Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati

2025-2026 Annual Report

UNIVERSITY OF Cincinnati

med.uc.edu/surgery

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Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair

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Letter from the Office of the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

As we reflect on the past academic year, I am proud to share the accomplishments and continued growth within the Department of Surgery. Our collective efforts have advanced clinical care, research, education and community engagement, positioning us strongly for the future.

People & Leadership:

- Welcomed several new faculty and clinicians across divisions, including transplantation, vascular surgery, and oral & maxillofacial surgery.
- Recognized faculty promotions and national honors, including Dr. Carla Justiniano's Central Surgical Association Travel Scholarship and Dr. David Morrison's presidency of American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.
- Expanded leadership roles, including Vice Chairs Dr. Alicia Heelan (Quality), Dr. Meera Kotagal (Faculty Affairs and Workforce Development), Dr. Jeffrey Sussman as Chair of the UCCOM Educational Program Committee, and Dr. Dan Ostlie as the new Surgeon-in-Chief and Senior Vice-President for Surgical Services at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Clinical Excellence:

- Continued growth in surgical volume across our divisions, with robotic initiatives including donor nephrectomies, hepatobiliary and cardiac surgery.
- Successfully earning trauma center reverification at both UC Medical Center and West Chester Hospital.
- UC Health Transplant team earned a prestigious 5-star rating from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR).
- Pediatric Surgery performed 59 solid organ transplants and 22 TPIATs (total pancreatectomy with islet auto-transplantation), with subspecialty growth in intestinal rehab and esophageal surgery.

Research Impact:

- Hosted the inaugural Department Research Retreat and held our annual Resident Research Competition, fostering collaboration across divisions.
- Secured significant research funding, including:
  - $1.5M Department of Defense award (Dr. Dorothy Supp)
- $650K LifeCenter Organ Donor Network grant (Dr. Greg Wilson)
  - Multiple pilot grants and NIH submissions
- Published over 340 peer-reviewed articles, with strong resident contributions.
- Advanced clinical trials in colorectal cancer, Crohn's disease, and cardiac surgery.

Educational Excellence:

- We had another successful match across all our residencies and graduated another group of clinically and academically accomplished chief residents. In addition to this, we saw an uptick in medical students pursuing surgery as a career.
- Launched new educational initiatives including the UC COM Surgery Scholars Program, Global Health Elective, and Transition to Residency track.
- Recognized outstanding educators: Dr. Amy Makley received the 2025 Outstanding Surgical Educator Award.

Global Engagement:

- Continued impactful work in Uganda, India, and Malawi, including the 15th year of the SmileTrain Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) rotation.
- Supported global surgery education and advocacy through faculty leadership and student involvement.

Quality & Strategic Vision:

- Established the Surgical Quality and Safety Committee (SQSC) and initiated NSQIP data collection at multiple sites.
- Developed dashboards and launched quality improvement projects across divisions.
- Engaged in strategic planning focused on clinical care, culture, mentorship, advocacy and professional development.

As we look ahead to 2025–2026, we remain committed to defining the future of surgery together—through innovation, collaboration, and excellence in all we do.

With gratitude for your continued support and partnership.

Our mission is to:

- Provide comprehensive surgical services for Cincinnati and the surrounding region.
- Train the next generation of surgical leaders.
- Advance the state-of-the-art and scientific basis of the discipline of surgery.
- Provide leadership in ensuring surgical health care for all members of the Cincinnati community.

Department of Surgery Organization Chart

David Gerber, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery

Lane Fraiser, MD
Vice Chair, Junior Faculty Advisory Committee

Michael Goodman, MD
Vice Chair for Research

Alicia Heelen, MD
Vice Chair for Quality

Meera Kotagal, MD, MPH
Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs and Workforce Development

Latifa Sage Silski, MD
Director of Student Clerkship

Jeffrey Sussman, MD
Executive Vice Chair of Surgery
Vice Chair of Education

Syed Ahmad, MD
Chief, Division of Surgical Oncology

Luke Brewster, MD
Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery

Madison Cuffy, MD
Chief, Division of Transplantation

Richard Falcone, Jr., MD
Interim Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery

Sonu Jain, MD
Chief, Division of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Hand/Burn Surgery

Deepak Krishnan, DDS
Chief, Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Ian Paquette, MD
Chief, Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery

Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD
Chief, Division of General Surgery

Sandra Starnes, MD
Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

UC Health - "Who We Are"

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 power-house for health care in the Greater Cincinnati region.

As Greater Cincinnati's only academic health system, UC Health employs over 10,500 and serves patients from across the United States in over two million visits annually. In partnership with the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, UC Health combines clinical expertise and compassion with research and teaching to provides patients with treatment options for even the most complex situations.

The health system includes four inpatient campuses, 70+ outpatient offices and nationally recognized specialty care centers, including the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center and the UC Gardner Neuroscience Institute.

Visions & Goals

At the August 2025 All-Hands Event and Awards Ceremony, UC Health and the UC College of Medicine formally announced – for first time in our history – a united strategic Purpose, Vision and Mission that will guide us for the next 100 years:

New Purpose: Transforming Health, Improving Life.

New Vision: Together, make greater Cincinnati the healthiest city in America.

New Mission: Elevate health for all through life-changing care, innovation and learning.

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 trans-plantation for heart, liver, pancreas and kidney. The hospital has been ranked as the No. 1 regional hospital by *U.S. News & World Report*.

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 as well as 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 UCCC. 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 specialized tertiary care. Cincinnati Children's has 670 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 vascular and transplantation 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.

University of Cincinnati Medical Center


Barrett Center


Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center


Holmes Hospital


Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The Christ Hospital


CARE/Crawley/Medical Sciences Building

UC Health Physicians Office Clifton

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

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.

UC Health Surgical Center

UC Health Surgical Center

The UC Health Surgical Center 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 hospitali-zation for up to 72 hours.

UC Health West Chester Hospital

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.

Mzuzu Central Hospital

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.

George J. Heuer, 1922-1931

Dr. George J. Heuer (1922-1931), the first Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, 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.

Mont R. Reid, 1931-1943

Dr. Mont Rogers Reid (1931-1943), the second Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, 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.

Max M. Zinninger, 1943-1946

Dr. Max M. 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.

B. Noland Carter, 1946-1952

Dr. B. Noland Carter (1946-1952, the third Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, was renowned 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 A. Altemeier (1952-1978), the fourth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, 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.

William A. Altemeier, 1952-1978

Dr. Josef E. Fischer (1978-2001), the fifth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, 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 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.

Josef E. Fischer, 1978-2001

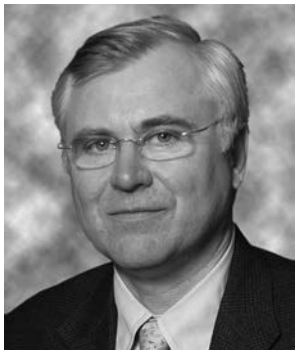
Dr. Jeffrey B. Matthews (2001-2006), the sixth Christian R. Holmes Professor and Chair, oversaw growth of full-time faculty members. Emphasis was placed on robotic-assisted surgery, telemedicine and technology. The Department was recognized nationally for its academic and training achievements and leadership 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.

Jeffrey B. Matthews, 2001-2006

Dr. Michael S. Nussbaum (2006-2008), Professor of Surgery and Interim Chair, 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. 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 later Professor and Chair of Surgery at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke, Virginia.

Michael S. Nussbaum, 2006-2008

Dr. Michael J. Edwards (2008-2019), the seventh Christian R. Holmes Professor and Chair, was an oncologic surgeon who specialized 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. 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. He 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.



Michael J. Edwards, 2008-2019

Dr. Jeffrey J. Sussman (2019-2023), the eighth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Interim Chair, 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 2007-2015. Dr. Sussman 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 many 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.

Jeffrey J. Sussman, 2019-2023

Dr. David A. Gerber (2023-present), the ninth Christian R. Holmes Professor of Surgery and Chair, is a transplant surgeon who specializes in solid organ transplantation and liver cancer. His research focuses on cell biology and tissue engineering in the field of regenerative medicine and on the relationship of the matrix/environment that supports the growth and differentiation of select stem cell populations into functional tissues. He has served on the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Advisory Committee on Transplantation and on the boards of the United Network for Organ Sharing and the national Organ Procurement Transplant Network (OPTN). He also serves as the chief medical officer of Biomed Organ Bank, LLC, a company focused on developing ex vivo organ preservation technologies. The recipient of more than 25 basic science grants, Gerber has been principal investigator or co-investigator of over 40 industry-sponsored clinical trials focusing on advancing patient outcomes in transplantation and hepatocellular carcinoma. He has published more than 200 publications, abstracts and book chapters in the areas of transplantation, stem cell biology, regenerative medicine and liver cancer.

David A. Gerber, 2023-present

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD

Professor of Surgery

Vice Chair for Education

Director, Division of Education

Director, Residency Program in General Surgery

The Office of **Education**

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD – Director, Division of Education; Director, Residency Program in General Surgery. Dr. Sussman oversees outstanding leadership and innovation by the associate directors and staff in their stewardship of our surgical education program.

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.

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

Latifa Sage Silski, MD – Director, Surgery Student Education. Dr. Silski brings her passion and energy for surgical education to the Surgery Student program and serves as a role model and mentor.

Jennifer S. Colvin, MD – Associate Director, Surgery Student Education. Dr. Colvin brings a strong dedication to teaching medical students and serves as a role model and mentor.

Carla F. Justiniano, MD – Associate Director, Surgery Student Education. Dr. Justiniano has a strong interest in teaching medical students and serves as a role model and mentor.

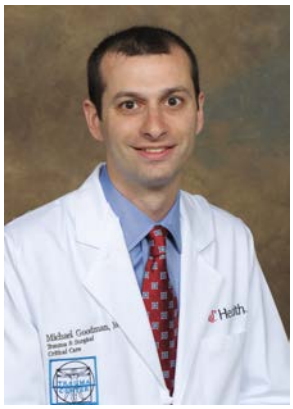
Sameer H. Patel, MD – Director, Transition to Residency – Surgical Track. Dr. Patel is a dedicated mentor to medical students who are pursuing surgical residency.

Stephanie Sisak, MD – Robert H. Bower Administrative Chief Resident.

Amy T. Makley, MD
Professor of Surgery
Division of General Surgery

Director, UCMC Trauma Surgery

Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery



Michael D. Goodman, MD
Professor of Surgery
Division of General Surgery

Vice Chair for Research
Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery

Krishna P. Athota, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of General Surgery

Program Director, Fellowship in Critical Care Surgery

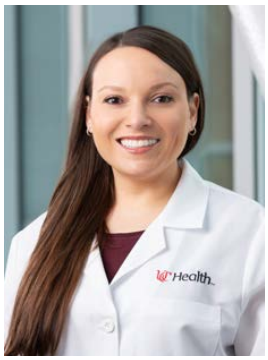
Associate Director, Residency Program in General Surgery

Latifa Sage Silski, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplantation

Director, Surgical Student Education

Jennifer S. Colvin, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of General Surgery

Associate Director, Surgery Student Education



Carla F. Justiniano, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery

Associate Director, Surgery Student Education

Sameer H. Patel, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Surgical Oncology

Director, Transition to Residency – Surgical Track

Stephanie Sisak, MD
Robert H. Bower Administrative Chief Resident

Administrative Team

Jenna M. Smith, MHA, Residency Coordinator and Manager, Office of Education

Beth Humensky, Assistant Residency Coordinator

Elizabeth Loechle, Program Coordinator, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship

Nikki Norman, Surgery Medical Student Coordinator

Gilda Sester, Residency Coordinator Emeritus and Special Project Manager

Steve Wiesner, Electronic Publishing Coordinator

The Education team has made many significant accomplishments including:

- Expansion of virtual simulation practice opportunities with 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.
- Website and recruitment process improvements.
- Expanded new Peer to Peer mentoring and conference programs.
- 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 regional 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 88 residents and fellows. The following lists these resident and fellowship programs for 2025-2026:

Resident Programs (70):

- General Surgery (41)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (12)
- Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery (6)
- Thoracic Surgery (6)
- Vascular Surgery (5)

Fellowship and Advanced Training Programs (18):

- Congenital Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Program (1)
- Pediatric Surgery (2)
- Pediatric Surgical Critical Care (2)
- Pediatric Surgery Subspecialty (5)
- Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery (3)
- Surgical Critical Care (2)
- Transplant Surgery (3)

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
- Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
- West Chester Hospital
- The Christ Hospital
- Mzuzu Central Hospital, Malawi, Africa

Clinical experience is supplemented by an extensive series of educational conferences and surgical simulation experience. 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 (FLS)
- 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 institution-al 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).

2024-2025 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 meet 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 2024-2025, we had the privilege of hosting 12 Visiting Professors and continued to offer virtual Grand Rounds:

July 24, 2024

Visiting Professor hosted by Division of Surgical Oncology

Shailesh V. Shrikhande, MS, MD, FRCS (hon), FASA (hon)

Deputy Director, Tata Memorial Hospital

Professor and Head, Cancer Surgery

Chief, GI and HPB Service, Tata Memorial Centre

Mumbai, India

President, APHPBA

Secretary General Elect, IHPBA

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Vascular and Multivisceral Pancreatic Resections"

October 9, 2024

Twenty-Second Barrows Memorial Lectureship

Eric Elster, MD, FACS, FRCS (Eng), CAPT, MC, USN (Ret.)

Dean, School of Medicine

Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Uniformed Services University

Bethesda, MD

Surgical Grand Rounds: "SC2i: Applying Precision Medicine to Critical Care"

October 30, 2024

Twenty-Second John J. McDonough Sr. & Elizabeth Ann Donovan Visiting Professor

Hosted by the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Adnan Alseidi, MD, EdM, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Vice Chair for Education

Department of Surgery

University of California – San Francisco, CA

Surgical Grand Rounds: "The Changing Landscape of Psychomotor Training: A Focus on Autonomy, Entrustment, & the JOY of Surgery"

November 6, 2024

Seventeenth Annual Heekin Family Lectureship

Sandy Feng, MD, PhD

Professor of Surgery

Division of Transplant Surgery

Vice Chair for Research

Department of Surgery

University of California – San Francisco, CA

Surgical Grand Rounds: "The Dramatically Changing Landscape of Liver Transplantation"

November 20, 2024

Twenty-Fourth J. Rawson Collins Visiting Professor

Karen J. Brasel, MD, MPH, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Division of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

Oregon Health & Science University

Vice President, The American Board of Surgery

Philadelphia, PA

Surgical Grand Rounds: "What Happens Next: Quality of Life after Traumatic Injury"












January 15, 2025

Twentieth William A. Altemeier Visiting Professor

Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS

Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

American College of Surgeons

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Insights from Military Surgical History"

February 26, 2025

Visiting Professor hosted by Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Eric R. Carlson, DMD, MD, EdM, FACS

Professor and Kelly L. Krahwinkel Endowed Chairman

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Collaborative Professional Development in Academic Medicine"

March 12, 2025

Seventeenth Richard F. Kempczinski Visiting Professor

Gilbert ("Gib") Upchurch, Jr., MD

Edward M. Copeland III and Ann & Ira Horowitz Professor & Chair, Department of Surgery

University of Florida

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Our Role in Caring for Patients with Complex Diseases"

April 16, 2025

Henry W. Neale Visiting Professor

Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

Professor

Department of Plastic Surgery

The Ohio State University

Wexner Medical Center

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Five Principles for Improving Outcomes in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction – Evidence, Technique, and Tips"

April 30, 2025

Second Popplewell Family Visiting Professor

Lisa McElroy, MD, MS, FACS

Assistant Professor of Surgery and Population Health Sciences

Division of Abdominal Transplantation

Department of Surgery

Duke University, Durham, NC

Surgical Grand Rounds: "From Policy to Practice: A Multilevel Framework for Improving Access to Complex Surgical Care"

May 21, 2025

Sixth Annual Robert P. Hummel, MD Visiting Professor

Jordan M. Winter, MD, MBA, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Chief of Surgical Oncology

Director of Surgical Services, Seidman Cancer Center

Co-Director, Developmental Therapeutics Program, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center

Case Western Reserve University

Surgical Grand Rounds: "On Becoming a Surgeon-Scientist"

June 18, 2025

Eighteenth Max & Molly Fischer Visiting Professor

Callisia N. Clarke, MD, MS

Douglas B. Evans Endowed Chair for Surgical Research

Associate Professor of Surgery

Division Chief of Surgical Oncology

Associate Director of Clinical Research

Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center

Surgical Grand Rounds: "Inclusive Excellence: A Pathway to Closing Cancer Disparities"

Residency Program in General Surgery

Jeffrey J. Sussman, MD, Program Director
Vice Chair, Education
Professor of Surgery
Division of Surgical Oncology
Director, Division of Education

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

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

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

Jenna M. Smith, MHA, Office Manager & Residency Program Coordinator
513-558-4206
lengerja@ucmail.uc.edu

Beth Humensky, Assistant Residency Coordinator
513-558-5862
limkeer@ucmail.uc.edu
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)
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. 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 gastro-intestinal 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.







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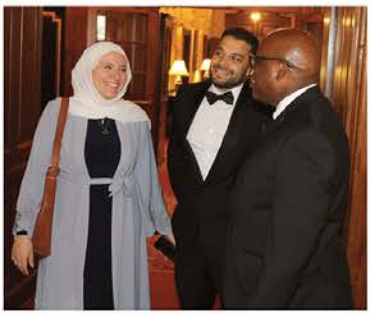
THE SURGEON

2018
2025












General Surgery Residents 2024-2025

Graduating Chief Residents:

Allison M. Ammann, MD – Texas Tech University – Entered Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at UTHealth, Houston, TX

Aaron M. Delman, MD – Wayne State University – Entered Transplant Surgery Fellowship at Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Kevin M. Turner, MD – Loyola University – Entered Surgical Oncology Fellowship at Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL

Dennis M. Vaysburg, MD – Temple University – Entered MIS/Bariatric Fellowship at Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

Taylor E. Wallen, MD – Central Michigan University – Entered Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at The University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL

General Surgery Residents 2025-2026

First Year:

Jami C. Alamar, MD – Florida International University

Nicolas L. Noriega, MD – University of Cincinnati

Elwin B. Rutayomba, MD – Texas Tech University

W. Hudson Shaw, MD – University of Florida

Jacob R. Knowlton, MD – Michigan State University

Jacob W. Wagner, MD – Wright State University

Olivia M. Zyniewicz, MD – University of Cincinnati

Second Year:

Brooke T. Beanland, MD – University of Texas at Houston

Julia M. Bosco, MD – Medical College of Wisconsin

Caden M. Fritson, MD – University of Nebraska

Lauren C. Haley, MD, MBA – University of Texas at Houston

Jacob R. Knowlton, MD – Michigan State University

Alexander J. Teague, MD – Carle Illinois College of Medicine

Ali S. Yamani, MD – University of Cincinnati

Research:

Jonathan T. Beyeler, MD – University of Mississippi

Colton G. Brown, MD – Medical College of Wisconsin

Emilie M. Buisson, MD – University of Cincinnati

Ryan P. Johnson, MD – University of Chicago

Arti U. Machchhar, MD – University of Texas Southwestern

Allison N. Moore, MD – University of Colorado

Marissa A. Ray, MD – Wayne State University

Megan A. Satyadi, MD – University of South Florida

Daniel R. Streetman, MD – Mercer University

Darren C. Turner, MD – University of Miami

Gregory C. Wetmore, MD – State University of New York – Upstate

Third Year:

Obieda "Obie" M. Atiyani, MD – University of Louisville

Ellen R. Becker, MD – Medical College of Wisconsin

Szu-Aun Long, MD – East Carolina University

Catherine G. Pratt, MD – University of Vermont

Lindsey J. Wattley, MD – University of Cincinnati

Fourth Year:

Michela M. Carter, MD – University of Cincinnati

Ryan C. Chae, MD – University of Cincinnati

Stephen J. Hartman, MD – University of California, San Diego

Kevin Kulshrestha, MD – University of Pennsylvania

Adam D. Price, MD – University of Cincinnati

Jenna N. Whitrock, MD – University of Missouri-Columbia

Chief Year:

M. Ryan Baucom, MD – East Carolina University

Zishaan A. Farooqui, MD, PhD – University of Michigan

Paul H. McClelland, MD – Weill Cornell Medicine

Mordechai G. Sadowsky, MD – Wayne State University

Emily J. Schepers, MD – University of Missouri - Columbia

Stephanie Sisak, MD – Drexel University

Honors and Awards 2024-2025

Faculty:

[19 UC surgeons were included among *Cincinnati Magazine* Top Docs for 2025]

Mr. Thomas Blakeman and **Drs. Michael Goodman, Timothy Pritts, Dorothy Supp, Gregory Wilson,** and **Steve Woodle** were honored by the UC Office of Research as Research Rainmakers whose sponsored research awards in fiscal year 2024 placed them in the top 25% of earners at UC.

Dr. Madison Cuffy was named Chief of the Division of Transplantation.

Dr. Douglas Dembinski was recognized at an October 2024 UC Bearcat football game for his compassionate care and excellence in breast cancer reconstructive surgery as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Dr. Carla Justiniano was selected by the Central Surgical Association's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee as the recipient of the 2025 Travel Scholarship for Historically and Intentionally Excluded Populations.

Dr. Andrew Kung was named a recipient of the EAST/John M. Templeton, Jr., MD Military Call to Service Scholarship. Dr. Kung also received a Commendation for Exceptional Leadership at the 2025 Doctors Day event held by UC Health.

Dr. David Morrison served as President of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Dr. Valerie Sams was nominated as a Health Care Hero in the Provider category at the Cincinnati Business Courier's 2025 Health Care Heroes event held on February 13, 2025. Dr. Sams was also featured on Fox 19 Now's Salute to Service, Honoring Veterans on Veterans Day segment.

Dr. Sandra Starnes was named a Director of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

Dr. Jeffrey Sussman was named Chair of the Educational Program Committee of the UC College of Medicine's MD Program.

Dr. Jonathan Thompson passed the American Board of Obesity Medicine certification exam and is now board certified in obesity medicine.

Dr. Robert Van Haren was named Director of CROSS, the Cincinnati Research in Outcomes and Safety in Surgery research group.

Dr. Andrew Waters won a 2025 Dr. Peter Stambrook pilot grant award of $80,000 supported by the American Cancer Society Institutional Research Grant Program for early-stage investigators working in cancer-related fields.

Dr. E. Steve Woodle was selected as one of the 2025 Ashbel Smith Distinguished Alumnus Award recipients by the University of Texas Medical Branch. He also won the 2025 American Society of Transplantation Senior Achievement Award in Clinical Transplantation.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR HONORED

Jenna M. Smith, MHA, General Surgery Residency Program Coordinator, was one of three recipients of the 2025 UC Health GME Program Coordinator Excellence Awards given to individuals who stood out for their remarkable dedication, professionalism, and impact on our GME community. Jenna also serves as GME Program Manager and Chair of the Program Coordinator Advisory Committee. Her award citation reads:

"In just four years, this coordinator has become the backbone of a high-intensity surgical residency. She's implemented new technologies and processes that ensure seamless operations and compliance, even in the face of complex accreditation demands. Her attention to detail and proactive communication have earned her the trust of faculty and trainees alike. But she doesn't stop at her own program. She's actively engaged in the broader GME community, sharing insights and strengthening connections across departments as Chair of the newly formed GME Program Coordinator Advisory Committee. Her work is marked by precision, professionalism, and a deep commitment to excellence."

[In the photo, Jenna is shown (at right) with Jennifer K. O'Toole, MD, MEd, SFHM, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, UC College of Medicine.]

General Surgery Residents:

Drs. Ryan Baucom, Kouder Dakhlallah, and **Grant Gullion** were selected as three of only ten residents nominated by the EM residents for the 2024–2025 Consultant of the Year award. This honor recognizes residents who consistently go above and beyond in the Emergency Department, serving as kind, efficient, and knowledgeable consultants.

Drs. Ellen Becker and **Lindsey Wattley** are the 2025 Resident Paper Competition Winners for American College of Surgeons Ohio Chapter.

Dr. Ryan Chae won the 2024 Carol EH Scott-Connor Award for the Best Resident Presentation at the Central Surgical Association meeting.

Dr. Aaron Delman was recognized by UC Health'sPatient Experience and the GME office for his stellar care of a patient who reached out to UC Health Patient Experience to give a "resident shout out."

Dr. Zishaan Farooqui was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, Class of 2024.

Dr. Stephen Hartman received a 2025 Poster of Distinction Award at the 2025 American Society of Transplant Surgeons Winter Symposium.

Dr. Paul McClelland won the Dale Han Memorial Award at SSO 2025 for his podium presentation, "Adoptive Cell Transfer of Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes for Acral Lentiginous Melanoma." At Pancreas Club 2025, he won a Poster of Distinction Award for his poster, "Assessing response and outcomes to modern multiagent neoadjuvant chemotherapy for pancreatic ductal adeno-carcinoma."

Dr. Emily Schepers was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, Class of 2024.

Dr. Kevin Turner was selected as a fellow of the National Pancreas Foundation.

Dr. Dennis Vaysburg was selected for the 2025 Arnold P. Gold Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award.

Drs. Lindsey Wattley and Gregory Wetmore won the Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition in the Basic Science and Clinical categories, respectively. Both moved on to compete in the Region V COT competition in Milwaukee on November 20. **Dr. Wetmore** won this regional competition and competed in the National Committee on Trauma competition.

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.

Global Surgery Rotation

Michael D. Goodman, MD, Co-Director
Professor of Surgery
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML 0558) Cincinnati,
OH 45267-0558
513-558-5861

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.

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.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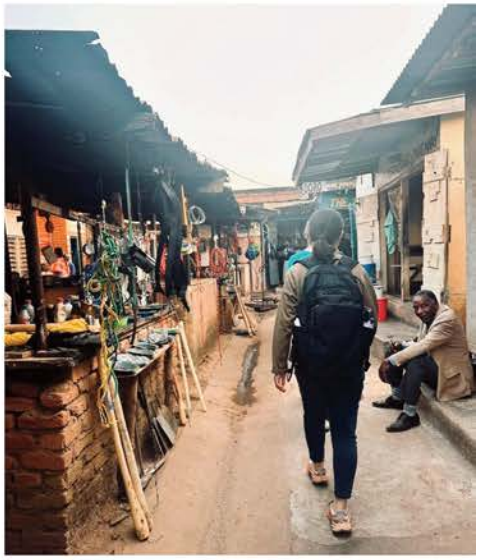
PENKS INVESTMENT



Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Deepak G. Krishnan, DDS, FACS, FDSRCPS(Glasg)
Program Director
Professor of Clinical Surgery
Chief, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Department of Surgery

Yvonne Hawkins, Program Coordinator
Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
200 Albert Sabin Way (ML 0461)
Cincinnati, OH 45219
513-584-2586
Yvonne.Hawkins@uc.edu

A Legacy of Excellence

The Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) residency program at the University of Cincinnati stands as one of the oldest training programs of its kind in the United States. Its rich history, which spans more than a century, reflects a tradition of surgical excellence, academic rigor, and leadership within the specialty. In 2013, the program celebrated its centennial — a milestone that honored generations of surgeons who have shaped the practice of OMS locally, nationally, and internationally.

Dr. John Ross Callahan

Accredited at its most recent review for the full five-year cycle in February 2022, the program continues to be recognized for the quality of its training and its unwavering commitment to preparing the next generation of oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

The Scope of Training

The UC OMS program is distinguished by the breadth and depth of its clinical training. Residents are educated in all facets of the specialty, including:

* Facial trauma management
* Surgical correction of skeletal deformities (orthognathic surgery)
* Pediatric OMS and management of congenital anomalies
* Pathology of the oral and maxillofacial regions
* Facial aesthetic surgery
* Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) surgery
* Dentoalveolar surgery
* Ambulatory anesthesia
* Oral Medicine, oral pathology
* Facial pain and TMD
* Prosthodontics and anaplastology

This wide-ranging experience ensures that our graduates are not only competent in the core areas of OMS but are prepared to lead in both academic and clinical settings.

Commitment to Academic Achievement

The principal goal of the UC OMS residency is to train surgeons capable of practicing the full scope of the specialty while maintaining the highest standards of academic achievement.

The program offers a four-year certificate track that emphasizes both clinical excellence and scholarly engagement.

Since 2005, the program has maintained a 100% success rate in board certification through the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery — a record highlighted in a recent ABOMS publication.

Residents consistently achieve competitive scores on the OMSITE examination, placing them among the strongest programs nationwide.

This academic culture instills discipline, curiosity, and a pursuit of mastery that defines the program's graduates.

Faculty and Interdisciplinary Collaboration

The Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is strengthened by a diverse and accomplished faculty. Specialists in OMS are complemented by expertise in:

* Oral and maxillofacial pathology
* Oral and maxillofacial prosthodontics
* Orofacial pain and temporomandibular disorders (TMD)
* Craniofacial orthodontics, in close collaboration with Cincinnati Children's Hospital

This interdisciplinary faculty structure enriches the learning environment and provides residents with a broader perspective of patient care and research.

Clinical Training Sites

Residents provide care in a wide variety of clinical settings, each offering unique patient populations and case mixes:

* University of Cincinnati Medical Center – the region's only Level I trauma center, where residents gain extensive experience in maxillofacial trauma and reconstructive surgery.
* Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center – a world-renowned pediatric hospital offering specialized training in pediatric OMS, cleft, and craniofacial surgery.
* Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center – providing complex OMS care in the veteran population.
* West Chester Hospital – a modern facility expanding surgical opportunities in the suburban and community setting.

This breadth of clinical sites ensures comprehensive exposure and the ability to adapt to diverse practice environments.

Integration with Medicine and Surgery

OMS is uniquely positioned at the intersection of medicine and dentistry. Training at UC reflects this dual identity, with rotations through:

* General surgery
* Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery
* Plastic and reconstructive surgery
* Internal medicine
* Anesthesia (six months, with significant emphasis on pediatric anesthesia)

International experiences, such as rotations in cleft lip and palate surgery in India, offer residents exposure to global health perspectives. While these rotations are not designed to certify competence, they broaden surgical vision and cultural understanding.

Research and Scholarship

Scholarship is central to the mission of the Division. Residents are encouraged and expected to engage in clinical or translational research projects that culminate in:

* Abstract presentations at national meetings
* Publications in peer-reviewed journals

Current areas of investigation include:

* The socioeconomic impact of managing facial trauma
* 3D planning and printing for personalized surgical reconstruction
* Long-term outcomes following full-mouth extractions
* Buffered lidocaine efficacy in odontogenic infections
* Multicenter trials on implant effectiveness
* AI modeling for predicting infection treatment regimens
* Incidence and outcomes of pediatric salivary tumors
* Weight loss trajectories following orthognathic surgery
* MRONJ incidence trends
* Keratocystic odontogenic tumor recurrence after 5-fluorouracil therapy
* Complications of non-invasive positive airway pressure

Faculty and residents regularly present their work at the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the International Conference on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ICOMS), the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology (ADSA) and other national and international meetings.

Teaching and Educational Outreach

Education extends beyond residents to include:

* Medical Students: OMS serves as a highly regarded surgical clerkship for University of Cincinnati medical students.
* Dental Externs: Students from across the nation participate in OMS externships, gaining exposure to the specialty in a robust academic environment
* Intern Boot Camp: UC OMS hosts the annual boot camp for all incoming OMS residents in Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana — a tradition ongoing for more than a decade.
* UC Pre-Dental Club: UC OMS routinely hosts students from the undergraduate campus interested in pursuing careers in oral healthcare and dentistry.

Expanding Fellowship Training

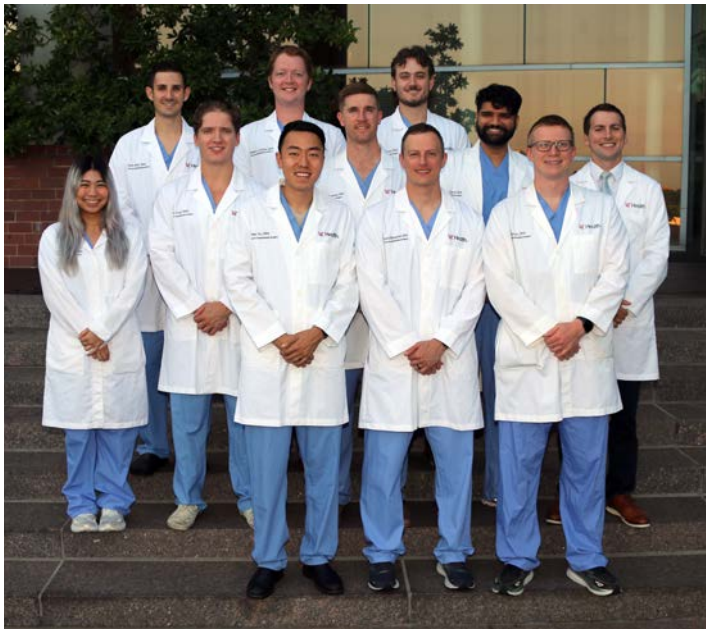
In 2025, the Division will inaugurate a Fellowship in Jaw and Jaw-joint Surgery This advanced training program reflects the division's commitment to innovation and leadership in emerging areas of OMS. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Health of the Sultanate of Oman, junior faculty will train in corrective jaw and joint surgery, furthering the program's global reach and influence.

Leadership and Service

UC OMS residents and faculty play active roles in shaping the specialty through service on committees and organizations at the local, regional, national, and international levels. This tradition of leadership reflects the program's influence on the policies, standards, and future directions of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

The Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Cincinnati combines history, innovation, and excellence. With its century-long tradition, unwavering commitment to board certification and scholarship, and its influence in shaping the specialty worldwide, the program stands as a model of what OMS training should be.

At UC, we do not simply train oral and maxillofacial surgeons — we cultivate leaders, educators, and innovators who carry forward the legacy of oral and maxillofacial surgery into the future.



Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residents 2025-2026

First Year:

Conley Green, DDS – University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

Balraj Grewal, DDS – University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine

Katrina Nishikawa, DDS – University of the Pacific School of Dentistry

John Todd, DDS – University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine

Second Year:

James Beckner, DDS – University of Tennessee College of Dentistry

Kouder Dakhlallah, DDS – University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry

Krunal Pachigar, DMD – University of Florida College of Dentistry

Third Year:

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

Grant Gullion, DDS – University of Iowa College of Dentistry

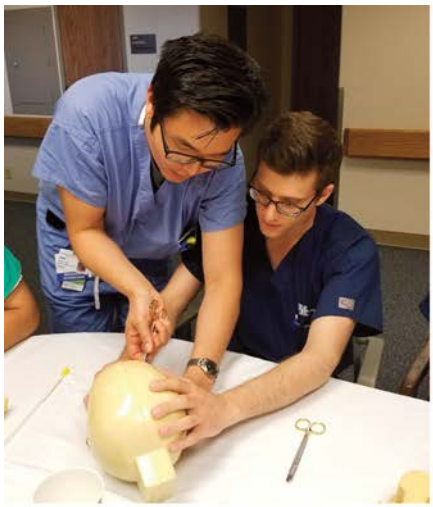
Zachary Stott, DDS – University of Washington School of Dentistry

Fourth Year:

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



Intern boot camp held annually in July by the Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. First year residents from several OMS training programs in the region converge at UC and go through a simulated skills boot camp preparing them for practical tasks that will help them in their initial stages of training. This year marks the 11th intern boot camp that UC OMS has hosted.

Residency Program in Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery

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

Kristen Merkhofer, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand/Burn Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558
513-558-4363
merkhokn@ucmail.uc.edu

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 UC Medical Center, UC West Chester Hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center 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 and dedication to excellence. 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. Content-based rotations in two month increments 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. Repetition of the core rotations over the three senior residency years provides built-in graduated and progressive responsibility and prepares our residents for independent practice.

The division has used the ACGME's Milestone 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

- 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
- Wednesday 9:00-10:00am – Plastic Surgery Curriculum Conference with attending participation directed by Dr. Doug Dembinski, Associate Program Director. The full spectrum of plastic surgery is covered in a rotating three-year schedule.
- Thursday or Friday morning – In-Service Prep and Review
- Combined Ortho/Plastics conference 2nd and 4th Friday of month. Hand education is also organized in a rotating two-year schedule.
- Journal Club 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Last Thursday of each month.
- Conference schedules are published at the beginning of the year to allow 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 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 a 30-minute formal Grand Rounds presentation. 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. Schwentker and Dr. Gobble. 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 University Hospital, with injections performed in clinic at the MAB and during quarterly injection labs staffed by Dr. Schwentker at the Children's Hospital.

Micro Lab

Microscopic laboratory sessions are planned regularly 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. Attendings and residents share responsibility for their own education and contribution to the betterment of the specialty. Engagement in research activity is mandatory and will be considered for promotion and ultimate completion of the residency.

Residents are expected to make significant progress in a selected research project each academic year. Residents are expected to submit an abstract for presentation and/or a paper to a peer-reviewed journal each academic year.

With prior planning, reasonable 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, Vascular, General Surgery, General Surgery, Orthopedics, Podiatry, Urology, and outside programs.

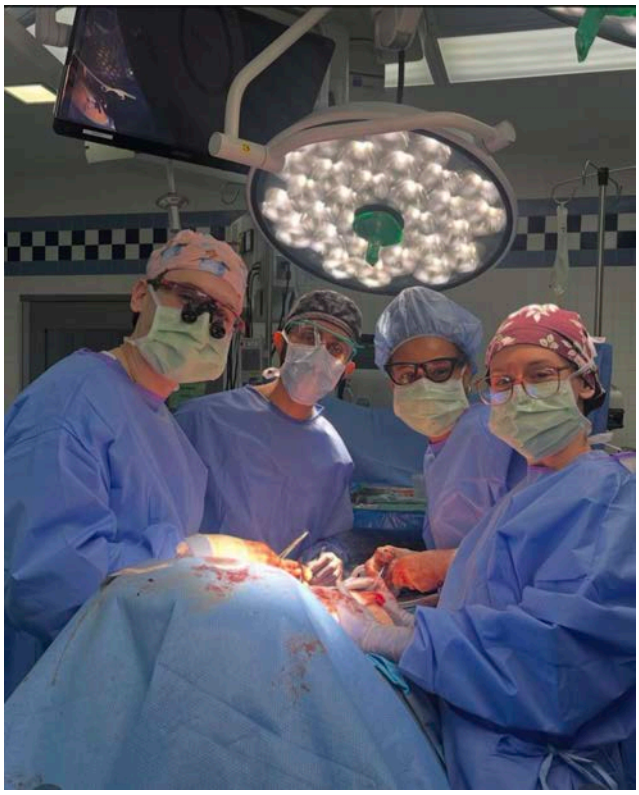
We have instituted a Junior Resident Skills Checklist to track knowledge and skills acquired during the plastic surgery rotation. This serves as a useful metric to the home program and determines when junior residents are able to perform consults and minor procedures without direct supervision.

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.



Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery Residents 2025-2026

Independent Program:

PGY-6: Calvin Korba, MD
Medical Degree: University of Missouri - Kansas City
General Surgery Residency: Southern Illinois University

PGY-7: Anniki Witter, MD
Medical Degree: University of the West Indies
General Surgery Residency: University of Miami

PGY-8 (Chief): Justin Puthoff, MD
Medical Degree: University of South Carolina
General Surgery Residency: University of Oklahoma - Tulsa

Integrated Program:

PGY-1: Meredyth Berard, MD – Louisiana State University

PGY-2: Kiersten Woodyard De Brito, MD – University of Cincinnati

PGY-3: Nathan Lawera, MD – University of Cincinnati

PGY-4: Kelly Spiller, MD – Wright State University

PGY-5: Sydni Meunier, MD – Loyola University - Chicago Stritch School of Medicine

PGY-6 (Chief): Nathaniel Roberson, MD – University of Cincinnati











M24


ABA

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

Ashley E. Walther, MD, Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Surgical Lead, Aerodigestive and Esophageal Center
Co-Director, Center for Bariatric 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 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 after completion of a general surgery chief residency. 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.

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 22 full-time pediatric surgeons, 4 PhD researchers, 28 advanced practice providers, 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 annually. The emergency department evaluates over 100,000 patients each year. Each resident completes approximately 1,100-1,300 pediatric surgery cases during their residency. In addition to training the categorical pediatric surgery fellows (residents), the division offers training experiences in Surgical Critical Care, ECMO, Fetal Surgery, Colorectal Surgery, Intestinal Rehabilitation and Vascular Malformations/Oncology within the construct called the Subspecialty Fellowship program. We also offer a one-year fellowship in Acute Care Surgery (previously International Fellowship).

Additionally, there are opportunities to perform basic science research in bench work labs led by clinician scientists (Helmrath, Bondoc, Merola, Galganski and Tiao) and PhD researchers (Timchenko and Shin). We recently have begun a Global Health/Outcomes focused research fellowship led by Dr. Meera Kotagal.

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, 2025-2026

Andrew Hu, MBChB – Senior Fellow
MBChB – The University of Sheffield

Shannon Cramm, MD – Junior Fellow
MD – University of Michigan Medical School

Advanced Training Program in Cardiothoracic Surgery

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

Tonya Esterkamp, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Section of Thoracic Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558
513-584-1387
esterktg@ucmail.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 36 in the country. Our program provides 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 cardio-thoracic critical care.

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, total arterial bypass grafting and minimally-invasive cardiac surgery, including minimally-invasive coronary bypass. 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 also rotate at a community cardiac center, the Christ Hospital. This site provides exposure to a high-volume community cardiac surgery program with faculty that are dedicated to resident education. In addition, this 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 post-operative 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 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 2025-2026

PGY1:

Hamza Ghannam, MD – University of Arizona

PGY2:

Hannah Vester, MD – University of Cincinnati

PGY3:

Nicole Kaley, MD – Creighton University

PGY4:

Valeria V. Farias, MD – SUNY Downstate

PGY5:

Keaton Cooley, MD – University of California, Irvine

PGY6 (Chief):

John Kennedy, MD – University of Central Florida









CINCY
Faculty
Residents






Congenital Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Program

David Lehenbauer, MD, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics
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@cchmc.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 Fellow (non-ACGME):

Niall Khan, MBChB

Medical School – Trinity College of Dublin

Residency – National Surgical Training Program, Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland

Abdominal Multi-Organ Transplant Fellowship Training Program

Kristina H.K. Lemon, MD, Program Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplantation

Genia Goodin, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
Division of Transplantation
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0519)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0519
513-558-6001
goodingl@ucmail.uc.edu

The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine's Abdominal Multi-organ Transplant fellowship enrolled its inaugural fellow in 1969, and since that time has graduated a total of 49 fellows. The program is accredited through the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS) and the Transplant Accreditation & Certification Council (TACC). Our fellowship employs three fellows (matching 2 and 1 on alternate years).

The fellowship consists of two clinical years of training in adult and pediatric 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. The fellows become proficient in not only the surgical aspects of transplantation, but also in the clinical management of the routine and complex transplant patient.

The philosophy of our 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 transplant, hepatobiliary, and vascular access patients.

The transplant surgery fellow leads the inpatient care of all transplant patients at UC Medical Center. All organ transplant 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 multidisciplinary 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, as well as 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.

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) discuss a didactic transplant related topic. Over the past year, we have added simulation training session in for our fellows partnering with our local OPO, Network for Hope, to utilize organs unsuitable for transplant for educational purposes.

2024-2025 Visiting Speakers

November 5-6, 2024
Seventeenth Annual Heekin Family Lectureship
Sandy Feng, MD, PhD
Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplant Surgery
Vice Chair for Research, Department of Surgery University of California – San Francisco
Transplant Grand Rounds: "The Distant Horizon for Children with Liver Transplants: Balancing Allograft and Patient"
Surgical Grand Rounds: "The Dramatically Changing Landscape of Liver Transplantation"

April 29-30, 2025
Second Popplewell Family Visiting Professor
Lisa McElroy, MD, MS, FACS
Assistant Professor of Surgery and Population Health Sciences
Division of Abdominal Transplantation
Department of Surgery
Duke University, Durham, NC
Transplant Grand Rounds: "Beyond Survival: Modernization of Transplant Allocation and Prioritization"
Surgical Grand Rounds: "From Policy to Practice: A Multilevel Framework for Improving Access to Complex Surgical Care"

Transplant Grand Rounds Guest Lecturers:

Dr. Lane Frasier – September 2024: "It's More Than Just Surgery: The Role of OR Teams and Staffing Patterns in Patient Outcomes"

Dr. R. Cutler Quillin – October 2024: "Expansion in Liver Transplant Volume with Hypothermic Oxygenated Machine Perfusion: A Single Center Experience"

Dr. Shika Jaiswal – December 2024: "EBV Viremia: Navigating Post-Transplant Challenges and Advancing Care"

Dr. Madison Cuffy – January 2025: "State of the Division Address"

Dr. Christine Haugen – March 2025: "Obesity and Liver Transplant"

Dr. Rebekah Nash Potts – May 2025: "Psychiatric Management of Transplant Patients"

Dr. Kris Croome – June 2025: "The Expansion of DCD Liver Transplant in the Era of Advanced Perfusion"

Transplant Surgery Fellows 2025-2026

First Year:

Giulia Bencini, MD

Residency – Azienda Ospedale di Padova

Joshua Hollingshead, MD

Residency – University of Kansas-Wichita

Second Year:

S. Whitney Zingg, MD

Residency – University of Cincinnati

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship

Krishna Athota, MD, Program Director

Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of General Surgery

Michael D. Goodman, MD, Associate Program Director

Professor of Surgery, Division of General Surgery

Elizabeth Loechle, Program Coordinator

Department of Surgery

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)

Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558

513-558-5861

loechleh@ucmail.uc.edu

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/venoarterial 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 2024 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:

Austin Jorski, DO

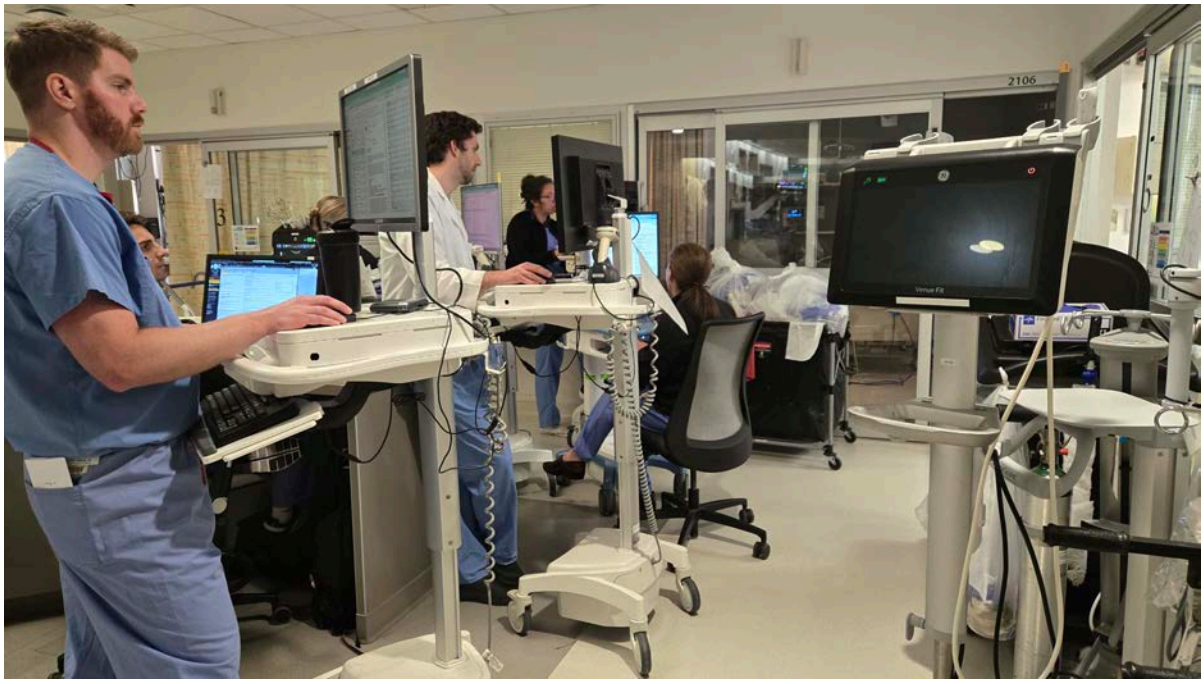
DO – Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

GS Residency – The Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati

Mackenzie Lee, MD

MD – University of Cincinnati

GS Residency – Loyola University Medical Center



Past Fellows:

2025 Sara Hensley, MD – Assistant Professor – Eskenazi Hospital – Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2025 Rafael Lozano, MD – Volunteer Instructor – University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.

2024 Andrew Kung, MD – Assistant Professor – Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences - Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Virginia.

2024 Stephen Markowiak, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma, Parkview Regional Medical Center, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

2023 Lauren Craugh, MD – Assistant Professor, Trauma, Indiana University Health, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2023 Tyler Williams, MD – Private Practice

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, Director, WCH Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, 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.

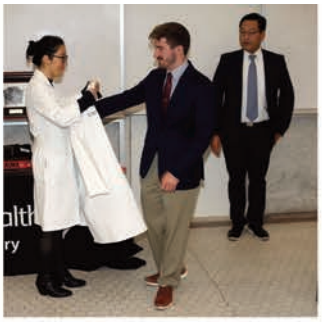
2009 Rachael Callcut, MD – Professor and Chief, Division of Trauma, Acute Care Surgery and Surgical Critical Care, UC Davis, Sacramento, California.

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.







CURRENT







CHAIN
SMOKER







Health
Surgery


Vascular Surgery Residency Program

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

Alexandra Riestenberg, Administrative & Program Coordinator
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
513-558-5367
riesteaa@ucmail.uc.edu

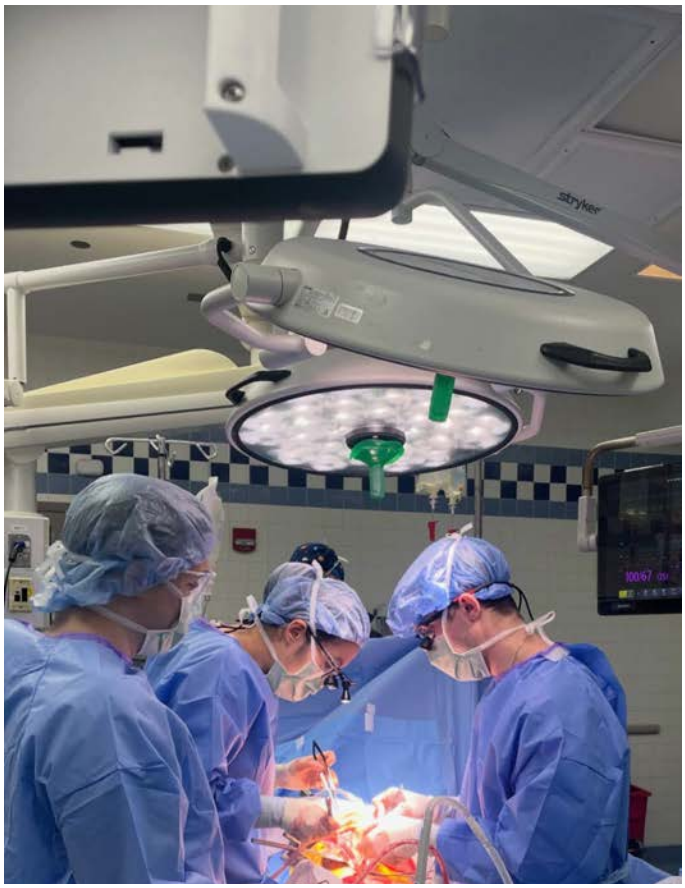
Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program

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 months of core surgical training and 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 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; as well as transplant surgery.

The goals of these rotations are to gain general surgery knowledge and skills with additional rotations intended specifically to expand the skill set 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
- Quarterly, Vascular QI Project / Research Noon Conference

Current Integrated Vascular Surgery Residents:

Eric Hammond, MD (Chief) – SUNY Upstate Medical University

Jacob Hughes, MD (Fourth Year) – Eastern Virginia Medical School

Koushik Mantripragada, MD (Third Year) – Florida Atlantic University

Jordan Byrne, MD (Second Year) – Medical University of South Carolina

Ajay Doniparthi, MD (First Year) – University of South Florida

Medical Student Education

Latifa Sage Silski, MD, Director
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Transplantation

Jennifer S. Colvin, MD, Associate Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of General Surgery

Carla F. Justiniano, MD, Associate Director
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Colon & Rectal Surgery

Sameer H. Patel, MD, Director, Transition to Residency – Surgical Track
Associate Professor of Surgery
Division of Surgical Oncology

Nikki Norman, Program Coordinator
Department of Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way (ML0558)
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0558
513-558-2134
normanno@ucmail.uc.edu

The Department of Surgery is committed to providing excellent educational experiences for medical students. We strive to create a culture that fosters mutual respect, personal growth and educational freedom to provide our students with tools to become excellent physicians, caretakers and leaders.

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. We also pride ourselves in providing connections and context for the students that pursue other specialties as they will be our future colleagues and collaborators in patient care.

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 and its role in the health care system. We have developed an elite team of mentors that provide specific counseling in the areas of research, career planning, and resident readiness.

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 student 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 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credit for any faculty member in attendance who completes the evaluation sheet.

The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine designates these educational activities for 1.0 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.

For information, please contact:

Jenna M. Smith, MHA
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Further information on the Office of Education can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

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
- Robotics

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 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:

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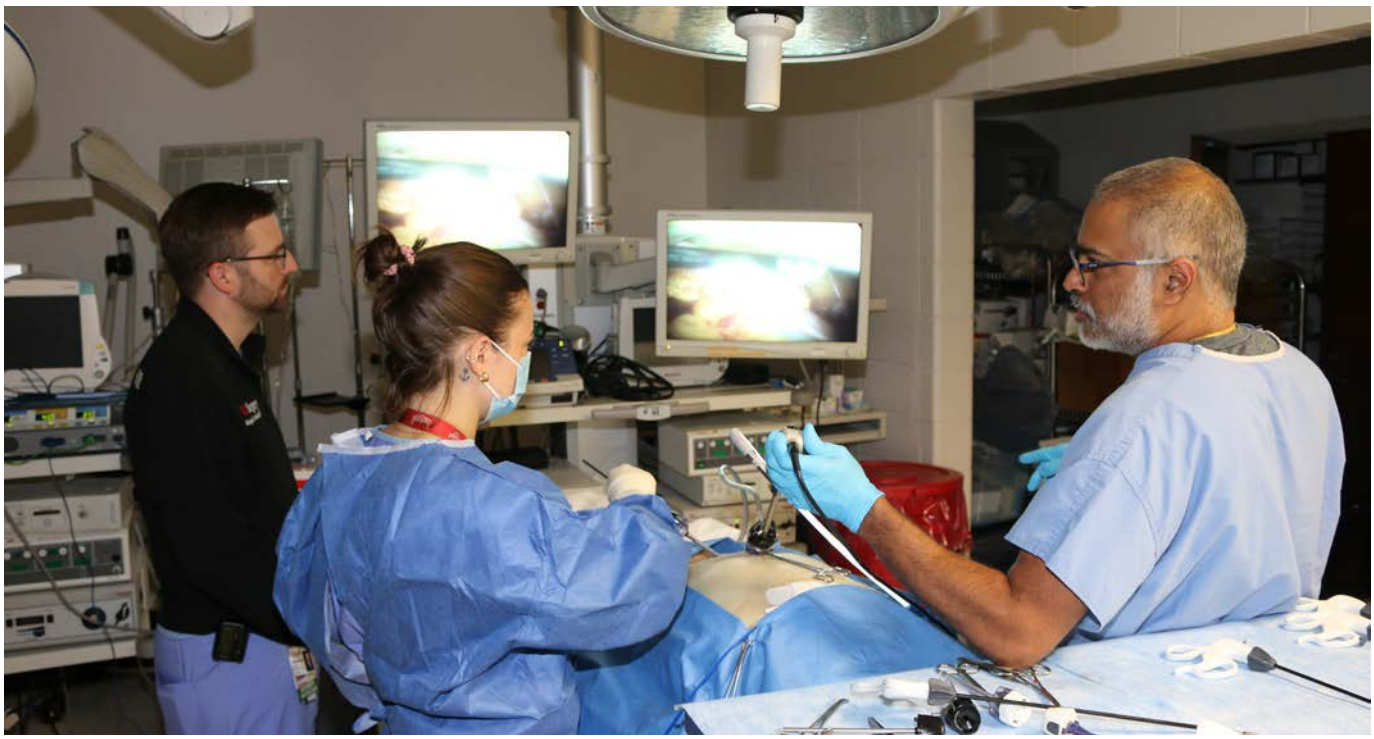















UC Institute for Military Medicine

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 lever-aged 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, neuro-inflammation 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:

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Additional information about the UC Institute for Military Medicine can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

The Division of

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Sandra L. Starnes, MD

Professor of Surgery

John B. Flege, Jr. Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery

Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

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The Section of Cardiac Surgery

The University of Cincinnati (UC) section 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 section performs the full spectrum of operative procedures in patients with cardiac and vascular diseases, including coronary revascularization, valve repair and replacement, aortic aneurysm repair, and ventricular assist device implantation, and is the region's first adult heart transplantation program.'

The section has a comprehensive coronary arterial revascularization program with expertise in all-arterial and off-pump coronary revascularization, as well as minimally-invasive cardiac surgery. Our advanced aortic program offers repair of complex thoracic aortic disease. This year, in collaboration with vascular surgery, we introduced the Thoraflex device for full aortic arch replacement, the only health system in the area to offer this innovative technology.

In collaboration with the Division of Cardiovascular Health and Disease, we have a multidisciplinary program for the treatment of atrial and ventricular arrhythmias. We introduced a novel extravascular Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) device and initiated a hybrid atrial fibrillation convergent procedure for the treatment of long-standing atrial fibrillation.

The section has the region's first 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.

UC has an integrated ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) program which benefits patients who would otherwise fail to survive conventional therapies and 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 section has a unique 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 Cardiovascular Health and Disease, Department of Internal Medicine, 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.

The Section has an expanding research enterprise, bringing innovation and cutting-edge treatment to improve the lives of patients with cardiovascular diseases, including tissue engineering and regenerative medicine approaches for tissue reconstruction and healing, a patient reported outcomes unit using a digital platform to collect direct measurements of patients' health status and quality of life after cardiac surgery.

The Section offers cutting edge clinical trials including the Cor TRICUSPUD valve replacement trial, a FDA Pivotal Study evaluating the effectiveness of a novel tissue engineered valve; the RECHARGE trial, evaluating coronary artery bypass surgery and percutaneous coronary revascularization among under-represented groups; and the CSL Behring trial, evaluating the efficacy and safety of PCC (prothrombin complex concentrate) in patients who are undergoing complex cardiovascular surgery. We also instituted a high-fidelity simulation lab, including a dedicated robotic cardiac simulation program, to train the next generation of surgeons and to enhance team dynamics and performance.

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, biventricular repairs, 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.

The division is creating a network of partners with the concept of one program with multiple sites to elevate pediatric cardiac care locally and increase access to care regionally, nationally and internationally. This year, there will be six sites including CCHMC, and 9 surgeons, with most sites having surgeons on the CCHMC faculty who work primarily at the partner programs. Sites include University of Kentucky Children's Hospital, Akron Children's Hospital, Peyton Manning Children's Hospital, Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, and Sheikh Khalifa Medical City – Abu Dhabi.

CCHMC 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 CCHMC, 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 including a team of 10 researchers with two 2-year research fellows in their general surgery or I-6 residency. They presently have three RO-1 NIH grants and publish approximately 30-35 manuscripts a year as a division. 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 and collaborate with companies such as Nvidia and Unity on building a surgical planning metaverse.

Faculty

Adult Cardiac Surgery Faculty:

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

Antonio Panza, MD
Professor of Surgery

Cristiano Spadaccio, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery

Samuel Russell Vester, MD
Professor of Surgery

Congenital Heart Surgery Faculty:

Awais Ashfaq, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Director, Congenital Research
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

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

Roosevelt Bryant, MD
Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Peyton Manning Children's Hospital

Tara Karamalou, MD
Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

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
Director, Congenital Heart Surgery
Bailey-Tweddell Chairs of Congenital Heart Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Marco Ricci, MD
Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Kyle Riggs, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Jack Wallen, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

The Section of Thoracic Surgery

The UC section 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 section 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.

The section specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, and performs a high volume of lung cancer surgery, from minor resections to highly complex thoracic operations. Most operations are performed minimally invasively, and we use Enhanced Recovery in Surgery (ERAS) protocols to obtain the best possible outcomes. Our surgeons use advanced localization procedures to accurately identify and remove small nodules during surgery. We have been recognized as "High Performing" in Lung Cancer Surgery in the 2025 *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 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 nurse coordinators to navigate patients through the screening process, 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 3,000 lung cancer screenings annually and we are recognized as a Screening Center of Excellence by the Go2 Foundation for Lung Cancer.

The section offers expertise in the evaluation and treatment of esophageal cancer and foregut disorders, 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 dietitians, and social workers. We also perform complex endoscopic procedures such as transoral incisionless fundoplication (TIF), which is a no-incision procedure to treat acid reflux, and concomitant TIF and robotic fundoplication (c-TIF) and endoscopic mucosal resection for early esophageal cancers in collaboration with the Division of Digestive Diseases.

We work with a multidisciplinary thoracic oncology team to treat uncommon complex tumors such as mesothelioma and thymic tumors. In conjunction with the Interventional Pulmonary and Thoracic Anesthesiology teams, we have a unique multidisciplinary Advanced Emphysema Program in which patients are evaluated jointly for Lung Volume Reduction procedures. We are one of only a few programs in Ohio to have Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) certification for our Lung Volume Reduction Surgery program.

The section has a robust research enterprise. The group collaborates with multiple departments in the UC College of Medicine and has active research projects in lung cancer outcomes including in underserved populations, lung cancer screening, the lung microbiome as a predictor of lung cancer outcomes, enhanced recovery pathway in thoracic surgery, as well as clinical trials in thoracic cancers. Our surgeons are active in leadership roles in all major thoracic surgical societies.

CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION

has been awarded to

University of Cincinnati Medical Center, LLC

Cincinnati, OH

for Advanced Certification in

Lung Volume Reduction Surgery

by

The Joint Commission

based on a review of compliance with national standards, clinical guidelines and outcomes of care.

March 15, 2025

Certification is customarily valid for up to 24 months.

Michael Sok, MD, JD, MPH, MBA, FACS
Chair, Board of Commissioners

ID #6988
Print/Reprint Date: 05/21/2025

Jonathan B. Perlin, MD, PhD, MSHA, MACP, FACMI
President and Chief Executive Officer

The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit national body that oversees the safety and quality of health care and other services provided in certified organizations. Information about certified organizations may be provided directly to The Joint Commission at 1-800-994-6610. Information regarding certification and the certification performance of individual organizations can be obtained through The Joint Commission's web site at www.jointcommission.org.

Faculty

Sandra L. Starnes, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery

John B. Flege, Jr. Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery

Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic 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.

Robert Van Haren, MD, MSPH

Associate Professor of Surgery

Program Director, Advanced Training Program in Cardiothoracic 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.

Amro Wafi, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Wafi specializes in all aspects of general thoracic surgery, including robotic lung and esophageal surgery and foregut surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Thoracic Surgery.

Additional information on the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Ian M. Paquette, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery
Ian.Paquette@uc.edu
513-929-0104

The Division of
Colon and Rectal Surgery

Surgeons in the University of Cincinnati (UC) division of colon and rectal surgery treat benign, malignant, and inflammatory conditions of the colon, rectum, and anus. Patients with colorectal cancer and polyposis syndromes, diverticulitis, inflammatory bowel disease, rectal prolapse and fecal incontinence, hemorrhoids and other benign anorectal disorders are seen at the UC Health Clifton Physicians Office Building adjacent to UC Medical Center and at the UC Health Physicians Office North in West Chester.

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 (TAMIS) 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 frequently utilized. 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 Center. These patients benefit from coordination of care across specialties. Our multi-disciplinary efforts to treat rectal cancer include a tumor board and clinical trials at UC Medical Center. We offer clinical trials for patients with various stages of cancer of the colon, rectum, or anus. 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. We are part of the national Rectal Cancer Surgery Consortium and have collaborated with the top rectal cancer centers in the United States to develop the best practices for nonoperative management of rectal cancer

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. We are an active contributor to the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) – Inflammatory Bowel Disease Collaborative as one of a handful of centers focusing on surgery for Crohn's and colitis. We have completed enrolling patients in a clinical trial of stem cell therapy to treat anal fistula disease in Crohn's patients, the only study of its kind in the region.

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.

We have the region's only anal dysplasia screening clinic, designed to decrease the incidence of anal cancer in our community.

We have a WOCN (Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing) certified nurse practitioner in our office, allowing us to take care of the most complex patients with wound and ostomy needs at all 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 38 national and international committees for colon and rectal surgery and has authored 132 peer-reviewed manuscripts.

Dr. Snyder is a reviewer for the journal D*iseases of the Colon and Rectum* and serves on the Peer Review Committee for West Chester Hospital. He also serves as the Chief of Surgery at West Chester Hospital.

Dr. Thompson serves on the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons' Public Relations Committee, 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 is the 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. She is the director of UC's NSQIP inflammatory bowel diseases registry and our National Rectal Cancer Accreditation Program. She is active in clinical outcomes research and is an associate surgery clerkship director for 3rd year medical students.

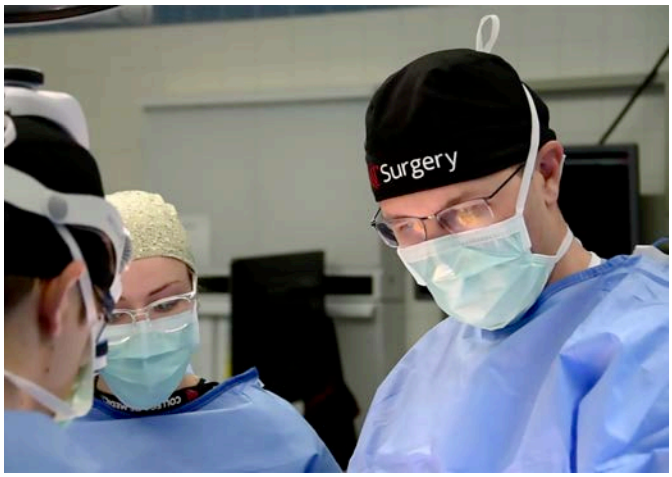
Faculty

Ian M. Paquette, MD, FACS, FASCRS

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division 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 robotic 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.



Carla F. Justiniano, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Justiniano specializes in the treatment of malignant and benign colorectal diseases as well as anorectal diseases, prolapse and fecal incontinence. 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 and also serves as Associate Clerkship Director. She sees patients in English and in Spanish. She joined the group at UC in 2022 after completing training at the Cleveland Clinic. She is board 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 laparoscopic and robotic approaches. He also places the Interstim device (sacral nerve stimulation) for the treatment of fecal incontinence in select patients. Dr. Snyder operates primarily at the West Chester Hospital, where he is the Chief of Surgery. 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 operates both at West Chester Hospital and UC Medical Center. He has a broad clinical practice of all types of colorectal diseases both benign and malignant. He offers robotic and laparoscopic to his complex abdominal surgery patients. Dr Thompson is the Surgical Director of Anal Dysplasia Screening, which utilizes high resolution anoscopy to detect precancerous lesions and decrease the incidence of anal cancer in high-risk patients.

Julia Current, CNP

Julia is the newest addition to our team after spending many years in the operating room as a surgical nurse. Now a certified Nurse Practitioner, Julia sees patients at our UC Medical Center location as she works to expand her expertise and training as a certified Wound and Ostomy Nurse.

Katelyn Riebesehl, DNP, CWON

Kate is a 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 Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Timothy A. Pritts, MD, PhD, FACS
Professor of Surgery
Chief, Division of General Surgery
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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, gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD), gastroparesis, and para-esophageal 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.

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. Patients are often referred to our practice by other surgeons for treatment of very complex conditions.

The Division of General Surgery

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.

Jonathan R. Thompson, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

Medical Director of Bariatric Surgery

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, 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 (ASMBS). 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.

Aaron P. Seitz, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Director of WCH Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

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 1700 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 1,800 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.

Jason J. Schrager, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

Director of UCMC Acute Care Surgery

University of Cincinnati Medical Center Acute Care Surgery

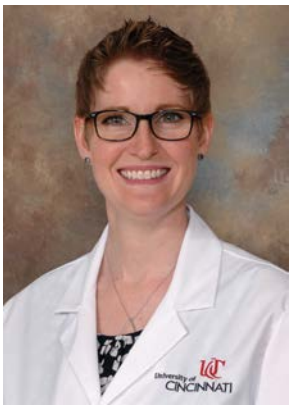
The UCMC Acute Care Surgery team is focused on providing outstanding care to patients with general surgery emergencies including diverticulitis, intestinal obstruction or perforation, appendicitis, cholecystitis, pancreatitis, intestinal bleeding, incarcerated hernias, and necrotizing soft tissue infections. 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).

Amy T. Makley, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Director of UCMC Trauma Surgery

Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program



Lane L. Frasier, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor of Surgery

UCMC Associate Trauma Medical Director

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 5,600 times to evaluate and care for patients at UCMC. The highest level of trauma activation is 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, spine surgeons, neurointensivists, anesthesiologists, and facial trauma specialists.

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 for 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/. In 2024, we partnered with Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center, the City of Cincinnati, and community organizations to support victims of gun violence through our Hope and Shield Network. This organization supports youth and young adult victims of gun violence with the critical goal to reduce risk of reinjury and combat gun violence in Cincinnati.

In conjunction with the American College of Surgeons, the White House, Department of Defense (DOD), FBI, and FEMA, we are proud to offer Stop the Bleed courses for medical and nonmedical personnel in the Tri-State region. This national initiative teaches the public life-saving bleeding control techniques which can be used to aid individuals in a variety of situations. More information is available at http://uchealth.com/trauma/injury-prevention/ and http://www.bleedingcontrol.org/.

Betty J. Tsuei, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Director of UCMC Surgical Critical Care

Krishna P. Athota, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

Associate Director of UCMC Surgical Critical Care

Director of Surgical Critical Care Fellowship

University of Cincinnati Medical Center Surgical Critical Care

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 multi-disciplinary 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 and Trauma Research

Michael D. Goodman, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Dario Rodriquez, Jr, Endowed Chair in Trauma Surgery

Director, General Surgery Research

Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program

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, Case Western University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and the University of Virginia.

C-STARS Cincinnati

Valerie G. Sams, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

Colonel, USAF MC

Director, C-STARS Cincinnati

The division of general surgery and UC Health are proud to host one of six national military/civilian 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 hosts 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 30 active-duty Air Force military personnel who serve as instructors and support personnel for CCATT training. Five 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. In May 2024, UC Medical Center and Cincinnati CSTARS received the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine's Hero of Military Medicine Ambassador Award, which recognizes public-private partnerships that advance military medicine.

Faculty

Andrew Angus, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Major, USAF MC CSTARS Cincinnati

Dr. Angus 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.

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, with Added Qualifications in Surgical Critical Care.

Jennifer E. Baker, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Baker 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.

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

Associate Director, Medical Student Clerkship

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

Lane L. Frasier, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Associate Trauma Medical Director

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

Professor of Surgery

Dario Rodriquez, Jr, Endowed Chair in Trauma 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.

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 Horn, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Major, USAF MC

Dr. Horn 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.

Bobby J. (BJJohnson, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

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

Rafael Lozano, MD

Volunteer Instructor

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

Amy T. Makley, MD, FACS

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
Chief, Division of General Surgery

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.

Desiree Raygor, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Major, USAF MC CSTARS Cincinnati

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

Valerie G. Sams, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery

Colonel, USAF MC

Director, CSTARS-Cincinnati

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. Dr. Sams is the director of CSTARS-Cincinnati.

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, FACS

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Director, WCH Trauma and Acute Care 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.

Jonathan R. Thompson, MD, FACS

Associate 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 the American Board of Obesity Medicine, and he 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
Ivan Bennett, PA-C
Shannon Dehart, CNP
Christopher Dykyj, PA
Olivia Gordon, CNP
Emily Kelly, MPAS, PA-C
Ruth Kim, CNP
Amber Lanich, CNP
Jessica Linde, CNP
Betsy Linz, NP
Ashley Martin, CNP
Lucille Nathwani, CNP
Nicholas Rittle, PA-C
Sara Tompkins, CNP
Caleb Von Lehman, CNP
Shaleen Williams, CNP



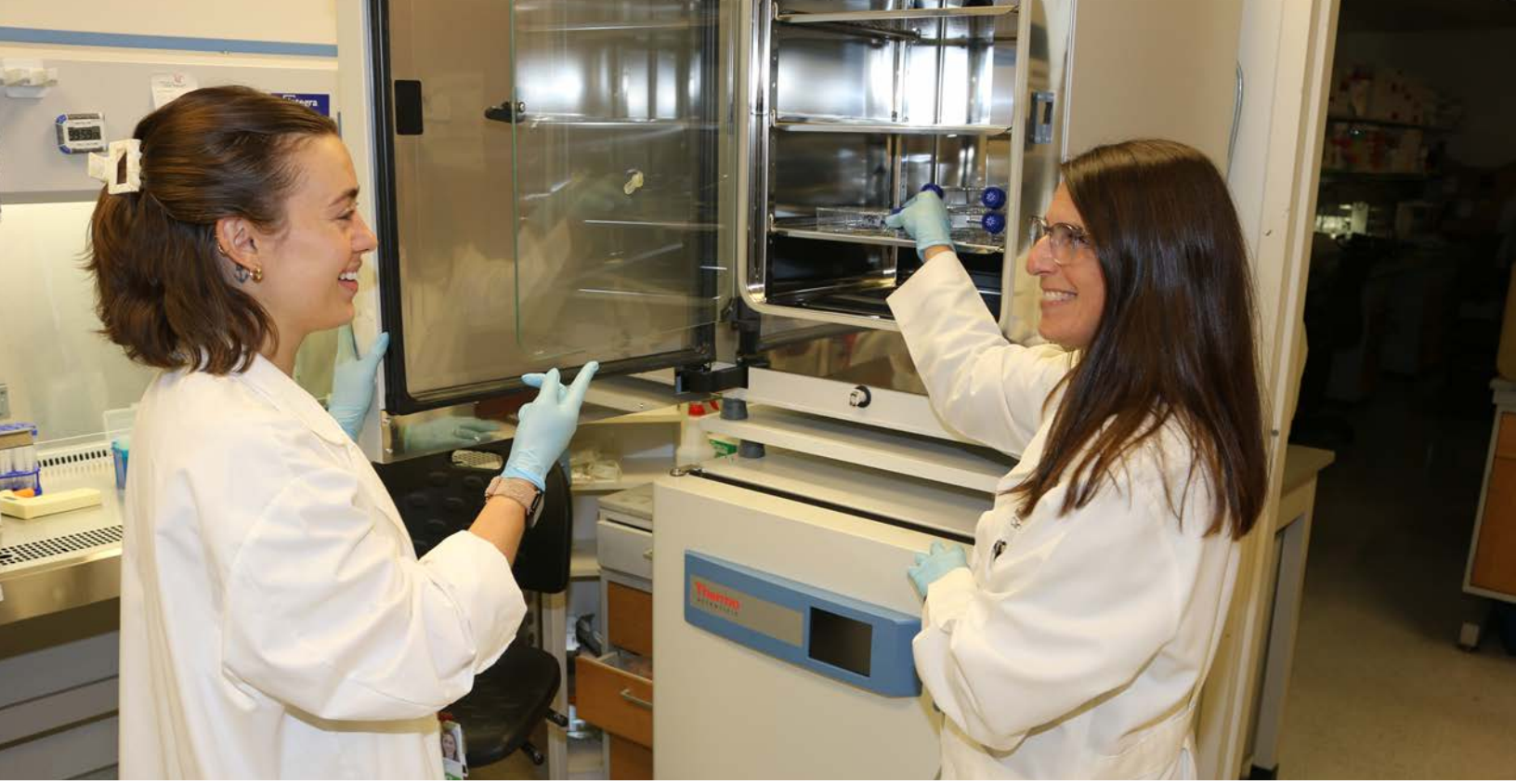










Michael D. Goodman, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery

Dario Rodriquez, Jr, Endowed Chair in Trauma Surgery

Vice Chair for Research

Associate Director, General Surgery Residency Training Program

Department of 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.

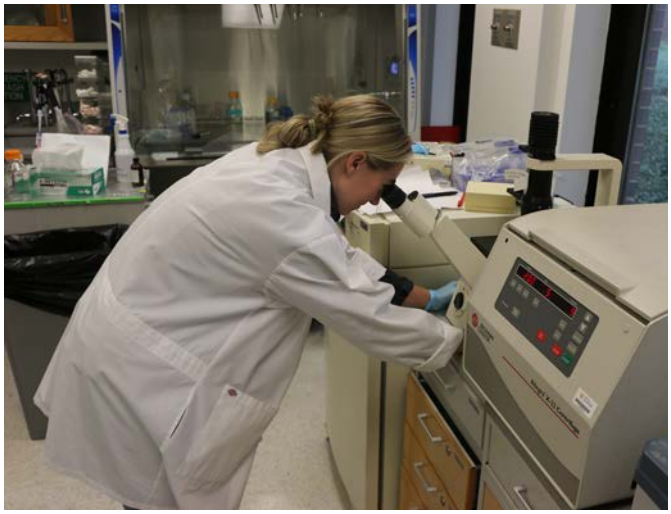
UC Institute for Military Medicine

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-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 2024-2025

Obie M. Atiyani, MD (Mentor: William Petraiuolo, MD)

Ellen R. Becker, MD (Mentor: Michael Goodman, MD)

Aron P. Bercz, MD (Mentor: J. Joshua Smith, MD)

Szu-Aun Long, MD (Mentor: Andrew Waters, PhD)

Arti U. Machchhar, MD (Mentor: Dai Chung, MD)

Allison N. Moore, MD (Mentor: Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD)

Catherine G. Pratt, MD (Mentor: R. Cutler Quillin, MD)

Marissa A. Ray, MD (Mentor: Meera Kotagal, MD)

Alyssa E. Stetson, MD (Mentor: David Chang, MPH, PhD)

Darren C. Turner, MD (Mentor: David Morales, MD)

Lindsey J. Wattley, MD (Mentor: Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD)

Gregory C. Wetmore, MD (Mentors: Michael Goodman, MD/Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD)

2025 Resident Research Competition Awards

Department of Surgery Resident Research Awards for research presentations given at Surgical Grand Rounds on May 21, 2025.

Basic Science:

Finalists were:

1. Obie M. Atiyani, MD
2. Ellen R. Becker, MD
3. Szu-Aun Long, MD
4. Lindsey J. Wattley, MD

Winner: Szu-Aun Long, MD: "Evaluating direct KRASQ61H inhibition in pancreatic cancer models."

Clinical Section:

Finalists were:

1. Ellen R. Becker, MD
2. Allison N. Moore, MD
3. Catherine G. Pratt, MD
4. Gregory C. Wetmore, MD

Winner: Ellen R. Becker, MD: "The hype over calcemia: The association between hypercalcemia and 30-day mortality."

Other Resident Research Awards and Presentations 2024-2025

Drs. Ellen Becker and Lindsey Wattley are the 2025 Resident Paper Competition Winners for the American College of Surgeons Ohio Chapter, Cincinnati, OH, May 8-9, 2025. Dr. Becker won for her paper "Dynamics of circulating endothelial injury markers following kidney transplantation," while Dr. Wattley won for her paper "Annexin V inhibits phosphatidylserine-induced endothelial cell activation under flow conditions."

Becker ER, Wetmore G, Price AD, Schuster R, Quillin RC, Merola J, Goodman MD. Perioperative markers of endothelial damage in liver transplantation. Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), Miami Beach, FL, March 20-23, 2025.

Becker ER, Pratt CG, Schondel R, Price AD, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Post-injury hypercalcemia is associated with a risk of venous thromboembolism. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025.

Becker ER, Wetmore GC, Price AD, Schuster R, Merola J, Quillin RC, Goodman MD. Dynamics of circulating endothelial injury markers following kidney transplantation. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025; Ohio Chapter ACS, Columbus, OH, May 9, 2025 (*Third place, podium presentation).

Becker ER, Price AD, Shondel R, Schuster RM, Smith M, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Inflammatory cytokines outperform endotheliopathy markers are early predictors of mortality in trauma. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025.

Becker ER, Price AD, Harvey BP, Smith M, Beck G, Varghese F, Lampe JW, Branson RD, Blakeman T, Goodman MD. Semiautonomous ventilation in a porcine hemorrhage and lung injury model provides lung protective ventilation. Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST) Annual Scientific Assembly, Resident Research Competition, Orlando, FL, January 14-18, 2025.

Becker E, Pratt CG, Whitrock JN, Price AD, Goodman MD. Early hypercalcemia is associated with mortality in critically ill trauma patients. American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, San Francisco, CA, October 19-22, 2024.

Becker E, Price AD, England L, Schuster RM, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Effect of flight on endotheliopathy in murine polytrauma model. American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, San Francisco, CA, October 19-22, 2024.

Becker ER, Pratt CG, Shondel R, Price AD, Wetmore G, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. More may not be better: Post-injury hypercalcemia is associated with venous thromboembolism. Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition 2024. Virtual Meeting. September 2024.

Chae RC, Price AD, Wattley LJ, Becker ER, Schuster R, Goodman MD, Pritts TA. Normothermic rapid transfusion of stored whole blood results in hemolysis, increased platelet-derived microvesicles, and altered coagulation. American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress, San Francisco, CA, October 19-22, 2024.

Machchhar A, Cochran E, Jacobson J, Fitzlaff SN, Mobley B, Qiao J, Chung DH. PD-L1 Differential expression and therapeutic implications in high-risk neuroblastoma. Oral Presentation at the Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025.

Price AP, Becker ER, Chae RC, Schuster R, Pritts T, Goodman M. Dilution is not the solution: Factors affecting the direct red cell effect on thrombosis. American Association for the Surgery of Trauma & Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery, Las Vegas, NV, September 11–14, 2024.

Price AD, Baucom MR, Becker ER, Archdeacon CM, Caskey C, Schuster RM, Blakeman TC, Strilka R, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Hypobaria during aeromedical evacuation increases systemic inflammation following porcine TBI. Oral Presentation. Military Health Services Research Symposium, Kissimmee, FL, August 4-7, 2025.

Price AD, Becker ER, Baucom MR, Archdeacon CM, Caskey C, Schuster RM, Blakeman TC, Strilka R, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Hypobaric conditions in cabin altitude restricted aeromedical evacuation induce systemic inflammation following porcine traumatic brain injury. Scientific exhibit. Military Health Services Research Symposium, Kissimmee, FL, August 4-7, 2025.

Shondel RC, Becker ER, Wetmore GC, Price AD, Schuster R, England L, Goodman MD. Murine vagus nerve stimulation modulates the serum biomarker response to traumatic brain injury. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025.

Shondel RC, Price AD, Becker ER, Chae RC, Whitrock JN, Wattley LJ, Wetmore GC, Seitz AP, Makley AT, Pritts TA, Goodman MD. Antithrombotic use in patients with traumatic brain injury varies by level of trauma center. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025

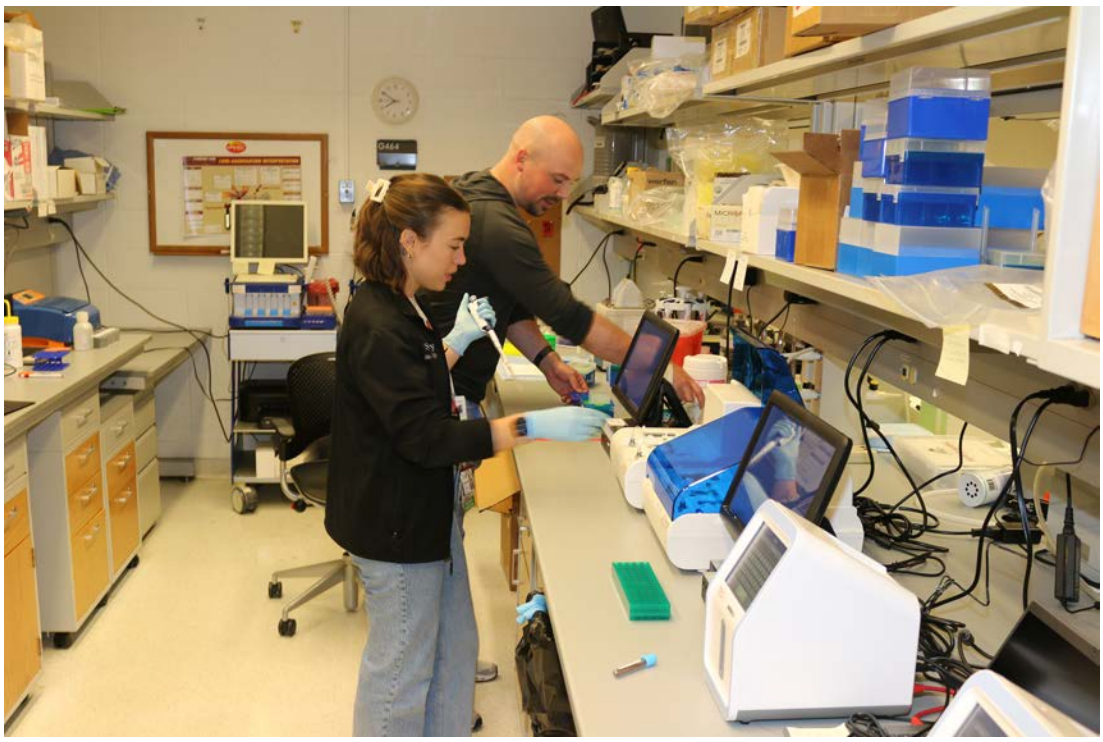
Wattley LJ, et al: Unequal storage: Sex specific differences in coagulation potential after whole blood storage. Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition (*First Place in Basic Science category).

Wattley LJ, Wetmore GC, Becker ER, Chea RC, Cox C, Schuster R, Joseph B, Goodman MD, Pritts TA. Estrogen modulates microvesicle effects in stored murine whole blood. Central Surgical Association, Indianapolis, IN, June 5-7, 2025.

Wattley L, Becker ER, Schuster R, England L, Cox C, Caldwell C, Goodman MD, Pritts TA. DNAse treatment attenuates serum cfDNA after polytrauma and resuscitation. Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition 2024. Virtual Meeting. September 2024.

Wetmore GC, Becker ER, Price AD, Shondel RC, Smith MP, Schuster R, Goodman MD. The utility of UCHL1 as a marker of hemorrhagic shock. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, NV, February 2025; Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Paper Competition, Virtual Meeting, September 2024; American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma Region V Resident Paper Competition, Milwaukee, WI, November 2024 (*First Place Research Presentation).

Wetmore GC, Becker ER, Wallen TE, Smith MP, Goodman MD. The impact of body mass index on time to tracheostomy decannulation. Academic Surgical Congress, Las Vegas, AZ, February 2025; Ohio Chapter ACS, Columbus, OH, May 9, 2025.



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

Michael D. Goodman, MD
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, gastro-intestinal, and soft tissue malignancies

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

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

Additional information on the Division of General Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Research Retreat at Hocking Hills - May 2025





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Deepak G. Krishnan, DDS, FACS, FDSRCPS(Glasg)

Professor of Clinical Surgery

Chief, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

deepak.krishnan@uc.edu

513-584-2586

The Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

The Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery serves as a center of excellence for the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and conditions affecting the oral cavity, maxillofacial region, and adjacent structures. In recent years, the evolving needs of our community have encouraged the Division to expand its mission beyond traditional surgical services to provide comprehensive oral healthcare.

Through UC Health, we offer a wide spectrum of services, including the correction of dentofacial deformities, management of maxillofacial pathology, and comprehensive care for victims of maxillofacial trauma. Our practices at the UC Health Physicians Offices in Clifton, Rookwood, West Chester, and at the UC Health Holmes Hospital provide specialized care for patients requiring reconstructive jaw surgery, temporo-mandibular joint (TMJ) surgery, dental implants, treatment of impacted teeth, and management of head and neck tumors. Pediatric maxillofacial surgical care is provided in collaboration with Cincinnati Children's Hospital, while veterans receive care through the Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The Division has also broadened its services to encompass the management of orofacial pain, non-surgical treatment of TMJ disorders, dental devices for obstructive sleep apnea, maxillofacial prosthodontics and anaplastology, as well as advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services in oral and maxillofacial pathology.

In response to growing community demand, our surgeons have recently established a new practice site in Rookwood, serving patients in the Norwood and Hyde Park areas. This expansion reflects our commitment to increasing access to high-quality maxillofacial care across the greater Cincinnati region.

All of our practice locations are equipped with state-of-the-art surgical suites that offer ambulatory anesthesia services and the latest digital imaging technologies, ensuring patients receive safe, efficient, and advanced care in every setting.

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 oral health 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:

- cost burden of managing facial trauma to our community
- 3D planning and printing for personalized maxillofacial surgery
- long-term outcomes for patients receiving full mouth extractions
- bicarbonate buffered lidocaine in the presence of odontogenic infections
- dental implant effectiveness trials across a large oral surgery practice management organization
- AI modeling for treatment regimen prediction for odontogenic infections
- incidence of pediatric salivary tumors
- weight loss in patients after orthognathic surgery
- MRONJ incidence trend analysis
- complications associated with non-invasive positive airway pressure use
- Inter-rater agreement in diagnosis of oral lesions using Cohen's Kappa and Bhapkar's Marginal Homogeneity Test

Grant Funding

Flores A: "A molecular approach to unveil the micro-environment elicited by oral potentially malignant disorders." UC Office of Research Collaborative Research Advancement Pilot Grant ($25,000).

Clinical Trials

"3D planning and printing for personalized maxillofacial surgery."

Recent Publications

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

Bankhead A, Rabinowitz Y, Khosa H, Le TT, Phero JA. Mandibular reconstruction utilizing the reamer-irrigator-aspirator to obtain nonvascularized femur grafts. J Oral Maxillofac Surg. 2025 Feb;83(2):240-249. PMID: 39561969

Dickerson DM, Mariano ER, Szokol JW, … Krishnan DG, et al. Multiorganizational consensus to define guiding principles for perioperative pain management in patients with chronic pain, preoperative opioid tolerance, or substance use disorder. Reg Anesth Pain Med. 2024 Oct 8;49(10):716-724. PMID: 37185214

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Abstracts

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Flores A: "Disparities in reporting oral potentially malignant disorders among head & neck pathologists and oral & maxillofacial pathologists." Presented at American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS).

Krishnan D, Caldwell C, Alexander Doye A: "A dynamic functional immune assay to evaluate the immune response of a patient with deep neck space infections." Presented at AAOMS.

Krishnan D, Inman T, So I: "Incidence of complications associated with non-invasive positive pressure ventilation in maxillofacial trauma patients." Presented at AAOMS.

Faculty

Deepak G. Krishnan, DDS, FACS, FDSRCPS(Glasg)

Professor of Clinical Surgery

Chief, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Director, Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. Krishnan specializes in corrective jaw surgery, temporomandibular joint (TMJ) surgery, facial trauma, pediatric maxillofacial surgery, implantology, benign maxillofacial pathology, and reconstructive surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (ABOMS) and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Beyond his leadership at UC, he serves in several prominent roles in national and international professional organizations, including as a Director of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Michael J. Grau, Jr., DMD

Affiliate Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery – VA Medical Center

A Cincinnati native, Dr. Grau completed his OMS residency at the University of Cincinnati. He practices the full scope of OMS with particular interest in implantology, trauma, and reconstruction. An ABOMS diplomate, Dr. Grau recently transitioned from serving as Residency Program Director to his current role as affiliate faculty at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center, while maintaining a full-time private practice in the community.

Jimmie Harper, DDS, MS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Harper is the cornerstone of didactic education in medicine and anesthesia for our residency program. While maintaining a private practice, he contributes significantly to trauma call coverage, clinical teaching, and operative cases at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. A graduate of The Ohio State University College of Dentistry, he completed OMS training and a Master of Science at OSU in 1986. His career includes distinguished service in the United States Air Force, where he was base OMS at Carswell AFB, before returning to Cincinnati to join private practice and academic teaching.

Andres Flores Hidalgo, MS, DDS

Clinical Instructor - Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

Dr. Flores holds joint appointments in the Departments of Surgery and Pathology and serves as Director of Clinical Research for the Division. He established the biopsy service for oral and maxillofacial pathology for the tristate region and maintains an active oral medicine practice in Clifton. A graduate of the Central University of Venezuela, he completed OMS training at Case Western Reserve University and advanced fellowship training in Molecular Pathology, Cytogenetics, and Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. His expertise is leveraged across OMS, ENT, and Pathology.

Hether Khosa, DDS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Khosa joined the faculty following her OMS residency at the University of Maryland and fellowship training at the Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. She has special expertise in benign and malignant maxillofacial pathology, micro-neurosurgical repair of the face, TMJ arthroscopy, and complex implant surgery. An ABOMS diplomate, Dr. Khosa also serves as Associate Residency Program Director.

Mi Young Kim, DMD, CDT

Clinical Instructor – Oral and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics and Anaplastology

Dr. Kim earned her dental degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, followed by residency training in Prosthodontics and fellowship training in Maxillofacial Prosthodontics. Her expertise supports rehabilitation of patients after trauma or oncologic resection, providing advanced prosthetic facial reconstruction and dental rehabilitation. She contributes her skills across OMS, ENT, and Plastic Surgery.

Dave Morrison, DMD

Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Morrison, a Cincinnati native, earned his DMD at the University of Kentucky and completed OMS residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Board certified in 1996, he is an ABOMS diplomate and currently serves as President of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). He recently joined UC OMS, bringing national leadership and decades of clinical experience to the division.

Supritha Nilam, DDS, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Nilam completed her OMS residency, MD degree, and general surgery internship at UCLA, after earning her DDS at NYU and her undergraduate degree at the University of Western Ontario. Her clinical interests include orthognathic surgery, benign jaw and oral pathology, craniofacial implants, and soft- and hard-tissue augmentation. She also serves as preceptor-in-charge for visiting dental student externs.

Petra Olivieri, DMD, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Olivieri earned her DMD and MD at Case Western Reserve University, where she also completed her OMS residency. An ABOMS diplomate since 2023, she focuses on benign jaw and oral lesions, pediatric OMS, trauma, impacted teeth, and jaw pathology. Her academic contributions include peer-reviewed publications, textbook chapters, and scholarly work at the intersection of aesthetic facial surgery and orthodontics. She directs the Division's Preliminary Training Program in OMS.

James A. Phero, Jr., DDS, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

A Cincinnati native, Dr. Phero trained in dentistry, medicine, and OMS at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He specializes in corrective jaw surgery, TMJ surgery, and benign maxillofacial pathology, and is a diplomate of ABOMS. Dr. Phero directs UC's newly founded Fellowship in Jaw and TMJ Surgery, a program that has quickly gained regional and national attention for the volume and complexity of cases.

Gary S. Robins, DMD

Volunteer Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Robins has been affiliated with UC since 1981 and is a nationally respected authority in orofacial pain, TMD, and dental sleep medicine. He holds additional appointments within the UC Neuroscience Institute and has provided more than 1,000 oral sleep appliances in collaboration with sleep physicians for patients with obstructive sleep apnea. His practice is limited to non-surgical management of TMD and orofacial pain, where he remains a trusted referral resource.

Jue Wang, DDS, PhD

Affiliate Assistant Professor – Orthodontics

Dr. Wang, a craniofacial orthodontist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, is an essential collaborator in orthognathic surgery and craniofacial care. She is widely published and leads the Division's monthly Orthognathic Surgery Case Conference, ensuring interdisciplinary planning and resident education in craniofacial orthodontics.

Alexa Allen, CNP

Nurse Practitioner

Ms. Allen began her career in OMS as a registered nurse and now serves as the Division's Nurse Practitioner. She provides outpatient surgical consultations, inpatient post-operative education, and longitudinal patient care. Widely regarded for her accessibility and clinical expertise, she is a trusted resource for patients and trainees alike

Volunteer Faculty:

Krishnamurthy Bonanthaya, MBBS, MDS, FDSRCS, FFDRCS

Randall Stastny, DMD

Emeriti Faculty:

Robert Horton, DDS

Additional information on the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Daniel J. Ostlie, MD

Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics

Surgeon-in-Chief and Senior Vice-President for Surgical Services, Children's Hospital Medical Center

Daniel.Ostlie@cchmc.org

Richard A. Falcone, Jr, MD, MPH, MMM

Professor of Surgery

Interim Chief, Affiliate Division of Pediatric Surgery

Chief of Staff, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Richard.Falcone@cchmc.org

513-636-9704

The Affiliate Division of
Pediatric Surgery

The affiliate division 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 autotransplantation. Faculty in the affiliate division of pediatric surgery see patients at Cincinnati Children's, 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. The division was ranked #1 in the nation in the category of GI and GI Surgery by *US News & World Report.*

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 Cincinnati Children's colorectal program was one of the first centers in the country focused on pediatric colorectal disease attracting national and international referrals. With a focus on anorectal anomalies, inflammatory bowel disease and motility disorders along with bowel management, they remain one of the busiest programs in the country.

The Cincinnati Children's Fetal program recently established a maternal delivery unit at Cincinnati Children's, making it one of the few programs in the country with this service line in a freestanding children's hospital. In-utero procedures offered include fetoscopic tracheal occlusion, myelomeningocele repair, EXIT procedures, and lung and tumor resections.

The Cincinnati Children's 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 Pancreas Care Center, a collaborative program with the division of Hepatology and Gastroenterology, provides comprehensive evaluation for patients with pancreatitis and offers the total pancreatectomy islet autotransplant procedure.

The Cincinnati Children's 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 Cincinnati Children's Chest Wall Deformity Center of Cincinnati provides clinical evaluation of children and adults, as well as minimally invasive surgery (Nuss procedure) for pectus excavatum patients. Cincinnati Children's is one of the leading hospitals in the country to offer a nonsurgical method to correct pectus carinatum.

The affiliate division 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 division 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 J. Ostlie, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics

Surgeon-in-Chief, Children's Hospital Medical Center

Dr. Ostlie specializes in minimally invasive surgery, chest wall abnormalities, and foregut/esophageal surgery He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Richard A. Falcone, Jr., MD, MPH, MMM

Professor of Surgery

Interim Division Director, Pediatric General &Thoracic Surgery

Chief of Staff, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

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. He also serves as the Chief of Staff of Cincinnati Children's, committed to ensuring clinician excellence and integration with efficient operations to ensure the best outcomes for children.

Alex Bondoc, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Surgical Director, Pediatric Renal Transplantation Program

Surgical Director, Pediatric Liver and Intestine Transplant 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 Sub-specialty 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.

Suzanne E. Evans, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Evans specializes in liver, kidney, and intestinal transplant surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in the American Society of Transplant Surgery.

Laura A. Galganski, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Galganski specializes in fetal and neonatal surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Aaron P. Garrison, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Director, Pediatric Surgery Fellowship

Surgical Director, Burnet Campus

Dr. Garrison specializes in pediatric colorectal and esophageal surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Juan Gurria, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Director, Surgical Critical Care

Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship

Surgical Director, Pancreas Care Center

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.

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

Director, Center for Stem Cell & Organoid Medicine (CuSTOM)

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.

Meera Kotagal, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Director, Trauma Services

Director, Pediatric Surgery Global Health Program

Director, Pediatric Surgery International Fellowship

Surgical Equity Director, Michael Fisher Center for Child Health Equity

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.

Jonathan Merola, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Merola specializes in liver, kidney and intestinal transplant surgery. He is conducting research focused on hepatocyte transplant and modifying organs to make them last longer and less prone to rejection. Dr. Merola is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications from the American Society of Transplant Surgery.

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

Surgical Director, NICU Colorectal Center for Children

Associate Surgical Director, Fetal Care Center

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. Helmrath 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.

Ashley E. Walther, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Surgical Lead, Aerodigestive and Esophageal Center

Co-Director, Center for Bariatric Surgery

Associate Director, Pediatric Surgery Fellowship

Dr. Walther specializes in bariatric, aerodigestive, and esophageal surgery. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery, with Added Qualifications in Pediatric Surgery.

Additional information on the affiliate Division of Pediatric Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Sonu A. Jain, MD

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/Burn Surgery

Sonu.Jain@uc.edu

513-558-4363

The Division of

Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/Burn Surgery

The Division 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:

Brian S. Pan, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Director, Division of Pediatric Plastic Surgery

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.

Scott Rapp, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Rapp focuses on pediatric plastic surgery with an emphasis on cleft and craniofacial surgery. He is Certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Ann Schwentker, MD

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.

Brian W. Starr, MD

Instructor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. Starr's practice focuses on pediatric plastic surgery with an emphasis on congenital hand differences, hand and wrist trauma, and challenging reconstructive problems. He is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery.

Dorothy M. Supp, PhD

Research Professor

Research Scientist, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

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

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 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:

Sonu A. Jain, MD

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/ Burn Surgery

Dr. Jain specializes in disorders of the hand and wrist, with interest in also helping patients with arthritis, trauma, tendonitis, compression neuropathy and skin cancer. Dr. Jain is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery with certificate of added qualification in surgery of the hand.

Douglas R. Dembinski, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Dembinski specializes in plastic and reconstructive surgery with an emphasis on breast cancer reconstruction.

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.

W. John Kitzmiller, MD

Professor of Surgery

Dr. Kitzmiller's 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.

Uzar Qazi, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Qazi specializes in hand and burn surgery. He is Fellowship trained in Hand as well as Burn Surgery.

Petra M. Warner, MD

Adjunct Associate Professor of Surgery

Director of Burn Surgery, UC Medical Center

Dr. Warner specializes in burn treatment and reconstruction. She is certified by the American Board of 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

Associate Director, Division of Developmental Biology

Director, Molecular and Developmental Biology Graduate Program

Professor of Pediatrics

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.

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 Division of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery/Burn Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Syed A. Ahmad, MD

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Surgical Oncology

The Hayden Family Endowed Chair for Cancer Research

Director, University of Cincinnati Cancer Center

ahmadsy@uc.edu

513-584-8900

The Division of Surgical Oncology

The Division 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 surgical oncology having completed supplemental fellowship training in cancer surgery. Our doctors are certified for their expertise in cancer surgery by the Society of Surgical Oncology and the American College of Surgeons. 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 division's faculty and interdisciplinary collaborations with other researchers in the surgery department and the UC College of Medicine, and the UC Cancer Center 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 Division of Surgical Oncology is headquartered at the UC Cancer Center, a comprehensive cancer treatment center accredited by the American College of Surgeons.

The majority of operative procedures are performed at UC Medical Center, UC Health West Chester Hospital and The Christ Hospital. The division 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 multi-disciplinary 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.

The surgical oncology division 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.
- The only center in Cincinnati offering hepatic artery infusion (HAI) therapy for primary and recurrent liver tumors
- Participation in UC Cancer Center multidisciplinary pancreas, liver, colorectal 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, Division of Surgical Oncology

The Hayden Family Endowed Chair for Cancer Research

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

Vice Chair for Quality

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

Associate 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

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

Professor 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

Associate 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.

Andrew Waters, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Waters and Dr. Ahmad collaboratively run a lab that investigates novel approaches to help develop treatment options for patients with pancreas cancer.

Additional information on the Division of Surgical Oncology can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Madison Cuffy, MD, MBA
Associate Professor of Surgery
Chief, Division of Transplantation
Director, Transplant Service Line
Surgical Director, Kidney Transplant, UCMC
Surgical Director, Living Donor Kidney Transplant
cuffymn@ucmail.uc.edu
513-558-6001

The Division of **Transplantation**

The Division 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 nontransplant surgical services. Our surgeons have special expertise in living donor surgery including kidney and liver, laparoscopic nephrectomy, laparoscopic and open hepato-biliary surgery, general surgery, immunosuppressive drug development, corticosteroid elimination, dialysis access surgery, and active kidney exchange programs.

The division performs approximately 200 kidney transplants and approximately 150 liver transplants per year with outstanding survival and quality metrics.

The group has established itself as one of the premier transplant programs in the country with high-volume transplants, low wait-list mortality, and leading programs in transplant oncology and dialysis access.

Beyond an active clinic program, the division 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 division 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 division has excelled in surgery for benign and malignant tumors of the pancreas, liver, and biliary tree, offering advanced hepatobiliary procedures that can be performed robotically and with the traditional open approach. It is one of the busiest liver transplant programs in the country, offering both living donor and deceased donor liver transplantation. It offers novel approaches to transplant oncology including isolated metastatic colon cancer to the liver. 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 division has a long track record of transplant outcomes research that has had practice changing impact on the transplant community. 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 division has published the largest series of HCV and HBV positive transplants in seronegative recipients in the United States. We also performed the first portal hypothermic perfusion liver transplant in the United States in 2019 using a portal device and have more experience with hypothermic machine perfusion in liver transplant than any other program in the country.

Kidney and Pancreas Transplantation and Dialysis Access

The division has grown its kidney and pancreas transplants and continues to innovate with living donor nephrectomies, immunosuppressive drug development, and utilization of medically complex kidneys. Simultaneous kidney-pancreas, pancreas after kidney, and solitary pancreas transplants are performed by section faculty. The division has also focused on transplanting highly sensitized patients and offers kidney exchange as both clinical and research-based desensitization.

In providing comprehensive care to End Stage Renal Disease patients, we also perform dialysis access procedures including vascular access, peritoneal dialysis catheter placement, and general surgery procedures.

Faculty

Madison Cuffy, MD, MBA

Associate Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Transplantation

Director, Transplant Service Line

Surgical Director, Kidney Transplant, UCMC

Surgical Director, Living Donor Kidney Transplant

Dr. Cuffy specializes in solid-organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation and dialysis access surgery. He is the director of the kidney transplant program at UC. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Christine Haugen, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Haugen specializes in abdominal organ transplantation, hepatobiliary, vascular access, and general surgery. She received her PhD at John Hopkins School of Public Health examining Liver Transplant and Older Adults. Her research interests include health services research and optimizing outcomes in transplantation and investigating issues around health equity, access to organs and frailty. She is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Kristina H. Lemon, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Director, Transplant Fellowship Program

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. Dr. Lemon serves as transplant fellowship director.

Philippe Paci, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Paci specializes in solid organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Robert L. Plews, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Plews specializes in solid organ (pancreas & kidney) transplantation, laparoscopic surgery, and dialysis access surgery. He is certified by the American Board of Surgery.

R. Cutler Quillin, III, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Director of Liver Transplantation

Director, Living Donor Liver Transplantation

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

Associate Professor of Surgery

Director, Kidney Transplantation, The Christ Hospital

Medical Student Clerkship Director

Dr. Silski specializes in solid organ (pancreatic, liver, and kidney) transplantation, laparoscopic surgery, and dialysis access surgery. She is the surgical director of the kidney transplant program at The Christ Hospital. She 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.

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 anti-humoral therapy.

Adele Rike Shields, PharmD

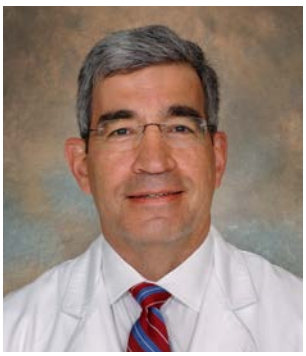
Research Associate Professor

Clinical Transplant Pharmacist at Christ Hospital

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

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

The Division of
Vascular Surgery



Joseph S. Giglia, MD, FACS, RPVI

Professor of Surgery

Interim Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery

Joseph.Giglia@uc.edu

513-558-5367

Luke P. Brewster, MD, PhD, MA, RVT

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery

[Effective January 2026]

The Division of Vascular Surgery serves as a leading tertiary referral center for comprehensive vascular care and is the primary regional hub for managing complex vascular conditions. The division offers a full spectrum of open and endovascular procedures, including treatment for aneurysmal and occlusive diseases, redo aortic surgeries, and lower extremity revascularization. In addition to routine vascular interventions, the division is a regional resource for rare and challenging conditions such as right-sided aortic arch pathology with dysphagia, aortomesenteric bypass operations and complex redo aortic procedures.

Care is provided across multiple UC Health locations, including the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, West Chester Hospital, West Chester Surgical Hospital, tUC Health Physicians Medical Arts Building in Clifton, and 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 Clifton and West Chester locations, conveniently adjacent to their respective hospitals.

The UC Health Aortic Center, under the direction of Dr. Amit Jain, brings together a multidisciplinary team skilled in both open and endovascular approaches, offering a wide range of advanced treatment options for aortic diseases. The center collaborates closely with the Division of Cardiac Surgery to provide integrated care for complex aortic pathologies.

The division is also at the forefront of innovation, offering laparoscopic aortic procedures and minimally invasive techniques for critical limb ischemia. Notably, Dr. Joseph Giglia is among a select group of surgeons nationwide performing laparoscopic aortobifemoral bypass for aortoiliac occlusive disease, bringing cutting-edge surgical options to the region.

Faculty

Joseph S. Giglia, MD, FACS, RPVI

Professor of Surgery

Interim Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery

Dr. Joseph Giglia has a special interest in complex aortic surgery, with expertise in laparoscopic aortic procedures and the minimally invasive treatment of thoracic and abdominal aortic pathology. He is among a select group of surgeons nationwide performing laparoscopic aortobifemoral bypass, offering a less invasive alternative for patients with advanced aortoiliac occlusive disease. Dr. Giglia is board-certified in Vascular Surgery, General Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care.

Luke P. Brewster, MD, PhD, MA, RVT

Professor of Surgery

Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery *[Effective January 2026]*

Dr. Brewster specializes in general vascular surgery and peripheral arterial disease (PAD). His clinical research focuses on PAD, regenerative therapies, and translational modeling using human tissue. He is is board-certified in Vascular Surgery and General Surgery.

Amit Jain, MBBS, FACS, RPVI

Associate Professor of Surgery

Dr. Jain, board-certified in Vascular and General Surgery, specializes in complex open and endovascular aortic surgery for the treatment of aortic aneurysms, dissections, and occlusive disease involving both the thoracic and abdominal aorta. His clinical interests also include cerebrovascular disease (such as carotid stenosis and dissections), peripheral vascular disease, hemodialysis access, and non-atherosclerotic vascular conditions including thoracic outlet syndrome and popliteal artery entrapment.

Justin King, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery

Dr. King focuses on the surgical, endovascular, and medical management of peripheral artery disease, cerebrovascular disease, arterial aneurysms and dissections, venous insufficiency, hemodialysis access, and vascular trauma. He is residency trained in Vascular Surgery and brings a comprehensive approach to treating vascular conditions across the spectrum of severity.

Jose Oyama Moura Leite, MD, PhD, RPVI

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Dr. Leite has clinical interests spanning all aspects of open and endovascular vascular surgery. Originally a fully trained vascular surgeon in Brazil, Dr. Leite later earned a PhD and completed a vascular surgery residency in the United States, bringing a unique international perspective and depth of training to the division.

Sung Yang, MD, RPVI

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Director, Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency and Fellowship Program

Dr. Yang is board-certified in Vascular Surgery and fellowship trained, with clinical interests in both open and endovascular procedures, including complex aortic surgery. His expertise also includes carotid endarterectomy and stenting, visceral arterial occlusive disease, vascular trauma, and hemodialysis access surgery. As Director of the Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency and Fellowship Program, Dr. Yang plays a key role in shaping the next generation of vascular surgeons.

Additional information on the Division of Vascular Surgery can be viewed at **med.uc.edu/depart/surgery.**

Affiliates

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.

Surgical Faculty/Resident Scholarly Activity

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

July 2024 – June 2025

[Bold indicates resident.]

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

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SPRING
Fling
UC Department of Surgery
CARE / Crawley Atrium
May 15, 2025
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Refreshments Provided








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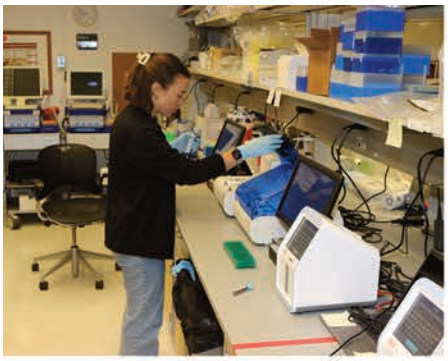




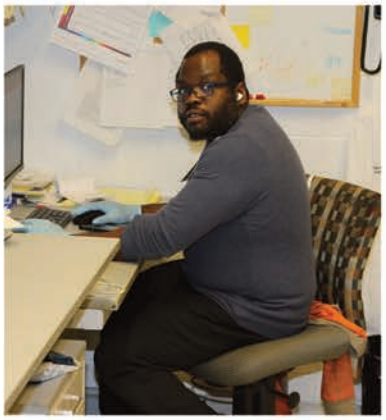

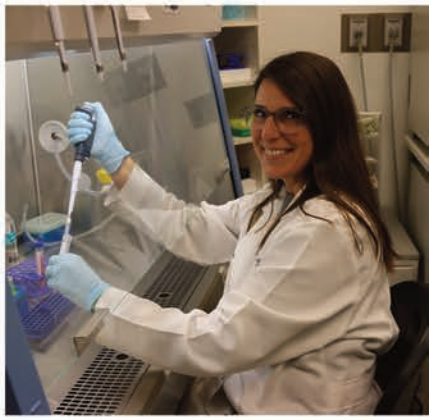

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Externally Funded Grants:

Ahmad SA (Principal Investigator): "SWOG Network Group Operations Center of the NCTN." National Institutes of Health.

Ahmad SA (Co-Investigator): "Pancreatic islet cell isolation, functionality and liver engraftment." LifeCenter Organ Donor Network.

Blakeman TC (Principal Investigator): "Operational capability assessment of fluid warmers." Air Force Research Laboratory.

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

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Analysis of drug administration errors during high-fidelity simulation versus actual missions: quantifying the potential benefit of electronic medication alerts in en route critical care." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "BATDOK clinical decision support to decrease task saturation during simulated high-volume air transport." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Clinical Integration for the optimal integration, case mix, patient acuity and trauma exposure for the Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills (C-STARS) cadre embedded at UCMC." Department of Health and Human Services.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Contingent leadership within the Ground Surgical Team (GST) context. Air Force Research Laboratory.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Development and implementation of an evidence based nontechnical skills curriculum for the ground surgical team Phase 1 course." Air Force Research Laboratory .

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Efficacy of high-fidelity simulation for high volume en route care mission readiness." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "QORE Health Phase II STTR to develop MHS-5 air for use in distributed patient monitoring." Qore Health Inc.

Frasier LL (Principal Investigator): "Scalable solutions for aeromedical evacuations." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Gerber DA (Principal Investigator): "Development of an INSPIRE system for the treatment of inoperable liver tumors." National Cancer Institute.

Gerber DA (Principal Investigator): "Academic-industrial partnership to develop clinical tools for algorithmic irreversible electroporation of inoperable tumors." National Cancer Institute.

Gomaa D (Principal Investigator): "Driving pressure-limited ventilation in hypoxemic respiratory failure (DRIVE-USA)." Department of Defense.

Gomaa D (Principal Investigator): "Platform of randomized adaptive clinical trials in critical illness (PRACTICAL) randomized controlled trial." Department of Defense.

Gomaa D, Goodman MD (Co-Investigators): "Prehospital Analgesia INtervention trial (PAIN)." Department of the Army.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): "Agonist TEG transfusion parameters." Haemonetics Corporation.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): "Analytical performance cobas pulse - capillary and venous whole blood per FDA BGMS Guidance." Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): "Evaluation of Fourier-based pulse pressure variation for a volume assessment component in closed-loop resuscitation and occult bleeding detection during lung protective mechanical ventilation." Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator); Blakeman TC, Branson RD (Co-Investigators): "Identifying unsafe operating regions for multiple physiologic closed-loop controllers in polytrauma." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator); Blakeman TC, Pritts TA (Co-Investigators): "Nanomedicine systems for targeted treatment of TBI + hemorrhagic shock." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Goodman MD (Principal Investigator): "The bioTROOP study: a multiomic bioanalysis of the trauma resuscitation with group O whole blood or products (TROOP) trial." Department of the Army.

Helmrath M (Co-Investigator): "Novel mechanism of intestinal stem cell aging." National Institutes of Health.

Helmrath M (Co-Investigator): "Personalized Cystic Fibrosis Therapy and Research Center." National Institutes of Health.

Helmrath M (Co-Investigator): "Role of apoE in HDL-mediated enhanced survival of human regulatory T-cells." National Institutes of Health.

Makley AT (Principal Investigator): "Optimization of beta-lactam dosing in critically ill patients with suspected or documented antimicrobial resistant gram-negative infections with Cystatin C (OPTIMIZE-GNI)." National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator): "Arctic impact on medications and whole blood supply products (AIMWB)." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator): "Dynamic and realistic research with immersive operations: Research developmental test and evaluation for multi-casualty care incidents (DARRIO)." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator); Goodman MD (Co-Investigator): "Evaluation of Imlifidase to reduce donated blood antibody titers." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator); Goodman MD (Co-Investigator): "REVIVE: Reducing exsanguination via in-vivo expandable foam." Department of the Army.

Pritts TA (Principal Investigator); Blakeman TC, Goodman MD (Co-Investigators): "Whole blood salvage & ratios." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Quillin RC (Principal Investigator): "Fibrinogen in liver transplant subjects (FITS)." Trauma Hemostasis and Oxygenation Research Foundation.

Ring BJ (Principal Investigator): "Incidence and characteristics of patient-ventilator asynchrony during non-invasive ventilation with transport ventilators: a bench study." American Respiratory Care Foundation.

Ring BJ (Principal Investigator); Blakeman TC, Branson RD, Gomaa D (Co-Investigators): "Evaluation of allowance standard equipment in extreme cold exposure." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Sams VG (Principal Investigator): "Simulated patient physiologic parameter analysis for performance feedback near real-time during training and simulation." USAFSAM Studies and Analysis Intramural.

Sams VG (Principal Investigator): "Anti-shock drug, pre-hospital (ASD-PH) – IND-enabling studies of PM-208: a novel pre-hospital anti-shock therapeutic." DHA SBIR.

Sams VG (Principal Investigator): "Clinical Integration for CSTARS cadre at University of Cincinnati Medical Center." Mission Zero Grant (ASPR).

Sams VG (Co-Investigator): "Estimating the costs and returns to readiness of military civilian partnerships." DHA MHSR.

Sams VG (Co-Investigator): "Scalable training solutions for aeromedical evacuation." Air Force Research Laboratory.

Spadaccio C (Principal Investigator): "Revascularization choices among underrepresented groups evaluation: The RECHARGE program." Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

Spadaccio C (Principal Investigator): "Tricuspid." Cormatrix Cardiovascular, Inc.

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

Waters AM (Principal Investigator): Identification of resistance mechanisms to direct KRAS inhibition in pancreatic cancer. National Cancer Institute.

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 (Principal Investigator): Proteasome targeting for alloreactive plasma cells. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Woodle ES (Principal Investigator): Decoding human T-cell allospecificity. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

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- Provide our residents with the education and experience vital to produce the "Cincinnati product," enabling them to go on to the most highly competitive fellowships, academic positions, and to become successful leaders in community practice.