service daily. These rounds are led by the transplant surgery fellows with guidance and support provided by transplant surgery faculty. Leadership skills are quickly developed as the fellows coordinate the multi-disciplinary team and oversee the daily management of our transplant patients. Fellows also participate in outpatient clinics, which include the pre-transplant evaluation of liver, kidney and pancreas transplant recipients, and can participate in the routine post-operative care of these patients. Fellows also attend hepatobiliary and vascular access clinics from which elective cases are scheduled. This allows them the opportunity to participate in preoperative planning and continued outpatient management of these patients.

Fellows participate in weekly multidisciplinary conferences for kidney, liver, pancreas, and hepatobiliary. They are responsible for presenting the inpatients, operations and complications. These conferences are attended by transplant surgeons, transplant hepatologists and transplant nephrologists, nurse practitioners, social workers, pharmacists, ethicists, dieticians, coordinators and anesthesiologists. They also attend a weekly meeting to discuss elective cases, past transplants, and structured didactic teaching. In addition, the surgical fellows attend a multidisciplinary weekly didactic conference along with quarterly transplant grand rounds.

**Conferences**

Multiple teaching conferences supplement the fellowship experience. Transplant Grand Rounds occur monthly. Weekly fellows conferences are held serving two main goals: (1) pre-operative conference to review cases for the following week; (2) rotation of six different themes – Journal Club, pathology review, liver topic review, kidney topic review, organ offer turn down conference, and live donor liver transplantation surgical planning. Transplant lecture series occurs weekly and a quarterly regional transplant fellows conference is held to learn alongside our regional partners.

**2021-2022 Visiting Speakers**

**August 24, 2021**  
**Adam Griesemer, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Surgical Director, Pediatric Liver Transplantation  
Surgical Director, Living Donor Liver Transplantation  
Principal Investigator, CCTI  
Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons  
Virtual Transplant Grand Rounds: “Liver Transplant Immune Tolerance Insights from Translational Models”

**September 13-14, 2022**  
**Abhinav Humar, MD**  
Thomas E. Starzl Professor in Transplantation Surgery  
Clinical Director, Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute  
Division Chief, Transplant Surgery  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center  
Transplant Grand Rounds: “Pushing the Limits of Living Donor Liver Transplant”  
Surgical Grand Rounds: “Changing the Paradigm of Living Donor Liver Transplant: The UPMC Experience”

**September 28-29, 2021**  
**Elizabeth A.Pomfret, MD, PhD, FACS**  
Professor of Surgery and Igal Kam, MD Endowed Chair in Transplant Surgery  
Chief, Division of Transplantation Surgery  
Executive Director, Colorado Center for Transplantation Care, Research & Education  
University of Colorado – Anschutz Medical Campus
Transplant Grand Rounds: “The Evolution of Adult-to-Adult Living Donor Liver Transplantation”


November 30, 2021
Dinee Simpson, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Surgical Director, African American Transplant Access Program
Comprehensive Transplant Center
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

May 24, 2022
Derek A. DuBay, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Transplantation
Medical University of South Carolina Health System
Transplant Grand Rounds: “Good to Great: Breaking Down Barriers to Improve Transplant Volumes”

Transplant Surgery Fellows 2022-2023

First Year:
Lucas Ernani, MD
Medical School: Universidade Federal de Ciências da Saúde de Porto Alegre (UFCSPA)
Gastrointestinal Surgery Residency: Universidade de São Paulo (USP)/Hospital das Clínicas – Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo (HC-FMUSP)
Fellowship: Jackson Memorial Hospital / University of Miami – Transplant Surgery Critical Care
Fellowship: Universidade de São Paulo – Liver Transplantation

Second Year:
Ali Abidali, MD
Medical School: Midwestern University, Glendale, AZ
Residency: Honor Health – John C. Lincoln Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ
Suzanne Evans, MD
Medical School: Medical University of Americas, Charlestown, Nevis, West Indies
Residency: Bassett Medical Center Program, Cooperstown, NY

Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency Program with Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery

Suhail Masadeh, DPM, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

Bryan Hall, DPM, Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

Michael D. Liette, DPM, Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Medical Student Clerkship
Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

Alexandra Riestenberg, Program Coordinator
Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency Program
Department of Surgery
Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0513)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0513
513-558-5367
riesteaa@ucmail.uc.edu

About the Program

The University of Cincinnati’s Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency Program with Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery is one of the few university-based programs in the country. The University of Cincinnati Medical Center is a well-established institution with a long and rich history as one of the nation’s leading teaching hospitals. As a competitive residency program, a resident can expect to receive spectacular training that will effectively prepare him/her for practice in the academic and private arenas.
The Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency Program with Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery prides itself on the pursuit of excellence and educational experience of podiatric residents with other podiatrists and attending surgeons. It is through the hard work of the administration, residents, and attending staff that this program has maintained its successful accreditation and support of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education.

Podiatric surgery residents participate fully in the evaluation, care, and surgical management of a large volume of patients in the Emergency, Inpatient, and Outpatient Departments. Throughout the three years of training, the resident is exposed to a vast array of experiences that include limb salvage procedures, rearfoot, and forefoot reconstructive surgeries, as well as specialized surgery including orthoplastic, microsurgery, and peripheral nerve surgery. Residents rotate on multiple services maintaining a well-balanced curriculum of Internal Medicine, Behavioral Health, Plastic Surgery, Radiology, Anesthesia, General Surgery, Pathology, Emergency Medicine, Dermatology, Wound Care, Infectious Disease, Vascular, and Orthopedic Surgery. To provide maximum diversity during the podiatric surgery rotation, residents participate in a very busy clinic where the resident is exposed to a variety of pathology in preparation for the types of patients they will see as practicing podiatrists.

Didactic activities are held weekly and consist of lectures, case discussions, and Grand Rounds. Cadaver Labs, Journal Clubs, and/or Workshops take place monthly. Residents frequently combine conferences and labs with other local hospitals for a more well-rounded experience. In addition, web-based Present Courseware lectures are a part of the curriculum and are viewed weekly by each resident. In addition, the program prides itself on the unique Visiting Professor Program. The residents have the opportunity to interact with and learn from world-class experts of various backgrounds who specialize in the care of the lower extremity.

How to Apply

The program currently takes two residents per year and accepts applicants from all podiatric medical schools.

Visiting is highly encouraged, and externships are available. Applications through CASPR.

Overview

- The Podiatric resident team is currently comprised of a 2/2/2 model for each of the three years of training.
- Opportunity to interact with 53 other residency programs.
- High in surgical volume/diverse pathology in clinic & inpatient encounters.
- Strong emphasis on diabetic limb salvage.
- Weekly didactics with chapter review of a major foot & ankle text.
- Monthly cadaver labs.
- 6 full-time attendings.
- Level 1 Trauma Center with diverse podiatric pathology.
- Access to affordable & quality housing close to the hospital.
- Enjoy the many amenities Cincinnati has to offer such as low cost of living, restaurants, major sports teams, and more.
- The program currently accepts two residents per year and accepts applicants from all podiatric medical schools.

Our Mission

The mission of our program is to support the training and development of a diverse group of competent, well-rounded podiatric surgeons that serve others and provide equitable care across the spectrum of life.

Our program’s mission is supported by the following aims and we strive to reach them in all of our curricular and programming initiatives.
Aims to Support our Program’s Mission

Excellent Clinical Training

Our program strives to provide excellent clinical training in patient-centered, evidence-based care.

Advocacy

Our program strives to prepare residents to be advocates for their patients and reduce healthcare disparities.

A strong identity and sense of community

Our program strives to foster a strong academic identity and sense of community in Cincinnati, including opportunities to pursue careers locally.

Promotion of wellbeing

Our program strives to develop podiatric surgeons that are competent, resilient, and promote their wellbeing in a learning environment that is structured to support wellness.

Diversity and inclusion

Our program strives to celebrate diversity and foster inclusivity in our residency program, faculty members, and educational community.

Autonomy and leadership

Our program strives to provide our residents with opportunities to have autonomy and leadership in the clinical environment, as well as experiences in patient-centeredness, team-based care, and systems-based practice.

Master adaptive learners

Our program strives to develop master adaptive learners that are expert, self-directed, self-regulated, and lifelong workplace learners.

Preparation for a variety of career paths

Our program strives to prepare and encourage our residents to enter a variety of career paths such as specialized fellowships and academic medicine and surgery after the completion of their residency training.

Current Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residents:

Allison Hamad, DPM (Third Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Alex Schaeffer, DPM (Third Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Zachary Coleman, DPM (Second Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Alex Pilkinton, DPM (Second Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Adena Mahadai, DPM (First Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

Bryce Yamat, DPM (First Year) – Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
The one-year ACGME accredited surgical critical care fellowship program encompasses all aspects of care of the critically ill surgical patient, with emphasis on cardiopulmonary mechanics, principles of resuscitation, and mechanical ventilation. University of Cincinnati (UC) Medical Center is the primary teaching facility for the surgical critical care fellowship. It is the tertiary referral hospital for southern Ohio, eastern Indiana, and northern Kentucky, serving a population of over 2 million with over 80,000 emergency department visits annually. The hospital serves as the region's only academic medical center and maintains the only verified adult Level 1 trauma center and adult burn center for the regions of Southwest Ohio, Eastern Indiana and Northern Kentucky.

UC Medical Center has approximately 116 adult critical care beds, distributed through the surgical, medical, neuroscience, and cardiovascular intensive care units. The SICU consists of 34 adult beds with 150-180 monthly admissions from all surgical specialties, including trauma, general surgery, transplantation, surgical oncology, vascular surgery, urology, orthopedic surgery, thoracic surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, and otolaryngology. Daily multidisciplinary rounds are collaborative in nature, with input and discussion from all team members, including respiratory therapists, pharmacists, and nurses. Subspecialty services such as nephrology, infectious disease, rehabilitation medicine, cardiology, and hematology are available and consulted as needed. Additional clinical support in the SICU includes nutrition services, nurse educators, and dedicated SICU social workers. The SICU at UC Medical Center serves as a critical care educational venue for residents not only from numerous specialties but also from other local and regional institutions.

Other required critical care rotations include the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit, Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit, Medical Intensive Care Unit, and the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. The NSICU is a 20-bed unit with neurosurgical admissions following tumor and skull base surgery, spine surgery, advanced neurovascular interventions, and traumatic brain injury. As the region's stroke center, patients undergoing state-of-the-art therapy for stroke, seizures, and other neurologic diseases are also cared for in the NSICU. Patients in the CVICU include postoperative patients as well as those with heart failure and acute coronary disease. Advanced mechanical support modalities, including ECMO and LVAD, are supported as well.

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in the renowned Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is a 36-bed multidisciplinary unit for children beyond the newborn age with over 2,000 combined medical and surgical admissions annually. In addition to pediatric trauma patients, other PICU admissions include neurosurgical, airway reconstructive surgery, solid organ transplantation, and orthopedic patients. All forms of mechanical ventilator support, including liquid ventilation and high frequency ventilation, renal dialysis, continuous venovenous/veno-arterial ultrafiltration, and ECMO are utilized in the PICU.

Experience in trauma surgery at UCMC and acute care surgery at our Level 3 trauma center in West Chester, Ohio are also offered and encouraged during the one-year fellowship through elective rotations. Other venues for critical care education include the 10-bed Burns Special Care Unit at UC Medical Center. These rotations can be arranged according to fellow interest and availability.

The surgical critical care fellowship was reviewed by the ACGME in 2016 and was granted Continued Full Accreditation. Options for extending the fellowship for a second, non-ACGME accredited year are available and include acute care surgery, trauma, and advanced research and educational opportunities. Second-year positions will be considered on an individual basis depending on funding.

Current Fellows:

Lauren Craugh (Coleman), MD
MD – University of New Mexico School of Medicine
GS Residency – University of California - Davis

Tyler Williams, MD
MD – University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences
GS Residency – Ascension St. John Hospital
Past Fellows:

2022 Christopher Horn, MD – Junior Faculty (Military), University of Cincinnati Medical Center.
2022 Dan Hyatt, MD – Locums (traveling ICU/trauma doc).
2021 Jay Nathwani, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma/Critical Care, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2021 Aaron Seitz, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma/Critical Care, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2020 Allyn Checovich, MD – Private practice.
2020 Donald (Christopher) LaSeur, MD – Faculty, Medical City Plano, Plano, Texas.
2019 Ryan Earnest, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma/Critical Care, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2019 Paul Vana, MD – Trauma practice at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.
2018 Anthony England, MD – Surgeon, St. Elizabeth Physicians, Edgewood, Kentucky.
2018 Ian Ferries, MD – Surgeon, Naab Road Surgical Group, St. Vincent Indianapolis - Hospital & Health Care Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.
2017 Gregory Day, MD – Trauma, Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgeon, Memorial Hospital, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
2017 Joshua Person, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma and Critical Care, UT Health, Galveston, Texas.
2016 Keshav Deshpande, DO – Trauma, Critical Care and Acute Care Surgeon, OhioHealth Grant Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio.
2016 Stephanie Streit, MD – Trauma and Acute Care Surgeon, Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada.
2015 Kevin Christian, DO – Associate Trauma Medical Director, Acute Care Surgeon at Ferrell Duncan Clinic at Cox Health, Springfield, Missouri.
2015 Alyssa Gans, MD – Assistant Professor of Surgery, Soin Medical Center, Beavercreek, Ohio.
2014 D Anderson Millar, MD – Trauma and Acute Care Surgeon, Utah Surgical Associates, Provo, Utah.
2013 Kate Gazenko, MD – General Surgeon, Johnson Regional Medical Center, Clarksville, Arkansas.
2013 Gina Maccarone, MD – General Surgeon, Cosmetic Surgery Fellow, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2012 Jason Schrager, MD – Associate Professor of Surgery, Medical Director Acute Care Surgery, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2012 Christina Williams, MD – Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2011 Matthew Moorman, MD – Division Chief Trauma, Critical Care, and Acute Care Surgery University Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio.
2011 Christian Bulcao, MD – Study Physician, Samumed, LLC, San Diego, California.
2010 Gerald Fortuna, MD – Vascular and Trauma Surgeon, Lexington Medical Center, West Columbia, South Carolina.
2010 Nichole Ingalls, MD – Surgeon, Northwest Surgical Specialists, LLP, Springfield, Oregon.
2009 Rachael Callcut, MD – Professor and Chief, Division of Trauma, Acute Care Surgery and Surgical Critical Care, UC Davis, Sacramento, California.
2009 Rachel Hight, MD, Lt Col, USAF – Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of California Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, California.
2008 Krishna Athota, MD – Associate Professor of Surgery, Program Director Surgical Critical Care Fellowship, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2008 Brian Leininger, MD – Director, Surgical Critical Care Service, Memorial Hospital, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Vascular Surgery Training Programs

Sung Yang, MD, Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Section of Vascular Surgery

Alexandra Riestenberg, Administrative & Program Coordinator
Vascular Surgery Fellowship
Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program
Department of Surgery
Section of Vascular Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0513)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0513
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Vascular Surgery Fellowship Program

The University of Cincinnati (UC) Vascular Surgery Fellowship is a two-year, ACGME accredited clinical fellowship. All fellows perform standard as well as complex open, endovascular and hybrid procedures during their fellowship and not only meet but also exceed graduating standards set by ACGME. The fellowship offers an opportunity to become facile in both standard open vascular surgical procedures, catheter-directed advanced therapy for the treatment of vascular disease, hybrid interventions as well as non-invasive vascular diagnostic laboratory training. Our fellowship offers a unique combination of exposure to an academic university hospital referral practice, VA medical center, and a community hospital practice setting. Experience in outpatient venous interventions and dialysis access completes the training, making the graduating fellows well suited for both academic and community practice of vascular surgery.

Academic and scholarly pursuits are critical to a fellow’s development and future career. Each fellow is encouraged to prepare a manuscript and/or chapter for publication during their clinical fellowship. A formal lecture series has been developed based on the latest V-Score Curriculum in collaboration with other departments at the University to enhance the fellows’ understanding of vascular physiology, anatomy, embryology, and pathology. In addition to the teaching lectures, hands-on simulation sessions are held throughout the academic year directed towards operative techniques, exposure of vessels and use of latest cutting-edge technology in the field of vascular surgery. The fellows are required to take the Vascular Surgery In-Training Examination and Mock Orals, annually.

The expanded clinical base provides an excellent educational experience for our vascular surgery fellows. Our past fellows have, with their endovascular and open surgical skills, enjoyed ample employment opportunities in the geographical region of their choosing around the country. UC had one of the first programs approved for such a two-year clinical fellowship.

Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program

The Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program is a five-year training program aimed at successful graduates of an accredited medical or osteopathic school who wish to specialize in the field of vascular surgery directly. The program includes 18-24 months of core surgical training and 36-42 months of vascular training. The curriculum stresses core education in the management of surgical patients with complex illnesses, and advanced education to develop competency in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with vascular disease.

The goal of core surgery education is to ensure that the vascular resident is competent in the comprehensive evaluation and management of patients with complex illnesses and the basic surgical skills used in the treatment of cardiovascular, thoracic, abdominal and soft tissue diseases. Upon completion of PGY-2, the surgical resident should have acquired the knowledge and skills outlined below to facilitate quality patient care and ensure patient safety. The knowledge and skills should serve as the foundation for further education and training in vascular surgery.

The vascular residents rotate through some of the standard surgery rotations during the first two postgraduate years: general surgery to include gastrointestinal surgery, surgical oncology, endocrine surgery and laparoscopic surgery and trauma surgery; anesthesiology; critical care; plastic surgery; cardiac surgery, thoracic surgery; as well as transplant surgery. The goals of these rotations are similar to the goals of the general surgical training with some additional rotations intended specifically to augment the knowledge and skills expected of a vascular surgeon such as radiology and interventional radiology. The residents also rotate to The Christ Hospital where they receive valuable endovascular and dialysis access experience. The final years of training are dedicated exclusively to vascular and endovascular rotations only.
Conferences:
Weekly, Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
Weekly, Department of Surgery, Morbidity & Mortality Conference
Weekly, Vascular Preoperative Case Conference & Morbidity & Mortality
Weekly, Vascular Education Conference (Journal Club, Didactics, V-SCORE, VESAP and Skills Simulation)
Monthly, Non-Invasive Vascular Laboratory Noon Conference
Bi-Monthly, Vascular QI Project / Research Noon Conference

Current Integrated Vascular Surgery Residents:
Douglas Rodgers, MD (Chief) – Tuft’s University School of Medicine
Loay Aljaberi, MD (Fourth Year) – Medical Degree: Al-Quds University, Jerusalem; General Surgery Residency: Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
Kristie Yu, MD (Third Year) – Case Western Reserve University
Eric Hammond, MD (Second Year) – SUNY Upstate Medical University
Jacob Hughes, MD (First Year) – Eastern Virginia Medical School

Medical Student Education
Kevin L. Grimes, MD, Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Section of General Surgery
Latifa Sage Silski, MD, Associate Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Section of Transplantation
Nikki Norman, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
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The Department of Surgery is committed to providing excellent educational experiences for medical students. A dedicated team of faculty and staff have developed one of the strongest clerkships within the College of Medicine and increased the number of graduating students who have chosen to pursue a career in surgery. Mentoring of students by the Director of Surgical Student Education and the Director of Medical Student Development is an integral part of the educational experience students have while working within the Department of Surgery. Improvements to the structure of the surgery clerkship curriculum have helped us to increase the depth and breadth of students’ knowledge of surgery.
We utilize the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Surgery exam as our clerkship final written examination. The use of this exam helps maintain the integrity of our testing system and shows how our results compare to those from other surgical education programs throughout the country. Students also complete a board-style oral examination and a knot-tying task that is evaluated for both speed and accuracy.

An online evaluation system has also been established that enables students to provide timely, constructive feedback regarding their learning experience on the Surgery Clerkship, as well as comments regarding faculty and resident teaching performance. We encourage helpful feedback and take these comments into consideration as we progressively modify the experience for better education.

During the fourth year, students have the option of gaining additional experience in surgery with several electives. Acting Internships are available in General Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Trauma, Transplant Surgery, and Pediatric Surgery. Every student aspiring to a general surgical residency is encouraged to enroll in the acting internships. Students are assigned tasks and responsibilities commensurate with the level of a surgical intern. The Critical Care acting internship involves managing patients admitted to the Surgical Intensive Care Unit, and students participate in the acute resuscitation and management of many types of patients. The core of the rotation is centered on the multidisciplinary rounds led by surgical intensivists, with participation by pharmacy, respiratory therapy, nutrition, and nursing. Fourth-year students pursuing a career in surgery are also invited to participate in a surgery “Boot Camp.” During this five-hour session, they are given practical lectures on common clinical scenarios and provided the opportunity to practice technical procedures on an animate model. They are able to hone skills in instrument handling, suturing, tissue dissection, and obtaining exposure.

**Continuing Medical Education**

UC Health Surgeons are pleased to be a resource for practicing physicians. We are excited to share the latest clinical and research findings with you. We invite you to join us for Grand Rounds, teaching conferences and visiting professor lectures. Innovative procedures and technologies are evaluated, current protocols are reviewed and the future of our profession is discussed.

Surgical Grand Rounds, Curriculum Conference, and Morbidity & Mortality are conducted each Wednesday morning. The curriculum conference is based on the American Board of Surgery SCORE curriculum and will consist of a concise review of the reading assignment, a Q&A session with audience response system, and a faculty member who will moderate the session and review case studies. Surgical Grand Rounds is CME Category I for any faculty member in attendance who completes the evaluation sheet.

The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine designates these educational activities for Category 1 CME credit toward the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award. The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Continuing Medical Education to sponsor CME for physicians.

Further information on the Office of Education can be viewed at [med.uc.edu/depart/surgery](http://med.uc.edu/depart/surgery).
Forging a Trail for General Surgery Residents Emerging As Surgeons, Scholars and Leaders

Annual Meeting of a Consortium of Academic Surgery Educators & General Surgery Residents

The Cloudveil Autograph Collection Marriott Hotel

Development of residents and junior faculty into surgeon leaders requires more than just technical skill. To help fill the gap between caring for patients and leadership skills, UC Surgery is proud to continue to offer the Surgeons, Scholars and Leaders (SSL) retreat and professional development conference, held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

The conference is also a wellness success characterized by good exercise, scenic beauty, no slope injuries, and a good time had by all. Our next retreat is scheduled for January 2023, again in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.
Center for Surgical Innovation (CSI)

Expanding the Frontiers of Medicine

About Us

The Center for Surgical Innovation (CSI) is a collaboration between the University of Cincinnati (UC) departments of surgery, biomedical engineering, emergency medicine, and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

The collaboration was established to develop, assess, and enhance new technologies in biomedical and surgical care. Located in the UC College of Medicine's Medical Sciences Building, CSI is a 3,700-square-foot research and teaching facility. The space includes both a teaching laboratory and an operating room, equipped with the latest surgical technology.

Whether it is continuing medical education, device development, procedure modification, or training and simulation, CSI is a tremendous resource for both UC-affiliated faculty as well as regional businesses, community medical practitioners, engineers and scientists.

Capabilities

CSI welcomes the opportunity to work with regional industries. Surgeons, medical practitioners and scientists from across the region come to our state-of-the-art training and conference facility to teach, train, explore and discover. The lab has the capability of both animate and inanimate (cadaver) models to be used for teaching, training and research. All cadavers are provided by the UC Body Donation Program.

CSI is equipped with the following technologies:

- Laparoscopy
- Fluoroscopy
- Telemedicine
- Video Recording
- Didactic Lecture

The facility is also equipped with:

- Five plasma screens and a projector that can be used to display images and demonstrate procedures
- Space for up to seven work stations and 30-40 people
- A small conference room adjoining the lab with a plasma screen and projector (access to larger rooms located within the department of surgery and College of Medicine are also available)

Trained staff members of CSI are available for planning and organizing teaching labs to ensure that lab requirements are met.
Partnerships

Building collaborative partnerships is a key component of CSI’s continuing success.

CSI has grown and benefited from generous donations of financial support, as well as donations of hardware from both internal and external sources.

Additionally, CSI is grateful for philanthropic commitments, and was established in part by a generous gift from Mr. Carl Lindner, a Cincinnati business leader.

Please contact us at (513) 558-5044 for more information on how to become a partner and/or make a donation.

Contact Us

CSI laboratory facility is equipped for UC affiliates, as well as corporate industries, to conduct training labs and/or research and development activities.

For more information on using the CSI laboratory, visit med.uc.edu/depart/surgery or contact:

Judy Heyl
Program Coordinator
Center for Surgical Innovation (CSI)
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UC Institute for Military Medicine

Overview

The University of Cincinnati (UC) Institute for Military Medicine was created by the department of surgery around its core strength of clinical and research faculty, with interests in trauma and critical care. It was named an official Institute of the University of Cincinnati by the Board of Trustees in August 2009. The Institute functions as an interdisciplinary network of investigators across the breadth of the university who share a common focus related to the treatment and care of seriously injured patients. It is not structured as a research silo or confined department, but rather as a coalition of clinicians and scientists who bring unique perspectives to bear on a common problem. The Institute is uniquely distinguished by its presence across the Department of Defense, the Military Health System, the UC College of Medicine, and clinical care within a university system.

The UC Institute for Military Medicine (IMM) has partnered with the United States Air Force, the Department of Defense, the Joint Program Committee-6 (JPC), and the Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU), to name a few of the many military funding sponsors. The goal of this collaboration is to seek answers to identified shortfalls and needs in the scientific understanding of traumatic injuries and care of the injured soldier. An additional significant advantage uniquely leveraged by the IMM is the rapid translation of this new knowledge not only to the military community but to the civilian trauma setting as well. The IMM is uniquely distinguished by its synergistic platform which allows immediate access to all team members across the entire spectrum of military medical providers, clinicians, and scientists in the setting of a century-old college of medicine whose robust infrastructure provides expertise and continuity to answer evolving military medical challenges.

The missions of the UC Institute for Military Medicine are to:

- discover the scientific basis of traumatic injury and translate this knowledge into better treatments for combat casualties and civilian patients
- develop technology that can be applied in military and austere environments to advance the care of the acutely injured patient
- provide state-of-the-art training for those caring for our wounded soldiers
- prepare and train the next generation of clinical and research leaders in traumatic injury
Programs

The UC Institute for Military Medicine has a broad range of programs that serve to advance its missions.

Clinical & Applied Science

This section entails projects that serve to develop equipment solutions and technologies to advance the care of acutely injured patients. These projects translate scientific findings into clinical practice algorithms or demonstrate novel applications of technology for patient care. Examples of the types of projects in this program include: clinical trials of blood component therapy for massive transfusion, development and application of a closed-loop autonomous ventilator, oxygen conservation and generation technology for far-forward environments, and effects of fatty acid supplementation on recovery from traumatic injury.

Basic Science

The basic science section focuses on the traditional and fundamental aspects of scientific research. Projects within this program are directed towards increasing our understanding of the biology of traumatic injury at a genetic, molecular and cellular level, and to elucidate the fundamental cellular changes impacted by trauma with a goal of establishing translation to potential therapeutic strategies. Examples of projects in this program include: effects of resuscitation with blood component therapy on systemic inflammation after hemorrhagic shock, neuroinflammation of traumatic brain injury, effects of aeromedical evacuation on the severely injured, and detrimental effects of age on red blood cell function.

Training

The training program has projects that extend to both clinical and scientific training and serve to promote the excellence of trainees in the care of the acutely injured. Our partnership with the military as one of five National Military Medical Training Centers includes multiple venues:

• Cincinnati C-STARS/CCATT
  Trains the Critical Care Air Transport Teams (CCATT) of the USAF that are responsible for medical care of seriously injured soldiers during transport from the combat theater to Europe and the USA. CCATT teams consist of three medical providers (MD, RN, RT) and usually employ a fixed wing platform.

• Nurse Transition Program USAF
  The USAF Nursing Corps (NC) utilizes the clinical platform of inpatient care at UC Medical Center to provide the academic and clinical experience for USAF nurses transitioning to practice.

• Training of military and civilian medical personnel under simulated stressful conditions in order to hone their skills and reduce errors.

• A basic science research training program funded by the National Institutes of Health on the biology of trauma helps to develop future scientists in the field of trauma and acute injury.

Contact Information:

Betsy (Elizabeth) Rodarte Boiman
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Additional information about the UC Institute for Military Medicine can be viewed at [med.uc.edu/depart/surgery](http://med.uc.edu/depart/surgery).
The Division of Cardiac Surgery

The University of Cincinnati (UC) division of cardiac surgery leads the Tri-State region in the discovery and advancement of innovative treatment for patients with cardiac disease. A multidisciplinary team dedicated to heart failure and complex cardiac diseases has made UC a state-of-the-art referral center for both standard and complex cases.

The division performs the full spectrum of operative procedures in patients with cardiac and vascular diseases, including coronary revascularization, valve repair and replacement, aortic aneurysm repair, ventricular assist device implantation, and is the region’s only adult heart transplantation program. The division offers expertise in all-arterial and off-pump coronary revascularization, and repair of complex thoracic-aortic diseases. In addition, our surgeons perform complex minimally-invasive cardiac surgery including coronary artery bypass grafting and advanced endoscopic valve surgery. Last year, the Division welcomed Dr. Tommaso Hinna Danesi, who is one out of a dozen physicians in the world capable of performing an advanced endoscopic heart valve surgery which leads to faster recovery and reduces surgical time by 50%. He performed the first endoscopic triple valve replacement in the United States. The division has the region’s only comprehensive advanced heart failure program, which includes a comprehensive mechanical circulatory support program consisting of both short-term and long-term mechanical circulatory support
therapy for both acute and chronic heart failure as a bridge to transplantation or as destination therapy. For acute respiratory failure, UC has an integrated ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) program which benefits patients who would otherwise fail to survive conventional therapies. We have been recognized as “High Performing” in Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) and Heart Failure in the 2022-2023 U.S. News & World Report.

The division also offers a unique mobile ECMO program in which patients with cardiorespiratory failure can be placed on support at a referring hospital and transferred to the UC Medical Center. In conjunction with the Department of Anesthesia, Division of Anesthesia Critical Care, the division recently launched an E(ECMO) CPR program, in which patients suffering cardiac arrest are placed emergently on ECMO to improve outcomes in certain patients.

In conjunction with the division of cardiology, we offer a joint program in advanced endovascular therapies including transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and transcatheter mitral valve procedures.

Patients benefit from a true multidisciplinary approach to cardiovascular disease, combining surgical and medical expertise as well as the advanced technology and support services offered at UC Medical Center, leading to people not just living longer, but living better.

### Congenital Heart Surgery

Part of the UC department of surgery, the division of Congenital Heart Surgery at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center has a high profile as a world leader in the surgical management of cardiac problems in children, including newborn corrective operations, management of the entire spectrum of congenital and acquired cardiac problems in neonates, including management of complex single ventricle cardiac anomalies, and management of infants and children with severe heart failure which includes expertise in cardiac transplantation and ventricular assist device utilization. The division also performs lung transplantation and, in partnership with the solid organ transplant program, heart/kidney transplants and heart/liver transplants are performed in patients with multi-organ failure.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital has an active adult congenital heart disease program, caring for patients with congenital heart disease into and through adulthood with particular interests in aortic valve and aortic pathology (e.g., Supported Ross, valve sparing root surgery and aortic valve repair) and failing Fontan circulations.

In collaboration with the Aerodigestive Center at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, the division has the world’s most extensive experience with complex tracheal reconstruction in infants and children. Cincinnati Children’s consistently ranks among the nation’s best cardiology and heart surgery programs as measured by U.S. News & World Report Best Children’s Hospitals.

The division of pediatric cardiothoracic surgery maintains an active multi-investigator research lab. They presently have two RO-1 NIH grants. Research areas include: improved donor organ utilization for thoracic transplantation, novel anticoagulation and anti-inflammatory strategies for mechanical circulatory support, and prosthetic valve development. They also are leaders in the use of virtual reality for surgical planning of complex congenital repairs.

### Faculty

**Adult Cardiac Surgery Faculty:**

**Louis B. Louis IV, MD, FACS**  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
The Louis Buckberg Endowed Chair in Cardiac Surgery  
Director, Division of Cardiac Surgery

**Antonio Panza, MD**  
Professor of Surgery  
**Tommaso Hinna Danesi, MD**  
Associate Professor of Surgery
Congenital Heart Surgery Faculty:

Carl L. Backer, MD  
Professor of Surgery  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  
Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery, University of Kentucky

David G. Lehenbauer, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

David Morales, MD  
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics  
Co-Director of The Heart Institute  
Clarke-Helmsworth Chair of Congenital Heart Surgery  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

David S. Winlaw, MBBS, MD  
Professor of Surgery  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Farhan Zafar, MD  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Director, Thoracic Organ Procurement  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

The Division of Thoracic Surgery

The UC division of thoracic surgery is a leader in treating the entire spectrum of thoracic diseases including lung cancer, benign and malignant esophageal disorders, airway, mediastinal, diaphragmatic and chest wall disease. The division has the most extensive experience in minimally-invasive thoracic procedures in the Tri-State region, including video-assisted thoracoscopic (VATS) and robotic lobectomy, minimally-invasive esophagectomy and robot-assisted thoracic surgery for mediastinal tumors. We also utilize sophisticated interventions for complex airway and foregut disorders. We are the only center in the region to offer transoral incisionless fundoplication (TIF) which is a no-incision procedure to treat acid reflex.

Last year, the Division welcomed Hai Salfity, MD, MPH. Dr. Salfity completed her thoracic fellowship at Duke University and joined the Division of Thoracic Surgery in September of 2021. She has expertise in all aspects of thoracic oncology with a focus on minimally-invasive techniques, including robotic thoracic surgery, and complex foregut surgery.

The division specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, and performs a high volume of lung cancer surgery. Special attention is directed to patients who are at high risk for surgery due to underlying lung disease. The division offers a full range of lung cancer treatments from minor resections to highly complex thoracic operations. We have been recognized as “High Performing” in Lung Cancer Surgery in the 2022-2023 U.S. News & World Report. Dedicated lung cancer surgeons work in partnership with radiation oncologists, interventional pulmonologists, chest radiologists and medical oncologists to provide comprehensive lung cancer care to patients through the UC Cancer Center's Lung Cancer Center. Through UC Health, the team launched the first and only multidisciplinary lung cancer screening program for patients at increased risk for lung cancer in 2012. Lung cancer screening with low-dose CT scans has been shown to reduce lung cancer mortality by at least 20% in those at higher risk for lung cancer. We have three dedicated coordinators to navigate patients through the screening process, an integrated smoking cessation program, and we use the expertise of our multidisciplinary lung cancer team to provide individualized care for our patients while working closely with referring physicians. We perform over 2500 lung cancer screenings annually and were the first lung cancer screening program in the region to be recognized as a Screening Center of Excellence by the Lung Cancer Alliance.
The division offers expertise in the evaluation and treatment of esophageal cancer, with the most experienced esophageal surgeons in the region. The Esophageal Disease Center offers coordinated multidisciplinary care in which patients are seen by a team of esophageal cancer experts in one location, including thoracic surgery, surgical oncology, medical oncology, radiation oncology, gastroenterology, oncology dieticians, and social workers. We work with a multidisciplinary thoracic oncology team to treat uncommon complex tumors such as mesothelioma and thymic tumors.

The division continues to expand its expertise in research. The group collaborates with multiple departments in the UC College of Medicine and has active research projects in molecular predictors of lung cancer recurrence, lung cancer screening with low-dose CT scans, enhanced recovery pathway in thoracic surgery, as well as clinical trials in thoracic cancers.

Faculty

**Sandra L. Starnes, MD, FACS**  
Professor of Surgery  
John B. Flege, Jr. Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Chief, Section of Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Director, Division of Thoracic Surgery

Dr. Starnes specializes in general thoracic surgery with a focus on lung and esophageal cancer. She has a particular expertise in treating mediastinal tumors and focuses on minimally invasive approaches to thoracic surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

**Hai V. Salfity, MD, MPH**  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Salfity specializes in general thoracic surgery including minimally-invasive (thoroscopic and robotic) surgical management of benign and malignant disorders as well as the esophagus, lungs, airway, and mediastinum. She also has a specific focus on population and global health in expanding access and availability of care including implementing population screening for lung and esophageal carcinoma. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is board eligible for the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

**Robert Van Haren, MD, MSPH**  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Van Haren specializes in all aspects of general thoracic surgery including treatment of benign and malignant diseases of the esophagus, lungs, and airway. He has expertise in minimally-invasive approaches such as video-assisted thoracoscopy surgery (VATS) and robotic surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

**Julian Guitron, MD**  
Affiliate Associate Professor of Surgery

Additional information on the section of cardiothoracic surgery can be viewed at [med.uc.edu/depart/surgery](http://med.uc.edu/depart/surgery).
The Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Surgeons in the University of Cincinnati (UC) section of colon and rectal surgery treat benign, malignant, and inflammatory conditions of the colon, rectum, and anus. Patients with colorectal cancer and polyposis syndromes, inflammatory bowel disease, rectal prolapse and fecal incontinence, hemorrhoids and other benign anorectal disorders are seen at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center Medical Arts Building, UC Health Physician Offices in West Chester, and the Christ Hospital Medical Office Building.

Cutting-edge surgical techniques are offered at each of the hospitals where the colon and rectal surgeons work. Minimally invasive advanced laparoscopic, robotic, and transanal surgical procedures are available to patients with both benign and malignant diseases of the colon and rectum. Our surgeons have expertise in transanal minimally invasive surgery (TA-MIS) for large rectal polyps and early rectal cancers. Robotic surgery, which allows superior visualization of pelvic anatomy and fine dissection in the pelvis, is also offered. These minimally invasive approaches are associated with less discomfort and a quicker return to normal activity than with traditional surgical approaches and are appropriate for patients with a wide range of diseases. We are the region’s referral center for the most complex cases of colorectal cancer and inflammatory bowel diseases.

Colorectal cancer patients are treated in collaboration with medical oncology, radiation oncology, and the hepatobiliary surgeons from the UC Cancer Institute. These patients benefit from coordination of care across specialties. Our multidisciplinary efforts to treat rectal cancer include a tumor board and clinical trials at UC Medical Center. Though we have the necessary surgical expertise to treat the most complex cases of rectal cancer, our multidisciplinary team offers a “watch and wait” approach to selected patients with rectal cancer after chemotherapy and radiation, allowing some patients to avoid surgery completely.

Patients with Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis benefit from the region’s only multidisciplinary inflammatory bowel disease center: a collaboration between colon and rectal surgeons, gastroenterologists, radiologists, pathologists, and nurse navigators to select the best individual treatment for each patient with Crohn’s or Colitis.
Patients undergoing elective abdominal operations for benign or malignant disease are placed on an “enhanced recovery pathway.” This approach has many elements that are all designed to accelerate recovery following major abdominal surgery, providing patients with the ability to return to their normal level of functioning at a much quicker rate than what has previously been achieved. Specifically, use of non-opioid pain medications decreases the incidence of adverse effects experienced with conventional opioids, such as slowed bowel function and narcotic abuse and dependence. The results of this pathway have been dramatic, with significant decreases in length of hospital stay and increases in patient satisfaction scores.

The team is one of only a few groups of colorectal surgeons in the Tristate area offering the Interstim device for the treatment of fecal incontinence.

We have two WOCN (Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing) certified nurse practitioners in our office, allowing us to take care of the most complex patients with wound and ostomy needs at all three of our locations.

Academic pursuits of our colorectal surgeons include clinical trials, novel surgical techniques, and innovative treatments for many colorectal disorders. UC colorectal research outcomes have been presented at national and international meetings.

Dr. Paquette is associate editor for the journal *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum* and was awarded the Victor Fazio Award in 2019 as the top editorial board member. He is also on the editorial board of *Annals of Surgery*. He is an examiner for the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery and serves as the Chair for the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee. He has served on 32 national and international committees for colon and rectal surgery and authored >100 peer reviewed manuscripts.

Dr. Snyder is a reviewer for the journal *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum* and serves on the Peer Review Committee for West Chester Hospital.

Dr. Thompson serves on the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons’ Public Relations Committee, the UC Medical Center, and The Christ Hospital (TCH) Robotic Surgery Committees, TCH Provider Enhancement Committee, and as co-chair of TCH General and Colorectal Surgery Quality and Performance Enhancement Committee. He was recently named Surgical Director of Anal Dysplasia Screening at UC Medical Center.

Dr. Justiniano serves on the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons’ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. She is also part of the Selected Abstracts Committee of the *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum* journal for which she also serves as a reviewer.

**Faculty**

**Ian M. Paquette, MD, FACS, FASCRS**  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Interim Chief, Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Paquette specializes in the surgical treatment of colon and rectal cancer, complex inflammatory bowel diseases such as Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, diverticulitis, and benign anorectal disease, with a special focus on laparoscopic colon surgery for benign and malignant conditions. He primarily operates at UC Medical Center and has a referral base of complex and re-operative surgical patients. He is a high volume surgeon in advanced inflammatory bowel disease surgery including J-Pouch surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.
Jonathan R. Snyder, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Snyder specializes in benign and malignant colorectal disease, providing surgical care for patients with abdominal colorectal disease as well as anorectal disease. He has a particular focus on minimally invasive abdominal surgery – through both laparoscopic and robotic approaches. He also places Interstim device (sacral nerve stimulation) for the treatment of fecal incontinence in select patients. Dr. Snyder operates primarily at the West Chester Hospital. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

Earl V. “Tommy” Thompson, MD, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Thompson specializes in the treatment of all benign and malignant conditions of the colon, rectum, and anus, with a special interest in pelvic surgery. He is also Surgical Director of Anal Dysplasia Screening at UC Medical Center. Dr. Thompson practices at The Christ Hospital and West Chester Hospital. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

Carla F. Justiniano, MD, MPH
Instructor of Surgery

Dr. Justiniano specializes in the treatment of malignant and benign colorectal diseases as well as anorectal diseases. She has a particular interest in robotic surgery, complex re-operative surgery with both open and minimally invasive approaches, and J-pouch surgery. She operates primarily at UC Medical Center. She joined the group at UC in 2022 after completing training at the Cleveland Clinic.

Sara Pulskamp MSN, FNP, CWOCN

Sara is a family nurse practitioner who is also a certified wound ostomy and continence nurse. She is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society. She assists in the management of preoperative and postoperative care of colorectal surgery patients, ostomies, pelvic floor dysfunction and sacral nerve stimulation. She practices at The Christ Hospital and West Chester Hospital.

Katelyn Riebesehl DNP, CWON

Kate is a Family Nurse Practitioner with specialization in the care of wound, ostomy, and continence patients, particularly those who need assistance with bowel management. She is certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center and the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society. Kate practices at West Chester Hospital, and UC Medical center.

More information about the section of colon and rectal surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The Section of General Surgery

The Section of General Surgery includes the divisions of UC Medical Center (UCMC) general surgery, UCMC trauma surgery, UCMC acute care surgery, UCMC surgical critical care, West Chester Hospital (WCH) trauma and acute care surgery, WCH general and bariatric surgery, and trauma and critical care surgery research. The members of our section are dedicated to saving lives through compassionate care, quality education, and leading innovation.

University of Cincinnati Medical Center General Surgery

UC Health surgeons are at the forefront of advancing state-of-the-art care for general surgery conditions. The team offers care of routine and complex general surgery and bariatric conditions as well as minimally invasive surgical approaches for gastrointestinal surgical disorders. Our surgeons performed more than 2,200 major elective and urgent general surgery operations during the past year.

Our team specializes in the surgical management of a wide variety of disorders including the broad discipline of general surgery, swallowing disorders such as achalasia, gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), gastroparesis, and paraesophageal hernias; gallstones and gallbladder disease; abdominal wall hernias, inguinal hernias, and abdominal wall reconstruction; enterocutaneous fistula; diseases of the spleen; acute pancreatitis; diverticulitis and other colon conditions; and diseases of the adrenal gland.

Our faculty surgeons offer expertise in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery as well as the full range of procedures for treatment of morbid obesity. In addition, robotic-assisted operations are performed for several gastrointestinal disorders. We are the only group in the Tri-State region that is performing POEM (per-oral endoscopic myotomy) for achalasia, POP (per-oral endoscopic pyloroplasty) for gastroparesis, and Z-POEM for the management of Zenker’s diverticulum. Patients are often referred to our practice by other surgeons for treatment of very complex conditions.
West Chester Hospital General and Bariatric Surgery

Our Bariatric Surgery program, in partnership with the UC Health Weight Loss Center and TRIMS, the Transplant-Related Interdisciplinary Metabolic Surgery Program, now offers weight loss solutions at both the West Chester Hospital and the University of Cincinnati Medical Center campuses. The West Chester location is recognized for excellence by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP), a joint program of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMB). Our surgeons have performed thousands of successful laparoscopic weight loss operations since its inception. Further information on our surgical weight loss program can be found by visiting http://uchealth.com/weightloss.

General surgery patients are seen at the UC Health Physicians Office Clifton and UC Health Physicians Office North in West Chester.

West Chester Hospital Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

UC Health Surgeons offer emergency care for trauma and general surgery patients at West Chester Hospital, bringing the highest level of surgical care to the Northern Cincinnati region. The West Chester trauma center opened in 2014 and earned formal verification as a Level III trauma center from the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma in 2015. In conjunction with our partners in Emergency Medicine, more than 1200 trauma patients were cared for over the past year. The acute care surgery program at WCH continues to grow and provided care for more than 1,400 emergency surgery patients last year. Expert general and trauma surgeons are available for immediate consultation in the WCH emergency department, ICU, and inpatient floors at all times.

University of Cincinnati Medical Center Acute Care Surgery

The UCMC Acute Care Surgery team is focused on providing outstanding care to patients with general surgery emergencies including diverticulitis, intestinal obstruction or perforation, appendicitis, cholecystitis, pancreatitis, intestinal bleeding, incarcerated hernias, and necrotizing soft tissue infections. Our surgical team is immediately available to provide consultation and expert surgical care around the clock. We also provide tertiary and quaternary general surgery emergency care in consultation with referring surgeons from throughout the Tri-State region through our transfer referral center (513-584-BEDS).

Jonathan R. Thompson, MD, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Medical Director of Bariatric Surgery

Jason J. Schrager, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director of UCMC Acute Care Surgery

Ryan Earnest, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director of WCH Trauma and Acute Care Surgery
University of Cincinnati Medical Center Trauma Surgery

UC Medical Center (UCMC) serves as the Tri-State region’s only ACS-verified adult Level I Trauma Center. Our trauma center has been in continuous operation for over 25 years and provides the highest level of care for injured patients for the region and beyond. During the past year, the trauma team was activated more than 4,800 times to evaluate and care for patients at UCMC. The highest level of trauma activation is a Trauma STAT. Upon arrival, critically injured Trauma STAT patients are met by the fully assembled trauma team, including physicians from emergency medicine and trauma surgery, specially trained shock resuscitation nurses, respiratory therapists, and physicians and nurses from the operating room and surgical intensive care unit. Immediate consultation is available from a full spectrum of experts including neurosurgeons, orthopedic surgeons, neurointensivists, spine surgeons, facial trauma specialists, and anesthesiologists.

The resuscitation and care of trauma patients is led by our trauma surgeons. We are also available at all times for trauma care consultation with referring providers from throughout the Tri-State region through our transfer referral center (513-584-BEDS). The UCMC trauma and emergency medicine team’s excellence was recognized by the first-ever “Heroes in Action Award” by the Cincinnati Business Courier in 2019.

An important component of our Level I trauma center is community education and outreach. We provide ongoing trauma prevention programs in the areas of motor vehicle crashes, older adult falls, and gun violence prevention, as well as an active EMS education program including lectures and rounding. More information is available at [http://uchealth.com/trauma/injury-prevention/](http://uchealth.com/trauma/injury-prevention/).

In conjunction with the American College of Surgeons, the White House, DOD, the FBI, and FEMA, we are proud to offer Stop the Bleed courses for medical and nonmedical personnel in the Tri-State region. This is a national initiative to teach the public life-saving bleeding control techniques to aid individuals in a variety of situations. More information is available at [http://uchealth.com/trauma/injury-prevention/](http://uchealth.com/trauma/injury-prevention/) and [http://www.bleedingcontrol.org/](http://www.bleedingcontrol.org/).
The UCMC Surgical Intensive Care Unit cares for more than 2,000 patients yearly from all surgical specialties including trauma, general surgery, transplantation, surgical oncology, vascular surgery, urology, thoracic surgery, and obstetrics/gynecology. Daily multidisciplinary rounds are highly collaborative in nature, with input and discussion from all team members including critical care nurses, respiratory therapists, critical care pharmacists, and resident physicians. Subspecialty services such as nephrology, infectious disease, rehabilitation medicine, cardiology, and hematology are available for consultative assistance. Additional clinical support services in the SICU include nutrition services, nurse educators, and a dedicated SICU social worker.

We offer advanced training in surgical critical care. Our one- or two-year ACGME accredited Surgical Critical Care Fellowship accepts two candidates yearly and provides training that encompasses all aspects of care of the critically ill surgical patient. Our fellowship emphasizes cardiopulmonary mechanics, principles of resuscitation, and mechanical ventilation. Our graduates have gone on to leadership positions in the areas of trauma and critical care throughout the country.

General Surgery Research

Our research programs focus on the concept that early intervention after injury leads to improved patient outcomes. Our extensive research portfolio includes projects in basic science, translational science, outcomes research, education and simulation, device design and implementation, and clinical trials. The division currently oversees more than 20 active extramural research grants, with funding from the NIH, DOD, and industry. We have strong collaborative ties with several key partners including emergency medicine, neurosurgery, the UC College of Pharmacy, Hoxworth Blood Center, the UC College of Engineering, Northwestern University, and the University of North Carolina.

C-STARS Cincinnati

The section of general surgery and UC Health are proud to host one of six national military medical trauma training centers. UC Medical Center serves as the site of the United States Air Force Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills (CSTARS). Cincinnati CSTARS is home to the Critical Care Air Transport Team (CCATT) advanced validation center. The Cincinnati CSTARS CCATT advanced course is attended by members of the USAF’s elite CCATT teams. These military medical personnel are responsible for the medical care and evacuation of the sickest casualties across the globe.

The USAF CSTARS center serves as home base more than 20 active duty Air Force military personnel who serve as instructors and support personnel for CCATT training. Three active duty Air Force trauma surgeons participate as fully integrated partners of the section of general surgery as a part of their assigned duties at Cincinnati CSTARS.
Faculty

**Krishna P. Athota, MD, FACS**
Associate Professor of Surgery
Associate Director, UCMC Surgical ICU
Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program

Dr. Athota specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in gallstones and biliary disease, complex GI surgery, hernia, and diverticular disease of the colon. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

**Richard D. Branson, RRT, MS, MBA**
Professor of Surgery Emeritus
Director Emeritus, Clinical Research

Mr. Branson specializes in mechanical ventilation of the patient with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), mechanical ventilation during transport, humidification of inspired gases, and evaluation of new mechanical ventilator technology.

**Jennifer S. Colvin, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Colvin specializes in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery. She has additional expertise and training in care of patients with GERD or paraesophageal hernias, as well as surgical weight loss. Her primary practice sites are West Chester Hospital and UC Medical Center. She is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

**Ryan Earnest, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Lieutenant Colonel, USAF MC CSTARS Cincinnati
Director, WCH Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

Dr. Earnest specializes in general surgery, with special interests in general surgery, trauma surgery, and surgical critical care. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

**Lane L. Frasier, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Frasier specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in trauma surgery, surgical critical care, and team dynamics. She is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

**Michael D. Goodman, MD, FACS**
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, General Surgery Research
Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program

Dr. Goodman specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in complex gastrointestinal surgery, enterocutaneous fistulas, and abdominal wall reconstruction. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

**Kevin Grimes, MD, FACS**
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Department of Surgery Student Education

Dr. Grimes specializes in minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery. He has additional expertise and training in care of patients with GERD or paraesophageal hernias, as well as POEM for achalasia, POP for gastroparesis, and Z-POEM for Zenker’s diverticulum. His primary practice sites are UC Medical Center and West Chester Hospital. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

**Jana Hambley, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Hambley specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in trauma surgery and surgical critical care. She is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery with a certificate of added qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.
Christopher F. Janowak, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Janowak specializes in general surgery, trauma surgery, and surgical critical care. He has a special interest and expertise in the surgical management of rib fractures. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Bobby J. (BJ) Johnson, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Johnson specializes in minimally invasive bariatric and general surgery. His primary practice sites are UC Medical Center West Chester Hospital. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

Amy T. Makley, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, UCMC Trauma Surgery
Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program

Dr. Makley specializes in general surgery and acute care surgery, with special interests in diverticular disease of the colon, hernias, and ostomy closure. She is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Jay Nathwani, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Nathwani specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in trauma surgery and surgical critical care. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD, FACS
Professor of Surgery
Director, Section of General Surgery
Vice Chair of Compensation Committee

Dr. Pritts specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in gallbladder and biliary disease, hernia repair, and abdominal wall reconstruction. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Valerie Sams, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Colonel, USAF MC

Dr. Sams specializes in general surgery, trauma surgery, ECMO, and military medical education. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Jason J. Schrager, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, UCMC Acute Care Surgery

Dr. Schrager specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in gallbladder disease, ostomy closure, and abdominal wall reconstruction. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Aaron Seitz, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Seitz specializes in general and acute care surgery, with special interests in trauma surgery and surgical critical care. He is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.
Richard J. Strilka, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Colonel, USAF MC
Director, CSTARS Cincinnati

Dr. Strilka specializes in general surgery, trauma surgery, and military medical education. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care. Dr. Strilka is the Director of CSTARS-Cincinnati.

Jonathan R. Thompson, MD, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Medical Director of Bariatric Surgery

Dr. Thompson specializes in general surgery, with special interest and expertise in bariatric surgery and advanced laparoscopy. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a member of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

Betty J. Tsuei, MD, FACS, FCCM
Professor of Surgery
Director, UCMC Surgical Critical Care

Dr. Tsuei specializes in trauma and surgical critical care and the care of injured and critically ill adult patients, with interests in ARDS, sepsis, multi-system organ failure, ventilator mechanics, and surgical education. She is certified in general surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Christina P. Williams, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Williams specializes in general surgery, with special interest and expertise in critical care medicine, acute care surgery, and global surgery. She is certified in surgery by the American Board of Surgery.

Advanced Practice Providers
Ashley Agnew, CNP
Olivia Gordon, CNP
Emily Kelly, CNP
Amber Lanich, CNP
Elizabeth Linz, CNP
Ashley Martin, CNP
Chandra Rhodes, CNP
Nicholas Rittle, PA-C
Jessica Straus, CNP
Sara Tompkins, CNP
Caleb Von Lehman, CNP
Shaleen Williams, CNP
The Division of General Surgery Research

The Department of Surgery at the University of Cincinnati (UC) has a long and distinguished history of surgical research that is recognized nationally and internationally. Premier surgeon-scientists and postdoctoral researchers are drawn to the UC Department of Surgery to pursue innovative and exciting research in state-of-the-art laboratories, with a focus on applying the discoveries made in the laboratory directly to the bedside for the advancement of patient care. Clinical trials not available elsewhere are also offered for a variety of surgical diseases, giving hope to patients with critical illness who were once considered untreatable.

The research mission is to generate new knowledge of the scientific basis of surgically-related disease and to provide outstanding scientific training for the surgeons and surgeon-scientists of the future. The primary objectives are: 1) to be on the cutting edge of surgical research; 2) to help develop new applications to clinical care; and 3) to provide outstanding research training for surgical residents and surgeon-scientists.

The Department of Surgery occupies 12,000 square feet of state-of-the-art research laboratories in the Surgical Research Unit, the Cardiovascular Center, and the Medical Sciences Building. Additional research space is utilized at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.
One of the primary research strengths of the section is in the field of injury biology. Our multidisciplinary team investigates the molecular and cellular mechanisms by which insults such as trauma and infection can lead to multiple organ failure and death. This group is comprised of both basic scientists and surgeon-scientists, thereby providing a comprehensive approach to scientific problems that have clinical significance. These investigators have multiple federally-funded research projects, including molecular mechanisms of hemorrhagic shock and the impact of novel resuscitation strategies, coagulation after traumatic brain injury, and alterations in immune function leading to chronic critical illness. Additionally, the Surgical Research Unit houses the Surgical Immune Monitoring Laboratory. The mission of this laboratory is to provide comprehensive immune monitoring 1) to associate clinical outcomes with immune metrics and 2) for personalized testing of potential immune modulating therapies. Currently, the laboratory conducts immune monitoring with colleagues from General Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Surgical Oncology, and Burn Surgery.

UC Institute for Military Medicine

Leveraging our unique expertise in injury biology, members of the division and their clinical colleagues in the division of trauma and critical care, as well as members of other UC departments, have partnered with various branches of the United States military to form the UC Institute for Military Medicine.

The mission of the Institute is to discover the scientific basis of severe injury and then utilize this knowledge in the care of combat casualties. Current research projects are centered on determining how combat-related traumatic injury can lead to changes at the cellular and molecular levels that contribute to increased rates of infection in multiple organ failure and death. These projects are funded by the Department of Defense, United States Air Force, Office of Naval Research, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Research Training

An important part of the research mission of the Department of Surgery is the training of surgical residents and medical students from the UC College of Medicine, as well as visiting students and fellows from other national and international universities. Many of our surgical residents pursue a mentored 2- or 3-year research elective in the laboratory of one of our investigators or surgeon-scientists.

These research fellowships are supported by a T32 training grant from the National Institutes of Health as well as by individual grants from the NIH and various prestigious surgical organizations including the American College of Surgeons, the Society of University Surgeons, the Shock Society, Surgical Infection Society, and others. Surgical research conducted by surgical residents and other research fellows is highlighted by many platform and poster presentations at annual national meetings of the American College of Surgeons, the Association for Academic Surgery, the Society of University Surgeons, the Society for Surgical Oncology, the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, Shock Society, the American Heart Association, American Association for Cancer Research and the American Gastroenterology Association, among others, as well as numerous prestigious basic science conferences such as the Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology.

Research within the department and related disciplines is showcased at the weekly Surgical Research conferences as well as at Surgical Grand Rounds.

Residents in the Laboratory 2021-2022

Allison M. Ammann, MD (Mentor: Basillia Zingarelli, MD, PhD)
M. Ryan Baucom, MD (Mentor: Michael Goodman, MD)
Aaron M. Delman, MD (Mentor: Shimul Shah, MD)
Zishaan A. Farooqui, MD, PhD (Mentor: Takanori Takebe, MD, PhD)
Mordechai G. Sadowsky, MD (Mentor: William Petraiuolo, MD)
Emily J. Schepers, MD (Mentor: Alex Bondoc, MD)
Dhavan N. Shah, MD (Mentors: David Bentrem, MD & Hidayatullah Munshi, MD)
Stephanie Sisak, MD (Mentor: Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD)
Kevin M. Turner, MD (Mentor: Jun-Lin Guan, PhD)
Dennis M. Vaysburg, MD (Mentor: Vanessa Nomellini, PhD)
Taylor E. Wallen, MD (Mentor: Michael Goodman, MD)
2022 Resident Research Competition Awards

Department of Surgery Resident Research Awards for research presentations given at Surgical Grand Rounds on May 25, 2022.

**Basic Science:**

**Finalists include:**
1. Allison M. Ammann, MD
2. Zishaan A. Farooqui, MD, PhD
3. Emily J. Schepers, MD
4. Taylor E. Wallen, MD

**Winner: Allison M. Ammann, MD:** “Administration of the Humanin Analogue, Humanin-G, Decreases Lung Inflammation in Aging Male and Female Mice in Ampkα1-Dependent Manner”

**Clinical Section:**

**Finalists include:**
1. Aaron M. Delman, MD
2. M. Ryan Baucom, MD
3. Dennis M. Vaysburg, MD
4. Taylor E. Wallen, MD

**Winner: Aaron M. Delman, MD:** “The Kidney Transplant Equity Index: Improving Racial and Ethnic Minority Access to Transplantation”

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**Other Resident Research Awards 2021-2022**

**M. Ryan Baucom, MD**

Winner of the clinical trauma paper competition and runner-up for the basic science trauma paper competition of the Ohio ACS Committee on Trauma.

**Kevin M. Turner, MD**

Winner of the 2022 SSO/ACPMP (Society of Surgical Oncology/Appendix Cancer Pseudomyxoma Peritonei Research Foundation) Travel Award.

**Taylor E. Wallen, MD**

Received the Raymond H. Alexander, MD Resident Paper Competition Award for the best basic science research presentation at the Annual Scientific Assembly of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma.

Winner of the 44th Annual Conference on Shock Travel Award.

2nd place, Resident Research Competition, Ohio ACS 2021.
1st place, Committee on Trauma Ohio ACS Basic Science Research Competition 2022.

2nd place, Committee on Trauma Ohio ACS Clinical Outcomes Research Competition 2022.
Full-Time Research Faculty

Alex B. Lentsch, PhD
Professor
BS – Biological Sciences, Northern Kentucky University
PhD – Physiology and Biophysics, University of Louisville
Postdoctoral Training – Immunopathology, University of Michigan
Research Interests – Inflammation, ischemia/reperfusion injury, hemorrhagic shock, sepsis

Charles C. Caldwell, PhD
Professor
BA – Chemistry, University of California, San Diego
PhD – Biochemistry, San Diego State University
Postdoctoral Training – Immunology, Laboratory of Immunology, NIAID, NIH
Research Interests – Host immune response to sepsis and trauma injury

Michael D. Goodman, MD
Associate Professor
BS – Biology, Duke University
MD – University of Cincinnati
Fellowship – University of Texas Health Science Center
Research Interests – Traumatic brain injury, shock, hemorrhage, and endotheliopathy

Erich Gulbins, MD, PhD
Professor
Chair and Director, Department of Molecular Biology, University of Essen, Germany
MD and PhD – University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
Postdoctoral Training – Immunology, La Jolla Institute of Allergy and Immunology
Research Interests – Sphingolipids in surgical pathology

Sameer H. Patel, MD
Associate Professor
BS – Emory University
MD, Emory University
Fellowship – UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
Research Interests – Pancreas, hepatobiliary, gastrointestinal, and soft tissue malignancies

Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD
Professor
BS – Illinois Wesleyan University
MD – Northwestern University
Ph.D. – University of Cincinnati
Research Interests – Storage of the red blood cell lesion, resuscitation, and the inflammatory response to hemorrhage

Gregory C. Wilson, MD
Assistant Professor
BS – University of Dayton
MD – University of Louisville
Fellowship – University of Pittsburgh
Research Interests – Pancreatic cancer

Additional information on the section of general surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
IN MEMORIAM

Chief Master Sergeant Dario Rodriguez Jr, MSc, RRT, RPFT, FAARC, adjunct associate professor of surgery and director of clinical research for trauma and critical care in the Department of Surgery, passed away on Sunday, March 13, 2022, after a long and courageous bout with cancer.

Dario became one of the first members of the USAF’s elite Critical Care Transport Teams and developed clinical protocols and educational programs for training these groups. After serving as division manager of medical services at Eglin Air Force Base, he was assigned to the Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills–Cincinnati (CSTARS) as the group’s first respiratory therapist. He served as superintendent of CSTARS for three years, greatly influencing the program and the requirements for certifying caregivers for flight readiness. He subsequently was the program director for respiratory care for the USAF School of Health Sciences, consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General’s office, and the chief operations officer at Wright Patterson Medical Center.

During his 30 years of service, Dario was awarded a number of Citations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak leaf Clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Star and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. He deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan as well as in support of the evacuations following Hurricane Katrina. Dario retired as chief master sergeant in 2013 and joined the United States Air Force Research Laboratory in a civilian capacity as senior research health science officer for the Airman Biosciences Division, 711th Human Performance Wing, and lead for en route care research. Chief Rodriguez served a vital role within the department of surgery, leading efforts related to en route care and ventilator research. In these positions, he performed extensive medical device research, development, and evaluation.

An ardent advocate for improving care of the wounded warfighter, he was the PI or Co-PI of 15 major research grants and authored more than 50 publications. He was elected a Fellow of the American Respiratory Care Foundation in 2012.

Dario was predeceased by his daughter, Amanda. He is survived by his wife, Christine, son Steven, and three grandchildren.

Chief Rodriguez was interred with full military honors at Dallas National Cemetery.

“We are deeply saddened by the loss of CMSgt Dario Rodriguez, Jr. Dario was a great person, savant of all things related to en route care, and ardent advocate for improving care for our wounded warriors. He was part of our group, in one role or another, for the past 16 years. We will miss him dearly.”

– Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD
The section of oral and maxillofacial surgery is a center for evaluation, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases, disorders and conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area, and the adjacent and associated structures. Of late, the demands from the community have encouraged the section to provide oral healthcare beyond surgical services.

Through UC Health, the section offers services that include correction of dental facial deformities, treatment of maxillofacial pathology, as well as comprehensive care for maxillofacial trauma victims. The section’s practice at the UC Health Physicians Office in Clifton, West Chester and UC Health Holmes Hospital treats patients with dental facial deformities, trauma, dental implant needs, reconstructive jaw surgery, temporomandibular joint (TMJ) surgery, impacted teeth, and head and neck tumors. Pediatric maxillofacial surgical services are provided through Cincinnati Children’s hospital. The service also treats patients at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Cincinnati.

The section has expanded their services to include the management of oro-facial pain, non-surgical management of TMJ disorders, dental devices for sleep apnea, and maxillofacial prosthetics and anaplastology.

In an effort to increase the footprint of UC oral and maxillofacial surgery in our community, our surgeons have recently started seeing patients in our new Rookwood location in the Norwood/Hyde Park area.

All locations contain surgical suites equipped with ambulatory anesthesia services and the latest in-office digital imaging capabilities.
History of the OMS Residency Training Program

The Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery residency program has been in existence since 1913-14. John R. Callahan (1853 – 1918), who was a pioneer in the field of dentistry and particularly dental research in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, is credited with the founding of the program.

The training program first gained accreditation in 1957 by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association (ADA). Our program is the leading source for Oral & Maxillofacial education and patient care in the greater Cincinnati area.

Research

We are currently engaged in studying the following clinical and social impact areas:

- Use of Buffered Lidocaine in Mandibular and Maxillary Extractions
- Use of Buffered Lidocaine in the Setting of Odontogenic Infections
- Incidence of Medication Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ) in Young Adult and Pediatric Populations
- Demographics and Mortality in Patients who have Received Full Mouth Extractions
- Quality of Life Scoring in Patients who have Received Full Mouth Extractions
- Determining if Deep Space Neck Infection (DSNI) Outcomes Can Be Associated with Temporal Immune Assays
- Proposing a Mathematical Model for Intraoperative Temperature Trends in Orthognathic Surgery
- Incidence of Difficult Sedations with Propofol in Patients with Diagnosed Mental Health Disorders
- The Burden of Cost Placed on Patients Seeking Care for Facial Trauma

Grants


Recent Publications

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery faculty and residents had at least 12 publications during the past year including these peer-reviewed journal articles:


Faculty

Deepak G. Krishnan, DDS, FACS
Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery
Chief, Section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. Krishnan specializes in surgical correction of facial deformities, surgery of temporomandibular joint, facial trauma, pediatric maxillofacial surgery, oral and maxillofacial implantology, benign maxillofacial pathology and reconstructive surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Krishnan serves in several prominent roles in multiple national and international professional organizations.

Michael J. Grau, Jr., DMD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery
Director, Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. Grau, a Cincinnati native, is a recent addition to University of Cincinnati Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. He received his Doctorate of Dental Medicine from the University of Louisville after completion of undergraduate studies at Ohio University. A Board certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Dr. Grau received his advanced training in OMS at the University of Cincinnati. Following residency, Dr. Grau served eight years of active duty in the United States Navy, achieving the rank of Commander before receiving an Honorable discharge. While on active duty, he served in diverse roles including department head aboard USS George Washington CVN-73 and Assistant Residency Program Director of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Dr. Grau enjoys practicing a broad scope of OMS with a special interest in implantology, trauma and reconstruction.

Hether Khosa, DDS
Clinical Instructor

Dr. Khosa joined our faculty following her training at University of Maryland’s Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residency program and the Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. She has a particular interest in management of facial trauma and brings skills such as TMJ arthroscopy and complex dental implant surgery.

James A. Phero, Jr., DDS, MD
Assistant Professor

A Cincinnati native, Dr. Phero returns home after spending the last 10 years in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he attended Dental and Medical Schools at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and obtained his OMS training focused on orthognathic surgery, TMJ surgery and management of benign maxillofacial pathology. Dr. Phero is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
Gary S. Robins, DMD
Volunteer Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Robins is a highly accomplished provider in the diagnosis and management of orofacial pain, temporomandibular disorders (TMD) and dental sleep medicine. He has been affiliated with the department since 1981. Dr. Robins also has appointments with the Headache and Facial Pain Program within the UC Neuroscience Institute. Dr. Robins’ practice is limited to the management of patients who have oro-facial pain and TMD, but he also works with Sleep Physicians (since 1996) who diagnose obstructive sleep apnea and has made over 1,000 oral sleep appliances since that time for patients who have difficulty with or do not want to use a CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machine.

Mi Young Kim, DMD, CDT
Clinical Instructor – Oral and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics and Anaplastology

Dr. Kim is the latest member of the OMS team. She obtained her dental degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she then pursued residency training in Prosthodontics followed by a fellowship in Maxillofacial Prosthodontics. Her services will be utilized in OMS, ENT, and Plastic Surgery to help rehabilitate patients following trauma and resections for head and neck pathology with prosthetic facial features and teeth.

Volunteer Faculty:
Jimmie Harper, DDS
Randall Stastny, DMD

Emeriti Faculty:
Robert Horton, DDS
Robert D. Marciani, DMD

Additional information on the section of oral and maxillofacial surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery
The Affiliate Section of Pediatric Surgery

The University of Cincinnati affiliate section of pediatric surgery offers innovative treatment for childhood and adolescent injuries and diseases, including bariatric surgery, chest wall deformities, colorectal surgery, complex esophageal procedures, in-utero fetal procedures, solid organ and small-bowel transplants and total pancreatectomy and islet auto-transplantation. Faculty in the affiliate section of pediatric surgery see patients at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC), a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the treatment and research of pediatric and adolescent diseases. The institution draws patients from all 50 states and over 40 countries each year and is the only Level I pediatric trauma center in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeastern Indiana.

Minimally invasive surgery is routinely performed and includes procedures for congenital anomalies, Hirschsprung’s disease, imperforate anus, inflammatory bowel disease, anti-reflux surgery, and lung resections.

The CCHMC colorectal program was one of the first centers established in the country focused on pediatric colorectal disease attracting national and international referrals. With a focus on imperforate anus, inflammatory bowel disease and motility disorders along with bowel management, they remain one of the busiest programs in the country.

The CCHMC Fetal program recently established a maternal delivery unit at CCHMC, making it one of the few programs in the country with this service line in a freestanding children’s hospital. The in-utero procedures offered include fetoscopic tracheal occlusion, myelomeningocele repair, EXIT procedures, and lung and tumor resections.
The CCHMC Solid Organ Transplant program is recognized as one of the premier pediatric liver and kidney transplant programs in the world, having transplanted over 750 and 700 liver and kidney transplant recipients, respectively.

The CCHMC Comprehensive Weight Management Program provides clinical evaluation of significantly overweight children, emphasizing behavioral approaches to modify eating habits and physical activities. The Bariatric Surgery Center provides minimally invasive and open surgical options to achieve weight loss in severely obese adolescents who have been unsuccessful with other approaches.

The CCHMC Chest Wall Deformity Center of Cincinnati provides clinical evaluation of children and adults, as well as minimally invasive surgery (Nuss procedure) for pectus ex-cavatum patients. Cincinnati Children’s Hospital is one of the leading hospitals in the country to offer a non-surgical method to correct pectus carinatum.

The affiliate section of pediatric surgery continues to draw research funding from both intramural and extramural agencies. Several state and local grants fund injury prevention and trauma research programs. The annual extramural research funding for the section exceeds $2 million per year, with six investigators receiving NIH funding.

These unique capabilities have made the Pediatric Surgery Residency Training Program one of the top programs in North America for pediatric surgeons.

**Faculty**

**Daniel von Allmen, MD, FACS**  
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics  
Lester Martin Chair of Pediatric Surgery  
Surgeon-in-Chief, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center  
Dr. von Allmen specializes in pediatric surgical oncology, pediatric inflammatory bowel disease, surgical innovation, surgical robotics, and quality improvement. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

**Gregory M. Tiao, MD, FACS**  
Professor of Surgery  
Frederick C. Ryckman Chair of Pediatric Surgery  
Division Director, Pediatric General & Thoracic Surgery  
Surgical Director, Pediatric Liver and Intestine Transplantation Program  
Associate Director, Pediatric Surgery Fellowship  
Dr. Tiao specializes in liver, kidney and small bowel transplantation, hepatic-based malignancies, hepatobiliary disease with a focus on biliary atresia, and neonatal surgery. His NIH-funded laboratory investigates the mechanisms of biliary atresia formation. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery and the American Society of Transplant Surgery.

**Alex Bondoc, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Surgical Director, Pediatric Renal Transplantation Program  
Dr. Bondoc specializes in liver, kidney and small bowel transplantation, hepatobiliary surgery, and minimally invasive surgery. His research effort is focused on the pathophysiology of hepatoblastoma. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery and the American Society of Transplant Surgery.

**Rebeccah L. Brown, MD**  
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics  
Associate Director, Pediatric Trauma Service  
Dr. Brown specializes in general pediatric surgery, trauma, injury prevention, chest wall deformities and minimally invasive surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

**A. Roshni Dasgupta, MD**  
Professor of Surgery  
Associate Division Director, Pediatric & Thoracic Surgery  
Surgical Director, Vascular Malformations Center  
Director, Vascular malformations and Oncology Subspecialty Fellowship  
Dr. Dasgupta specializes in pediatric surgical oncology, hemangiomas and vascular malformations, and NSQIP quality improvement. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

**Aaron P. Garrison, MD**  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Fellowship Director, Pediatric Surgery Residency Program  
Dr. Garrison specializes in pediatric colorectal, foregut and chest wall disease. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.
Juan Gurria, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship

Dr. Gurria specializes in pediatric trauma, chest wall deformities, pancreatic disease and general pediatric surgery. He also has a special focus in critical care and clinical outcomes research. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Richard A. Falcone, Jr., MD
Professor of Surgery
Director, Pediatric Trauma Service
Vice President, Perioperative Services

Dr. Falcone specializes in pediatric trauma, colorectal disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, and minimally invasive surgery including laparoscopy, ECMO, neonatal surgery, and surgical oncology. His research interests include health disparities in pediatric injury, trauma education through simulation, anorectal malformations, and injury prevention. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Jason S. Frischer, MD
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics
Associate Division Director, Pediatric & Thoracic Surgery
Director, Colorectal Center
Director, Colorectal Subspecialty Fellowship
Director, Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Program

Dr. Frischer specializes in congenital anorectal malformations, minimally invasive surgery, inflammatory bowel disease, and neonatal critical care. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Victor F. Garcia, MD, FACS
Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics
Director Chest Wall Deformities Center
Founding Director, Pediatric Trauma Services

Dr. Garcia specializes in pediatric trauma, injury prevention, chest wall deformity, minimally invasive surgery, surgical weight loss, and minority health care. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery and Surgical Critical Care.

Michael A. Helmrath, MD, FACS
Professor of Surgery
Richard and Geralyn Azizkhan Chair of Pediatric Surgery
Director of Surgical Research
Surgical Director, Intestinal Rehabilitation Center

Dr. Helmrath specializes in short bowel syndrome. His primary research interests are in intestinal stem cells and organoids with a clinical research effort focused on morbid obesity. He has multiple grants from the NIH and leads the CUSTOM effort at CCHMC in which organoids based translational research is being converted into direct patient care. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Todd Jenkins, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Jenkins serves as the deputy director of the Teen Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery (Teen-LABS) Data Coordinator Center (DCC), funded by NIH-NIDDK since 2006. The DCC provides data management and statistical expertise, as well as administrative support to the Teen-LABS consortium and ancillary investigations. Dr. Jenkins also serves as the associate director of the Center for Bariatric Research and Innovation.
Meera Kotagal, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Pediatric Surgery Global Health Program
Director, Pediatric Surgery International Fellowship

Dr. Kotagal specializes in pediatric surgical oncology and neonatal surgery. Her research focus is global health and she has established a global outreach effort in Uganda. Additionally, she is conducting research on trauma outcomes within the local pediatric population. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Foong-Yen Lim, MD
Professor of Surgery
Surgical Director, Fetal Care Center of Cincinnati
Director, Fetal Surgery Subspecialty Fellowship

Dr. Lim specializes in fetal and neonatal surgery, lung malformations, diaphragmatic hernia, neonatal tumors, minimally invasive surgery, and ECMO. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Marc Oria Alonso, PhD
Research Instructor

Dr. Oria studies in-utero therapies for spina bifida in collaboration with Dr. Peiro’s NIH-funded grant. He also studies the causes and mechanisms of cell differentiation in hydrocephalus.

Jose L. Peiro, MD
Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Fetal Center Director – Endoscopic Fetal Surgery

Dr. Peiro specializes in fetal surgical procedures including the treatment of myelomeningocele and diaphragmatic hernia. He has developed innovative minimally invasive fetal procedures and directs a laboratory effort examining fetal neural and pulmonary development, as well as new potential fetal therapies. His R01 focuses on the development of a smart patch for in utero treatment of myelomeningocele.

Todd Ponsky, MD
Professor of Surgery

Dr. Ponsky specializes in minimally invasive surgery, surgical innovation, and quality improvement. He is a pioneer in education, establishing the Globalcast Education Enterprise, an internet-based platform to advance the care of children around the world. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Nelson G. Rosen, MD
Professor of Surgery
Associate Director, Colorectal Center

Dr. Rosen specializes in congenital anorectal malformations, inflammatory bowel disease, neonatal critical care, and minimally invasive surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Beth Rymeski, DO
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Rymeski specializes in fetal and colorectal surgery. She is currently conducting research on treatment algorithms for both ovarian neoplasms and pilonidal cysts. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Soona Shin, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Shin specializes in liver cancer and liver stem cell research. She was awarded an R37 grant from the NIH focused on progenitor cells and the development of HCC.

Nikolai Timchenko, PhD
Professor of Surgery
Leader of Liver Tumor Program

Dr. Timchenko specializes in liver biology. His work investigates mechanisms of liver cancer, liver proliferation after surgical resections, and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

Paul Wales, MD
Professor of Surgery
Zeigler Chair of Pediatric Surgery
Surgical Co-Director, Intestinal Rehabilitation Center

Dr. Wales specializes in intestinal rehabilitation. His primary research interests are in short gut syndrome and the rehabilitation from intestinal loss. He partners with Dr. Helm-rath in the translational clinical research effort by which intestinal organoids are applied to disease processes. He is certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Additional information on the affiliate section of pediatric surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The Section of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/Burn Surgery

The section of plastic, reconstructive and hand surgery/burn surgery is composed of Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati (UC) Medical Center. Collaboration among our group members has been a defining strength of academic plastic surgery at the University of Cincinnati since the group was founded by Dr. Henry W. Neale in 1978.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

The world-renowned group at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital includes a dynamic basic and translational research group. Ongoing work on bone engineering from adipose-derived stem cells and on minimally invasive craniofacial surgery has been presented at both national and international plastic surgery meetings.

Faculty:

**W. John Kitzmiller, MD**
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/Burn Surgery
Director, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
John.Kitzmiller@uc.edu
513-558-4363

**Brian S. Pan, MD**
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division Chief, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Dr. Pan’s practice focuses on craniofacial pediatric plastic surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

**Ann Schwentker, MD**
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Plastic Surgery Residency Program

Dr. Schwentker’s practice focuses on pediatric plastic surgery, with an emphasis on brachial plexus reconstruction and ear reconstruction. She is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.
University of Cincinnati Medical Center

UC Medical Center’s division of plastic surgery is a crucial component of our Level I Trauma Center and the Barrett Cancer Center. The division also continues its collaborative effort with the UC Health Drake Center, Cincinnati’s primary rehabilitative center for complex wound care.

The faculty of the division of plastic surgery are an integral component of the Women’s Center on the campus of West Chester Hospital. Body contouring after weight loss and the full line of aesthetic services are provided there as well.

Faculty:

W. John Kitzmiller, MD
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/ Burn Surgery
Director, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Kitzmiller’s broad practice includes complex reconstructive surgery as well as cosmetic surgery of the face and body. He is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery with certificate of added qualification in surgery of the hand.

Ryan M. Gobble, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Dr. Gobble specializes in facial and breast reconstructive surgery as well as cosmetic surgery of the face and body. He has research interests in improving outcomes after reconstructive and cosmetic breast implant surgery. Dr. Gobble is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Julia Ciccoio Pi Slater, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Division of Burn Surgery

Dr. Slater specializes in plastic surgery with an emphasis on burn surgery and wound care. She is Fellowship trained in Burn Surgery and certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Amy C. Kite, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Dr. Kite specializes in plastic surgery and is Fellowship trained in Hand Surgery.

Research Faculty:

George F. Babcock, PhD
Professor of Surgery Emeritus
Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology

Dr. Babcock’s research interest is in the immunologic consequences of burns, infectious disease, and transplantation, including the role of neutrophil and macrophage adhesion in host defense.
Samantha A. Brugman, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Plastic Surgery Research Faculty  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  

Dr. Brugman's research focuses on craniofacial development.

Rulang Jiang, PhD  
Professor, Developmental Biology  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  

Dr. Jiang specializes in molecular developmental biology, and interfaces between the divisions of plastic surgery and developmental biology.

Yu Lan, PhD  
Associate Professor, Plastic Surgery Research Faculty  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  

Dr. Lan's research centers on the molecular mechanisms behind craniofacial development.

Dorothy M. Supp, PhD  
Adjunct Research Associate Professor  
Research Scientist, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  

Dr. Supp's research focuses on genetic engineering of cultured skin substitutes.

Volunteer Clinical Faculty:

Kurtis W. Martin, MD  
Clinical Instructor of Surgery  
Private Practice

Binh Nguyen, MD  
Clinical Instructor of Surgery  
Private Practice

Kevin A. Shumrick, MD  
Clinical Instructor of Plastic Surgery  
Private Practice

Additional information on the section of plastic surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The section of surgical oncology delivers compassionate state-of-the-art care to patients with cancer and allied diseases, and has the distinction of offering clinical programs that draw patient referrals from across the United States, particularly in the Midwest. Our nationally known physicians are all board certified in general surgery and have supplemental fellowship training in cancer surgery. Recognized by Best Doctors in America, as well as by the journals Cincinnati and Cincy Magazine as top doctors in Cincinnati, our physicians and staff provide an outstanding level of care and work closely with other medical disciplines.

Clinical and basic science research by the section’s faculty and interdisciplinary collaborations with other researchers in the surgery department and the UC College of Medicine have gained national attention. Patients are offered state-of-the-art treatment protocols and access to innovative clinical trials as part of the UC Cancer Center.

The section of surgical oncology is headquartered at the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center, a comprehensive cancer treatment center accredited by the American College of Surgeons. The majority of operative procedures are performed at University of Cincinnati Medical Center, UC Health West Chester Hospital and The Christ Hospital. The section also provides physician staffing at the UC Health Physicians Office North and Women’s Health Center on our West Chester campus to meet the needs for surgical oncology services in northern Cincinnati suburbs.

The University of Cincinnati has formed a strategic partnership with Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and UC Medical Center to establish the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center (UCCC), a joint cancer center that coordinates oncology care from childhood to adulthood in southern Ohio and beyond. By leveraging the individual cancer strengths of each institution, the UCCC is able to provide innovative multidisciplinary cancer research and highly specialized patient care for children and adults in our region. Together, the UCCC is able to advance care faster, especially for those with complex disease. The vision of the UCCC is to create a world class cancer center leading in innovation to eliminate cancer, with a goal of achieving the highly prestigious National Cancer Institute designation.

Syed A. Ahmad, MD
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of Surgical Oncology
Vice Chair for Faculty Development
The Hayden Family Endowed Chair for Cancer Research
Co-Director, University of Cincinnati Cancer Center
Syed.Ahmad@uc.edu
513-584-8900
The surgical oncology section offers:

- Surgical care for benign and malignant diseases of the thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal glands and pancreas. Dr. Tammy Holm is the only specialty trained endocrine surgeon in Cincinnati.

- Leading-edge therapy for esophageal, colorectal, small bowel and gastric tumors.

- Personalized therapy for primary and recurrent cancers involving the liver, colon, and peritoneum.

- One of the highest volume pancreas surgery practices in the nation.

- Advanced surgical treatments for melanoma, sarcoma and other serious skin and soft tissue malignancies, including being the only site for isolated hyperthermic limb infusion procedures in the Greater Cincinnati area.

- Techniques such as hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) for the treatment of primary and metastatic peritoneal malignancies and carcinomatosis. We are the highest volume center in Cincinnati for HIPEC.

- Participation in UC Cancer Center multidisciplinary pancreas, liver, and esophageal disease centers where patients can be seen by physicians from multiple specialties all in one office visit to help quickly begin an optimally sequenced treatment plan without repetitive testing.

- One of the few national sites performing total pancreatectomy and islet cell transplantation for chronic pancreatitis. We have one of the largest experiences in the world with this procedure.

- Surgical resection of the breast can be coordinated with immediate reconstruction by our plastic surgeons, should the patient be eligible from a cancer and reconstructive perspective.

- Discussions of complex patient treatment plans at tumor board conferences for all major cancer types.

- Minimally invasive cancer surgery approaches for the pancreas, liver, esophagus, stomach, spleen, adrenal gland and colon.

- Robotic surgery for liver, pancreas, stomach, and esophageal diseases.

Faculty

Syed A. Ahmad, MD, FACS
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of Surgical Oncology
Vice Chair for Faculty Development
The Hayden Family Endowed Chair for Cancer Research
Co-Director, University of Cincinnati Cancer Center

Dr. Ahmad specializes in the treatment of patients with gastrointestinal, pancreatic and liver cancer. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Surgical Oncology.

Alicia Heelan, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Heelan specializes in the treatment of breast disease from benign disease to high-risk lesions to malignancy. She also has a particular interest in surgical oncology. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Breast Oncology.

Tammy M. Holm, MD, PhD, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Assistant Professor of Cancer Biology

Dr. Holm specializes in treating patients with thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal disease. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Endocrine Surgery.

Jaime D. Lewis, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery
Career Advisor, Office of Student Affairs

Dr. Lewis specializes in the treatment of benign and malignant breast diseases. She also has a particular interest in high-risk genetic conditions that predispose to the development of breast cancer and preserving fertility for female cancer patients. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Breast Oncology.
Sameer H. Patel, MD, FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Patel specializes in all aspects of surgical oncology. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, fellowship trained and Board Certified in Surgical Oncology as well as by the American Board of Medical Quality.

Elizabeth A. Shaughnessy, MD, PhD, FACS
Professor of Surgery
Vice Chair for Patient Experience

Dr. Shaughnessy specializes in the treatment of benign and malignant breast diseases, as well as those at high risk for breast cancer development who desire risk reduction surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Surgical Oncology.

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD, FACS
Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery
Director, Residency Program in General Surgery
Vice Chair for Education

Dr. Sussman specializes in treatment of melanoma, sarcoma, complex gastrointestinal cancers, pancreas cancers, and peritoneal surface malignancies. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Surgical Oncology.

Gregory C. Wilson, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Wilson specializes in pancreatic and hepatobiliary surgery, with expertise in minimally invasive and robotic surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and fellowship trained in Surgical Oncology.

Additional information on the section of surgical oncology can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The Section of Transplantation

The section of transplantation provides services of end-organ failure with multi-organ transplant services including kidney, pancreas and liver transplantation, as well as a variety of non-transplant surgical services. Our surgeons have special expertise in living donor surgery including kidney and liver, laparoscopic nephrectomy, laparoscopic and open hepatobiliary surgery, general surgery, immunosuppressive drug development, corticosteroid elimination, dialysis access surgery, and active kidney exchange programs. The section performs over 240 kidney transplants and approximately 145 liver transplants per year. The group has established itself as one of the premier transplant programs in the country with high volume transplants, low waitlist mortality and leading programs in transplant oncology and dialysis access.

Beyond an active clinic program, the section has active research programs in many diverse areas. The Cincinnati Research in Outcomes and Safety in Surgery (CROSS) was established in 2012 and has studied disparities in care, utilization and practice paradigms in tertiary surgery and comparative effectiveness. The group also has an active and large program around metabolic surgery in end organ failure and has published landmark results in this area, providing access to obese patients needing transplantation. The group also has developed expertise with an education/work performance platform with CREST under the leadership of Dr. Quillin. The section has a very active research program that has pioneered the use of plasma cell targeted therapy for desensitization in highly sensitized transplant recipients and for the treatment of antibody mediated rejection. Our research program has also successfully conducted the first multicenter trial of steroid and calcineurin inhibitor free immunosuppression (BEST Trial).

The section provides leadership to the Israel Penn Center for Transplant Oncology, the largest and most comprehensive transplant tumor registry in the world, and has made a permanent commitment to preserve the function of the IPCTO by hiring and supporting faculty whose academic careers support IPCTO-related objectives.
Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery

The section has excelled in the area of surgery for benign and malignant tumors of the pancreas, liver and biliary tree, having performed over 1,000 advanced hepatobiliary surgical procedures. It is one of the busiest programs in the country and recently launched their living donor liver transplant program. The Liver Transplant Program provides multidisciplinary, specialized patient-centered care for end-stage liver disease (ESLD). Our historic program has focused on innovation, expert clinical care and research over the past 20 years.

The section recently developed a program in transplant outcomes research. A number of research projects are currently ongoing, including a study of utilization and cost effectiveness in liver transplantation and an innovative program in telehealth and smart technology. The section has published the largest series of HCV positive transplants in seronegative recipients in the world. A living donor liver transplant program has been established as well this year.

Faculty

Shimul A. Shah, MD, MHCM
Professor of Surgery
James and Catherine Orr Endowed Chair in Liver Transplantation
Chief, Section of Solid Organ Transplantation, Department of Surgery
Vice Chair for Health Services Research

Dr. Shah specializes in solid-organ (liver, pancreatic, and kidney) transplantation, hepatobiliary surgery and laparoscopic surgery. He has a strong research interest in the epidemiology of liver cancer and outcomes-based research. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

E. Steve Woodle, MD
Professor of Surgery
William A. Altemeier Chair in Surgery
Director, Solid Organ Transplantation, UC Health
Director, Israel Penn Center for Transplant Oncology

Dr. Woodle specializes in solid-organ transplantation with a focus on living donor kidney transplantation. His research efforts include clinical and translational research focused on plasma cell targeted therapies for antibody mediated rejection and desensitization, simultaneous calcineurin inhibitor avoidance/early steroid withdrawal, T cell receptor-mediated immune modulation, and effector memory T cell therapies. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Madison Cuffy, MD, MBA
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Kidney Transplantation, The Christ Hospital
Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Dr. Cuffy specializes in solid-organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation and dialysis access surgery. He focuses his efforts in disparities in care and leads the diversity, equity and inclusion for the department. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation

The section has grown by 10% in the last two years and continues to innovate with living donor nephrectomies, immunosuppressive drug development, and use of HCV positive transplants in seronegative patients. Simultaneous kidney-pancreas, pancreas after kidney, and solitary pancreas transplants are performed by section faculty. The section has also developed a dedicated Sensitized Patient Clinic for potential kidney transplant patients who are highly sensitized to HLA antigens. This is one of a very small number of such dedicated clinics in the United States and offers kidney exchange as both clinical and research-based desensitization.
Alex L. Chang, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Chang specializes in abdominal organ transplantation, hepatobiliary, vascular access, and general surgery. His research interests include clinical and translational transplant surgery, transplant immunosuppression, immunosuppression withdrawal, ischemia/reperfusion and rejection. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Kristina H. Lemon, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Lemon specializes in solid organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation, hepatobiliary surgery and laparoscopic surgery. Her focus outside of the operating room is in education, work efficiency and systems improvement in transplantation.

R. Cutler Quillin, III, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
Director, Transplant Fellowship Program

Dr. Quillin specializes in solid organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation, hepatobiliary surgery and laparoscopic surgery. His research is focused on educational simulation and understanding competency in surgical technique. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Latifa A. Sage Silski, MD  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Silski specializes in solid organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation, laparoscopic surgery, and dialysis access surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Nicole S. Ejaz, PharmD  
Research Assistant Professor

Dr. Ejaz is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the IPITTR. Her individual research efforts focus specifically on antihumoral therapy.

Adele Rike Shields, PharmD  
Research Associate Professor  
Clinical Transplant Pharmacist at Christ Hospital

Dr. Shields is supervisor of kidney transplant clinical trials at Christ Hospital. She also has research interests in cardiovascular disease following kidney transplantation.

Additional information on the section of transplantation can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The University of Cincinnati section of urology has repeatedly been ranked among the top 50 urology programs in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*. The section has long been serving patients in the community and the region and providing state-of-the-art treatments in the areas of pediatric urology, female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery, genitourinary trauma and reconstruction, men’s health, urologic oncology, endourology and general urology. Additionally, UC Urology is currently involved in multiple clinical trials evaluating new therapies in neurogenic bladder, voiding dysfunction, prostate cancer and renal cell carcinoma, the latter in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center (UCCC).

Dr. Ayman Mahdy, a fellowship-trained specialist in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery, continues to provide advanced management in the areas of voiding dysfunction (for both men and women), neurogenic bladder, and genitourinary reconstruction. Dr. Mahdy also offers the most advanced treatment options (including non-invasive and minimally invasive) for voiding dysfunction in patients with BPH including Holmium Laser Enucleation of the Prostate (HoLEP), a procedure that requires a high skill set. In addition, Dr. Mahdy and his dedicated team of specialized Advanced Level Providers, nursing and staff provide specialized care to patients with neurogenic bladder, urine incontinence and other female pelvic floor disorders. In collaboration with the Department of Ob/Gyn, the dedicated UC Health Pelvic Floor Center launched in September 2021 at the West Chester Campus to provide a multidisciplinary approach to treating women with pelvic floor disorders. The section also offers a multidisciplinary neurogenic bladder clinic in collaboration with the divisions of physical medicine and rehabilitation, occupational therapy and physical therapy. This clinic has been serving as a one-stop-shop to our neurogenic bladder population for almost a decade now.

Our three dedicated uro-oncologists – Drs. Mohammed Kamel, Nilesh Patil and Abhinav Sidana – are fellowship trained in uro-oncology and treat advanced urologic cancer conditions using the most up-to-date technology and evaluation tools. These include cryotherapy and high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU). Dr. Abhinav Sidana now sits on the World Panel on Focal Therapy for prostate cancer.
Working closely with the Department of Radiology in the area of MRI prostate imaging, we have established a specialized program in MRI-targeted, ultrasound (US) guided prostate biopsy which increases the accuracy and efficiency of the diagnosis of prostate cancer. Targets identified by MRI are marked on saved images and used as an overlay provided by the image fusion technology known as Artemis during US-guided biopsy procedures. We have also established a program for using MRI of the prostate in managing nonaggressive prostate cancer with Active Surveillance. Men with low-grade prostate cancer can post-pone or avoid prostate surgery or radiation, but be monitored and treated should the prostate cancer progress in volume or pathologic grade. Active Surveillance is the first line of management discussed in appropriate cases.

The division of urology established a multidisciplinary prostate cancer specialty clinic in which several disciplines including urology, radiation oncology, radiology, and pathology share in the evaluation of men with prostate cancer and guidance in choice of management, including:

- Urology – Active surveillance, focal prostate cancer ablation using either cryotherapy or high intensity ultrasound combined with MRI targeting, robot-assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy.

- Radiation Oncology – Radiation therapy including brachytherapy, external beam radiation therapy, and proton beam radiation therapy.

Dr. Wesley Baas, a fellowship-trained urologist in the areas of men’s health and reconstruction, joined our division in August 2021 to lead the men’s health program. This will be a great service to our male patients with sexual dysfunction, infertility and other men’s urologic health issues. Dr. Baas will run a multidisciplinary clinic in conjunction with the division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility in the department of Ob/Gyn.

Dr. Courtney Plattner specializes in open and minimally invasive surgeries of the urologic patient. As the Director of the UC Urology Residency Program, she continues to mold the residency program to best serve our residents, with innovations in curriculum, mindfulness and well-being, and teaching – enlisting stakeholders to invest in creating a cohesive resident and faculty team with focus on education, quality patient care, and a safe hospital environment.

The division also receives national and international visiting scholars and observers to promote their academic career and clinical skills.

**Faculty**

**Ayman Mahdy, MD, PhD, MBA**
Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Interim Chief, Section of Urology  
Director, Voiding Dysfunction and Female Urology  
Director of Urology, West Chester Hospital  
Residency Program Educational Site Director, West Chester Hospital

Dr. Mahdy specializes in urinary incontinence, voiding dysfunction, infertility and other men's urologic health issues. He also performs endourologic procedures for BPH and male urethral strictures.

**Mohammed Kamel, MD**
Professor of Surgery

Dr. Kamel specializes in cancers of the prostate, kidney, adrenal, bladder, testis and penis. He is currently studying the outcomes of robotic radical cysto-prostatectomy in bladder cancer patients with a focus on the elderly.

**Nilesh Patil, MD**
Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Medical Director, UC Health Urology, Clifton  
Director, Urologic Robotics Program

Dr. Patil specializes in robotic surgery, urologic oncology, stone disease, and prostate disorders. His interests include prostate MRI imaging and MRI-targeted ultrasound-guided prostate biopsies and active surveillance.
Courtney A. Plattner, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Urology Residency Program

Dr. Plattner specializes in general urology and performs minimally invasive, endourologic, and microscopic surgeries. Her special interests include urinary stone disease, bladder dysfunction, and men’s health issues. She is certified by the American Board of Urology.

Abhinav Sidana, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery
Director, Urologic Oncology
Genitourinary Clinical Trials Leader
Director, Medical Student Education

Dr. Sidana specializes in both surgical and non-operative management of prostate, kidney, ureteral, testicular, and bladder cancers. Dr. Sidana’s research interests include functional prostate imaging, image-guided and focal treatments for prostate cancer, and clinical trials on novel treatments for urologic cancers.

Wesley Baas, MD
Assistant Professor of Urology
Director of Men’s Health Program

Dr. Baas is fellowship trained and specializes in genitourinary reconstruction, male infertility, and male sexual dysfunction.

Pediatric Urology

Under the directorship of Dr. Pramod Reddy, the Cincinnati Children’s pediatric urology program is ranked No. 4 in the 2022-2023 list of Best Children’s Hospitals published by U.S. News & World Report. The division performs the entire spectrum of pediatric urologic surgery. The world-renowned full-time pediatric urologists practice at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, one of the largest and most prestigious pediatric facilities in the nation.

Pediatric Urology Faculty

Pramod P. Reddy, MD, FACS
Professor of Clinical Surgery
Director, Division of Pediatric Urology

Dr. Reddy specializes in general pediatric urology surgery, minimally invasive robotic-assisted surgery, complex genitourinary reconstructive surgery, ano-rectal malformations, disorders of sex development, neurogenic bladder, renal transplant in the neurogenic bladder, prenatal evaluation and fetal care, kidney stones, ESWL, clinical trials, and basic science research. He is certified by the American Board of Urology with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Urology.

W. Robert DeFoor, Jr., MD
Professor of Clinical Surgery
Director, Pediatric Urology Fellowship
Program Director, Clinical Research Program
Residency Education Site Director, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Dr. DeFoor specializes in general pediatric urology surgery, robotic-assisted laparoscopic surgery, complex genitourinary reconstructive surgery, kidney stones, uro-oncology, vesicoureteral reflux, prenatal hydronephrosis, posterior urethral valves, clinical outcomes research, and clinical trials. He is certified by the American Board of Urology with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Urology.
Eugene Minevich, MD  
Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Director of the Stone Center  
Dr. Minevich specializes in general pediatric urology surgery, complex genitourinary reconstructive surgery, kidney stones, ESWL, microscopic hypospadias, and endoscopic treatment of VUR. He is certified by the American Urological Association with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Urology.

Paul H. Noh, MD, FAAP  
Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery  
Dr. Noh specializes in general pediatric urology surgery, minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery, minimally invasive robotic-assisted surgery, and prenatal evaluation and fetal care. He is certified by the American Board of Urology with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Urology.

Curtis Sheldon, MD, FACS  
Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Founding Director of the Urogenital Center  
Dr. Sheldon’s current interest is in postgraduate medical education, mentoring residents, ethics, and advising residency programs throughout Cincinnati. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, American Board of Pediatric Surgery, and the American Board of Urology with subspecialty certification in Pediatric Urology.

Andrew C. Strine, MD  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Co-Director of Comprehensive Fertility Care and Preservation Program  
Dr. Strine specializes in general pediatric urology surgery, complex genitourinary reconstructive surgery, minimally invasive robotic-assisted surgery, disorders of sex development, prenatal evaluation and fetal care, neurogenic bladder, and fertility care and preservation.

Brian VanderBrink, MD  
Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Dr. VanderBrink specializes in spina bifida, complex genitourinary reconstructive surgery, prenatal evaluation and fetal care, and neurogenic bladder. He is certified by the American Board of Urology.

Active Volunteer Faculty

Good Samaritan Hospital:  
Eric Kuhn, MD (Residency Program Educational Site Director)  
Ryan Flynn, MD  
Alan S. Cordell, MD  
Marc Pliskin, DO  
Rebecca Roedersheimer, MD  
Dirk M. Wonnell, MD

Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center:  
Lisa Filipkowski, MD  
Hari P. Kotheegal, MD  
Natalie Singer, MD  
Safwat Zaki, MD

Additional information on the section of urology can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.

After 40+ years of hard working and commitment to patient care, Dr. Bruce Bracken has decided to retire this year.

Dr. Bracken has been a great asset to our division and the UC system. During the last four decades, many generations of residents and medical students have trained under Dr. Bracken’s tutorage. He also served thousands of patients from the Cincinnati community and the surrounding areas. Although it’s hard to see Bruce leave us, we wish him the best with the next chapter in his career.
The Section of Vascular Surgery

The University of Cincinnati section of vascular surgery is a tertiary referral center for all aspects of vascular surgery and serves as the regional referral center for the treatment of complex vascular problems. The section performs all open and endovascular procedures for aneurysmal and occlusive disease, redo aortic surgery, and lower extremity revascularization. In addition, the section serves as a resource for the region for less common disorders including right side aortic arch pathology with dysphagia, aortomesenteric bypass operations, and redo aortic surgery.

The section of vascular surgery offers treatment of vascular disorders at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center (UCMC), West Chester Hospital, West Chester Surgical Hospital, the UC Health Physicians Medical Arts Building in Clifton, as well as the UC Vein Center at the UC Health Physicians’ Office North in West Chester. Outpatient non-invasive vascular diagnostic testing is available at both the UC Health Physicians Medical Arts Office in Clifton adjacent to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, and at the UC Health Physicians’ Office North in West Chester adjacent to West Chester Hospital.

The UC Health Aortic Center, directed by Amit Jain, MD, has a team with a wide breadth of expertise, including endovascular and open techniques providing a variety of treatment options and works closely with the division of cardiac surgery to provide complete care of aortic pathology.

Innovations in vascular care include laparoscopic aortic procedures and minimally invasive approaches for critical limb ischemia. Dr. Joseph Giglia is one of only a few surgeons in the country who perform laparoscopic aortobifemoral bypass for aortoiliac arterial occlusive disease.

Joseph S. Giglia, MD, FACS, RPVI
Professor of Surgery
Interim Chief, Section of Vascular Surgery
Joseph.Giglia@uc.edu
513-558-5367
Faculty

**Joseph S. Giglia, MD, FACS, RPVI**
Professor of Surgery  
Interim Chief, Section of Vascular Surgery

Dr. Giglia has a special interest in complex aortic surgery, laparoscopic aortic surgery, and minimally invasive treatment of thoracic and abdominal aortic pathology. He is board certified in Vascular Surgery, General Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care.

**Amit Jain, MBBS, FACS, RPVI**
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Director of Aortic Center

Dr. Jain’s clinical interests include complex open and endovascular aortic surgery for aortic aneurysms, dissections and occlusive disease of both thoracic and abdominal aorta, cerebrovascular diseases including carotid stenosis and dissections, peripheral vascular diseases, hemodialysis access, non-atherosclerotic vascular pathologies including thoracic outlet, and popliteal entrapment syndromes. He is board certified in Vascular and General Surgery.

**Sung Yang, MD, RPVI**
Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery  
Director, Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency and Fellowship Program

Dr. Yang’s clinical interests include open and endovascular surgery (including aortic procedures), carotid stenting and endarterectomy, visceral arterial occlusive disease, hemodialysis access surgery and maintenance, vascular trauma and the vascular laboratory. He is fellowship trained and Board Certified in Vascular Surgery.

**Jose Oyama Moura Leite, MD, PhD, RPVI**
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Leite’s clinical interests include all aspects of open and endovascular surgery. He was a fully trained vascular surgeon in his native Brazil prior to completing a PhD and a vascular surgery residency in the United States.

**Joseph Salfity, MD**
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Salfity is our newest faculty recruit. He joined our group in October 2021 from Wake Medical in North Carolina. Prior to that, he completed his general surgery training and a vascular surgery fellowship at Indiana University. He has expertise in transcarotid stenting (TCAR).

Additional information on the section of vascular surgery can be viewed at [med.uc.edu/depart/surgery](http://med.uc.edu/depart/surgery).
Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery

The podiatric surgery physicians utilize a team approach to patient care through collaboration with other medical and surgical specialties to provide comprehensive diagnosis and treatment of all foot and ankle conditions. The latest techniques are utilized in order to address diseases of the foot and ankle, biomechanical imbalances such as bunions and hammertoes, infections (soft tissue of bone) or ulcerations of the foot, as well as ingrown nails, corns and calluses, plantar warts, arthritic deformities and heel pain.

The clinical faculty physicians also have expertise in the management of diabetic foot problems, sports injuries, and trauma to the foot and ankle. Our podiatrists focus on preventing, diagnosing and treating conditions associated with the foot and ankle, and are dedicated to providing individuals with appropriate foot care.

Faculty

Suhail Masadeh, DPM
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Division of Podiatric Medicine & Surgery
Director, Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency
Suhail.Masadeh@uc.edu
513-558-8359

Dr. Masadeh specializes in lower limb plastic reconstructive surgery with an emphasis on diabetic limb salvage, foot and ankle reconstructive and revisional surgery, including soft tissue reconstruction of the diabetic foot. Dr. Masadeh is dedicated to the advancement of podiatric medicine and detecting the early stages of diseases such as diabetes, arthritis and cardiovascular diseases that exhibit warning signs in the lower extremities.

Bryan J. Hall, DPM
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Associate Program Director, Podiatric Medicine & Surgery Residency

Dr. Hall specializes in all aspects of foot and ankle surgery, total foot and ankle reconstruction, lower extremities and sports-related injuries. Limb-salvage, vascular and traumatic complications, and detecting the early stages of diseases such as diabetes, arthritis and cardiovascular diseases that exhibit warning signs in the lower extremities are also of special interest.
Michael D. Liette, DPM, Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, Medical Student Clerkship

Dr. Liette specializes in all aspects of foot and ankle surgery, total foot and ankle reconstruction, bunions, hammertoes, and sports-related injuries. His fellowship led to further specialization in the area of advanced diabetic limb salvage including lower extremity orthoplastic techniques and their application in diabetic foot surgery. He has an additional interest in all aspects of foot care related to diabetes as well as for the manifestations of other systemic disease such as arthritis, rheumatological, kidney and cardiovascular diseases within the foot and ankle.

Additional information on the division of podiatric medicine & surgery can be viewed at med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.
The affiliated educational programs are crucial for our strategy to provide breadth and depth of surgical experience, a diversity of case mix, and a strong connection to the community. These programs provide some of our highest valued training experience and are guided by a group of some of our best and most awarded surgeon educators.

There is an abundance and variety of clinical experiences in the hospitals and outpatient offices of our integrated and affiliated institutions which include:

The Christ Hospital is a 555-bed acute-care hospital located 1.5 miles from the UC College of Medicine. The hospital remains an important part of the integrated surgical residency in general surgery. UC surgeons utilize the Christ
Hospital for patient care in the areas of general, colorectal, vascular, weight loss, transplantation surgery and surgical oncology.

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the treatment and research of pediatric and adolescent diseases. Cincinnati Children’s has 587 beds and is the only Level I pediatric trauma center in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky and southeastern Indiana. The hospital is a major teaching site for our surgery residents both in the clinical arena and in the NIH-funded laboratories directed by outstanding surgeon-scientists.

The Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center is a major 269-bed acute-care hospital for veterans in Southwest Ohio. General surgery, urology and vascular surgery represent three of the largest volume sections within the VA surgical service. The surgical service continues to encounter a wide variety of pathological conditions which require surgical treatment, thus providing a significant opportunity for faculty research and a vital cornerstone for the surgical education of residents and medical students.

The Holzer Clinic is a modern, 100-plus physician, multispecialty group practice facility located in Gallipolis, Ohio, near the West Virginia border. This clinic provides primary, secondary and tertiary care to patients in the Southeastern Ohio and Western West Virginia region, with a population base of about 300,000 and over 150,000 clinic visits per year. Approximately 6,000 operations are performed yearly and there are over 16,000 Emergency Department visits per year. Virtually all surgery residents select a two-month elective rotation to this facility, which exposes these residents to a rural, broadly-defined general surgery experience.
Surgical Faculty/Resident Scholarly Activity

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

July 2021 – June 2022

[Bold indicates resident.]

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:


Boucette K, Morales DLS. Asking more from our research: Not only the what but the how. *Ann Thorac Surg.* 2021 Oct 8;S0003-4975(21)01693-3. Online ahead of print. PMID: 34634243


Branson RD. Pandemic surge, well-intended responses, and unintended consequences. *Respir Care.* 2022 Feb;67(2):272-273. PMID: 35078901


Branson RD, Kallet RH. Creating a process of research in respiratory care. *Respir Care.* 2021 Aug;66(8):1363-1364. PMID: 34301858


Eicher AK, Kechele DO, Sundaram N, ... Helmrath MA, et al. Functional human gastrointestinal organoids can be engineered from three primary germ layers derived separately from pluripotent stem cells. *Cell Stem Cell.* 2022 Jan 6;29(1):36-51.e6. PMID: 35804840


Holm TM, Bian ZC, Manupati K, Guan JL. Inhibition of autophagy mitigates cell migration and invasion in thyroid cancer. *Surgery.* 2022 Jan;171(1):235-244. PMID: 34565609


Kalinichenko LS, Mühle C, Jia T, ... Gulbins E, et al. Neutral sphingomyelinase mediates the co-morbidity triad of alcohol abuse, major depression and bone defects. *Mol Psychiatry.* 2021 Dec;26(12):7403-7416. PMID: 34584229


Mostafa MM, Patil N, Khalil M, Elgammal MA, Mahdy A. Is holmium laser enucleation of prostate equally effective in management of benign prostatic hyperplasia patients with either void...


Salty H, Balderson SS, D’Amico TA. The 12 steps to a thoracoscopic anterior segment segmentectomy: Oncologically safe and sound. JTCVS Tech. 2022 Feb 18;12:200-204. PMID: 35403057


Schuermann LE, Bergmann CB, Goetzman H, Caldwell CC, Satish L. Heat-killed probiotic Lactobacillus planatarum affects the function of neutrophils but does not improve survival in murine burn injury. Burns. 2022 Jun 30;50:3005-4179(22)00164-4. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35850881


er transplantation with a ventricular assist device in the Fontan circulation. *Circ Heart Fail.* 2021 Dec;14(12):e008018. PMID: 34789001


**Wells DA,** Morales DLS. No substitute for a handshake, or is there? *Ann Thorac Surg.* 2022 Feb;113(2):668. PMID: 33781738


Woodle ES, Gebel HM, Montgomery RA, Maltzman JS. SARS-CoV-2 vaccination, immune responses, and antibody testing in immunosuppressed populations: Tip of the iceberg. *Transplantation.* 2021 Sep 1;105(9):1911-1913. PMID: 34144554


Selected Book Chapters/Review Articles:


Kornhuber J, Gulbins E. New molecular targets for antidepressant drugs. Review article. Pharmaceuticals (Basel). 2021 Sep 2;14(9):894. PMID: 34577594


Selected National and International Presentations:


Grimes KL. Invited Panel Member: “How to manage postoperative bleeding in POEM.” Tokyo Live Endoscopy One (Tokyo, Japan) – International live webinar series about advanced endoscopy topics, May 2022.
Grimes KL. Psychometric analysis of multiple-choice questions. Item-Writing for Novices workshop, Association for Surgical Education annual meeting, San Antonio, TX, May 2022.


Pritts TA. Surgical grit. Distinguished visiting professor, Uniformed Service University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD, August 2021.


Starnes SL. Ethics debate: Should a questionabley competent resident be allowed to continue in the program? American Association of Thoracic Surgeons, Boston, MA, May 2022.


Clinical Trials and Funded Grants:


Ahmad SA (Principal Investigator): SWOG Network Group Operations Center of the NCTN, National Cancer Institute.


Ahmad SA (Co-Investigator): Monitoring and control of human liver cancer ablation using real time 3D echo decorrelation imaging. National Cancer Institute.

Athota K (Principal Investigator): Smart Oxygenation System (SOS) provides early warning of lung injury. Department of the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

Athota K (Co-Investigator): Negative pressure wound therapy at altitude for complex wounds. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Principal Investigator): Vulcan-V testing. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Principal Investigator): ETT cuff pressure assessment – Feel versus measurement. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Principal Investigator): Maximizing oxygen delivery across deployed services. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Co-Investigator): Development of a targeted intravascular therapy to stop non-compressible torso. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Co-Investigator): Negative pressure wound therapy at altitude for complex wounds. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Blakeman TC (Co-Investigator): Hypobaria or hypoxia: Which insult matters most to the injured brain? Air Force Research Laboratory.


Boyce ST (Co-Investigator): Reprogramming the dermal microenvironment to induce hair follicle neogenesis in engineered skin. National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Development of a rebreathing system for mechanical ventilation. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Closed loop control reversal of altitude-induced hypoxemia in normal subjects. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Detecting asynchrony and risk of aspiration (DARS). Air Force Research Laboratory.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Retrospective review: Incidence of airway injury/complications as a consequence of prolonged endotracheal intubation in the combat casualty versus civilian trauma patients with no altitude exposure. Air Force Research Laboratory.


Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Hypoxemia during aeromedical transport of the walking wounded: Determining the etiology and incidence of hypoxemia. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Automated decision-assist/closed loop control of mechanical ventilation. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Branson RD (Principal Investigator): Enhancing lung injury treatment modalities with nitric oxide. Air Force Research Laboratory.


Caldwell CC (Principal Investigator): Stratifying patient immune endotypes in sepsis (SPIES study). National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Caldwell CC (Principal Investigator): Exploiting bioactive lipid properties to rescue burn-injured mice from lung infection. Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Caldwell CC (Principal Investigator): Ceramide regulatory role upon neutrophil chemotaxis after burn injury. Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Caldwell CC (Co-Investigator): Roles of Sectm1a in macrophages and cardiac function during sepsis. National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Dale EL (Co-Investigator): The acute burn resuscitation multicenter prospective observational trial 2 (ABRupt 2). Department of the Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): Resident nontechnical skills and patient outcomes. University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Research Innovation/Pilot Program.

Frasier LL (Co-Investigator): Validation of dynamic preload assessment technologies at cabin altitude pressure with and without a temporary abdominal closure using a swine model with graded hemorrhage. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): Respiratory mechanics following brain injury: The role of inhaled nitric oxide. Air Force Research Laboratory.


Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): Role of acid sphingomyelinase in the modulation of coagulation after traumatic brain injury. National Institutes of Health / National Institute of Gen-
neral Medical Sciences R01 Grant.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): REBOA at altitude: Efficacy and effects. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Site Principal Investigator): Randomized trial of early hemodynamic management of patients following acute spinal cord injury (TEMPLE). Department of Defense.

Goodman MD (Site Principal Investigator): SAVE-O2 (Trauma). Department of Defense.

Goodman MD (Site Principal Investigator): TOWAR study. Department of Defense.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): Negative pressure wound therapy. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): Hypobaria vs. hypoxia. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): Validation of dynamic preload. Department of Defense.


Janowak C (Principal Investigator): Chest wall injury program development including Chest Injury International Database (CIID), outcomes analysis and process improvement projects.


Krishnan D (Principal Investigator): Immune correlations of neck infections with clinical outcomes (ICONICO). OMS Foundation.

Lentsch AB (Principal Investigator): Host response to trauma research training program. National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Lentsch AB (Principal Investigator): Expeditionary medicine, trauma, and en route care (EMTEC) research and technology development co-op agreement. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Makley AT (Principal Investigator): Effect of stored blood on sphingosine-1-phosphate mediated vascular barrier integrity. NIH K08 Grant, National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Moura Leite JO (Principal Investigator): Risk factors for wound complications after veno-arterial extra corporeal membrane oxygenation decannulation.


Paquette I (Site Principal Investigator): Multicenter clinical outcomes of Interstim Micro System. Medtronic ELITE Study.

Paquette I (Site Principal Investigator): COSMID Trial – Comparison of Surgery and Medicine on the Impact of Diverticulitis.

Patel S (Principal Investigator): 5-Pillar prehabilitation program (SP3) for pancreas cancer. Steven Goldman Memorial Pancreatic Research Grant.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator): Red blood cell microparticles and lung inflammation after hemorrhage and resuscitation. National Institutes of Health / National Institute of General Medical Sciences R01 Grant.

Pritts TA (Co-Investigator for Acute Care Research Core): Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Learning. National Institutes of Health / National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).

Pritts TA (Site Principal Investigator): REVIVE: reducing exsanguination via in-vivo expandable foam. Department of Defense / Arsenal Medical.

Pritts TA (Site Co-Principal Investigator): Strategies to Innovate EmeRgEnCy Care Clinical Trials Network (SIREN). National Institutes of Health.

Quillin RC (Principal Investigator): Education on organ donation should start in medical school: Development of a formalized medical student organ procurement curriculum. Ohio Solid Organ Transplantation Consortium.


Schrager JJ (Co-Investigator): Intranasal ketamine as an adjunct to fentanyl for the prehospital treatment of acute traumatic pain. Air Force Research Laboratory.


Shaughnessy EA (Principal Investigator): Implantable marker devices in breast surgery, to localize a lesion that cannot be felt.

Shaughnessy EA (Site Principal Investigator): Alliance A221702 - A prospective trial to study rates of lymphedema and regional recurrence after sentinel lymph node biopsy and sentinel lymph node biopsy followed by axillary lymph node dissection with and without axillary reverse mapping.

Shaughnessy EA (Site Principal Investigator): NSABP, BCPT, and STAR clinical breast cancer treatment and prevention trials.

Shaughnessy EA (Co-Principal Investigator): Breast papillomas: A unique opportunity to investigate risk factors and outcomes. RideCincinnati Grant.

Shaughnessy EA (Collaborator): Development of a new biomarker for breast cancer diagnosis and prognosis.

Shaughnessy EA (Co-Investigator): Uranium and breast cancer: An opportunity to investigate the incidence and outcomes of women living within five miles of a uranium reclamation plant. RideCincinnati grant.

Sidana A (Principal Investigator): Phase III study of local or systemic therapy intensification directed by Pet in prostate cancer patients with post-prostatectomy biochemical recurrence (Indicate).

Sidana A (Principal Investigator): Randomized phase III trial incorporating abiraterone acetate with prednisone and apalutamide and advanced imaging into salvage treatment for patients with node-positive prostate cancer after radical prostatectomy.

Sidana A (Principal Investigator): A phase III double blinded study of early intervention after radical prostatectomy with androgen deprivation therapy with or without darolutamide vs. placebo in men at highest risk of prostate cancer metastasis by genomic stratification (Eradicate).

Slater Ciccocioppi J (Principal Investigator): The acute burn resuscitation multicenter prospective observational trial 2 - (ABRUPT 2). Department of the Army.

Slater Ciccocioppi J (Principal Investigator): Multicenter implementation trial of targeted normoxia strategy to define oxygen requirements for combat casualty care. Department of the Army.


Supp DM (Principal Investigator): In situ skin regeneration for full thickness burn injuries. Shriners Hospitals for Children.


Supp DM (Principal Investigator): The role of vitamin D and the vitamin D receptor in fibrotic wound healing. Shriners Hospitals for Children.


Supp DM (Co-Investigator): Reprogramming the dermal microenvironment to induce hair follicle neogenesis in engineered skin. National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease.

Tsuei BJ (Site Principal Investigator): Severe ARDS: Generating evidence for a multicenter observational study (SAGE). Duke Clinical Research Institute.

Tsuei BJ (Co-Investigator): Multidisciplinary critical care research: Observational clinical data study protocol.

Van Haren R (Principal Investigator): Predictors of chronic pain and new persistent opioid use after lung resection.

Woodle ES (Principal Investigator): Plasma cell depletion and co-stimulation blockade to treat antibody-mediated rejection. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.


Woodle ES (Co-Investigator): Targeting human plasma cells to overcome humoral responses in transplantation. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati
2022-2023 Annual Report

Principal photography by residents and staff of the Department of Surgery, with contributions from UC Academic Health Center Public Relations & Communications. Graphic design by Tammy Adelhardt of Adelgraph Design.
Our education values are to:

Attract and train the medical students and residents with the greatest potential for success as surgeons and leaders.

Celebrate our individual strengths and diversity, and support each other as we overcome our hurdles to success, all while sharing common goals of clinical excellence, scientific discovery and professional growth.

Promote and support our residents to go on to the most highly competitive fellowships and academic positions, and to become successful leaders advancing surgical excellence.