






DEAR
EMERGENCY ROOM STAFF,
WE CANNOT BEGIN TO THANK YOU FOR NOT ONLY
HEALING OUR LITTLE GUY'S LUNGS, BUT FOR THE WAY
YOU MADE US ALL FEEL. Your gentle words & reassurance
were just what we needed. We wish you all
the best
From the bottom of our  
(our son's name is )

3-29-2022

For Helping
me feel better



Emergency Department
Assistant Nurse Manager
Named Employee of the Year



The Department of Emergency Medicine's Annual Report Albany Med 2022

To: Emergency Room Team on the night shift 02/20/2022-02/21/2022

Dr. Kevin Collins, Dr. Brian Frodey, Dr. Rebekah Guthman, Dr. Caleb Herrick
Nurse Allison, and the entire Emergency Room Team!

I want to thank the Entire Team in the Emergency Room that treated me on February 20, 2022, **your outstanding skills saved my life!**

I developed shortness of breath with respiratory failure due to pulmonary edema, and I was brought to the Emergency Room on Sunday, 02/20/2022 around 8 p.m., via Ambulance. I also had a blockage in a coronary artery for which I underwent catheterization with atherectomy and a stent placement, at Albany Medical Center.

Without you being in the right place and the right time I would probably not be writing this today.

On behalf of myself and my family, **THANK YOU:** for your quick thinking, for your tireless training, for the intervention to stabilize me, for what you do, not just for me but the entire community here!

The dedication you showed is second to none, and this long over-due appreciation is only a small part compared with the magnificent job you carry out every day!

Once again, thank you and the team. I will be forever in your debt!

Sincerely,

And.... how about this special message sent to Dr. McKenna and Dr. Dan Pauzé:

Hello folks

I wanted to tell you about a wonderful experience we had. My mother was hypoxic last week with transient episode of chest pain. I brought her into the emergency room. Dr. Longe triaged her and immediately worked on getting her a bed, ordered labs and tests while in triage, Dr. Thibodeau evaluated my mother and ordered further testings that helped the cardiologist figure out what was wrong with my mother. My mother needed a cardiac stent, her heart function is completely normal thanks to the emergency room team. She is back home with us and not on oxygen. The emergency room was packed, the hallway was full of people. Amazing triage by both physicians. I proudly say I spent half of my life here at AMC, I am happy to be part of this family for the past 20 years.

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Chair's Message

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Department of Emergency Medicine, and our most wonderful staff, we are excited to share our 2022 Departmental annual report! On many accounts, 2022 was our most challenging year, a year faced with a health care staffing crisis, ED overcrowding, increased violence, chaos, and staff burnout.

Our Team responded with grit, perseverance, tenacity, and unparalleled resilience.

We remained resilient and optimistic, we never wavered in our kindness, we kept focused on our mission, and we continued to take care of the people in our community.

We pushed forward. We have many accomplishments to celebrate!

Let's start with some clinical accomplishments. We began a new program, providing Telemedicine Service for the New York State Department of Corrections. Doctors Molly Boyd, Adam Rowden and Alicia Tudor passed the Addiction Medicine boards, making them "Triple Boarded". This wonderful achievement strengthens our commitment to caring for patients with opioid use disorder. We continued to be there for our community and our region by accepting over 15,000 transfers. The Transfer Center's Medical Director was led by our very own EM Physicians. We cared for over 84,000 patients and saw our highest number of pediatric patients ever recorded.

We continued our Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity initiatives. We published an article entitled "An Intensive Approach to Improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an Academic Emergency Department" outlining all our accomplishments. We continued our medical/health presentations to area middle and high schools. We also had our 2nd Annual EMersion Summer Boot Camp for high school students, a HUGE success! This was a three-day "EMmersion" Boot Camp, which introduced teens to a variety of potential career choices in the health care industry.

Our department made an impact on the national stage of Emergency Medicine. From a research and scholarly perspective, Dr. Andrew Chang was first author on a publication on research training grants. We had a stellar showing at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine national meeting, presenting seven abstracts, while Dr. Laurie Thibodeau presented "Vulnerable Populations and Climate Change in Emergency Medicine". At the American Academy of Emergency Medicine national meeting, Dr. Molly Boyd presented "Emerging Drugs of Abuse" while Doctors Wu, Geary, Bracey, Duncan, Le and Kaswer presented "Bronchoscopy Skills for the Emergency Physician". Dr. Wu was announced as Chair of the AAEM Critical Care Interest group. This is Albany Med EM Physicians teaching others on the national stage!

On the international front, we welcomed several physicians from the Ukraine. This was part of the Congressional Office for International Leadership Open World Program. Six Ukrainian EM Physicians visited our hospital as we gave them a tour of our ED, Operating rooms, and Simulation Center.

We celebrated Dr. Ashar Ata being awarded the SOSA award for Faculty Scholar. And how cool is this? Dr. Cecily Swinburne, our graduating EMS Fellow, was hired as Medical Director for Acadia National Park in Maine! We said "goodbye" and Happy Retirement to an Emergency Medicine LEGEND, Cindy Tanksley. 43 years in our ED as a Patient Access Specialist! The best of the best! And our very own Assistant Nurse Manager Briana Caban is voted Albany Med's 2022 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR!

We raised \$301,000 from our Light up the Night annual fundraiser. It would be hard to put into words how much this means to us, but these donations make an incredible impact on the care we deliver to our community. **WE THANK YOU!**

You will see a new section in our newsletter, entitled ***"This is What We Do."*** This section describes stories of the amazing and most unique emergency medical care we provide for our community.

#AlbanyMedEMweRhere4U!

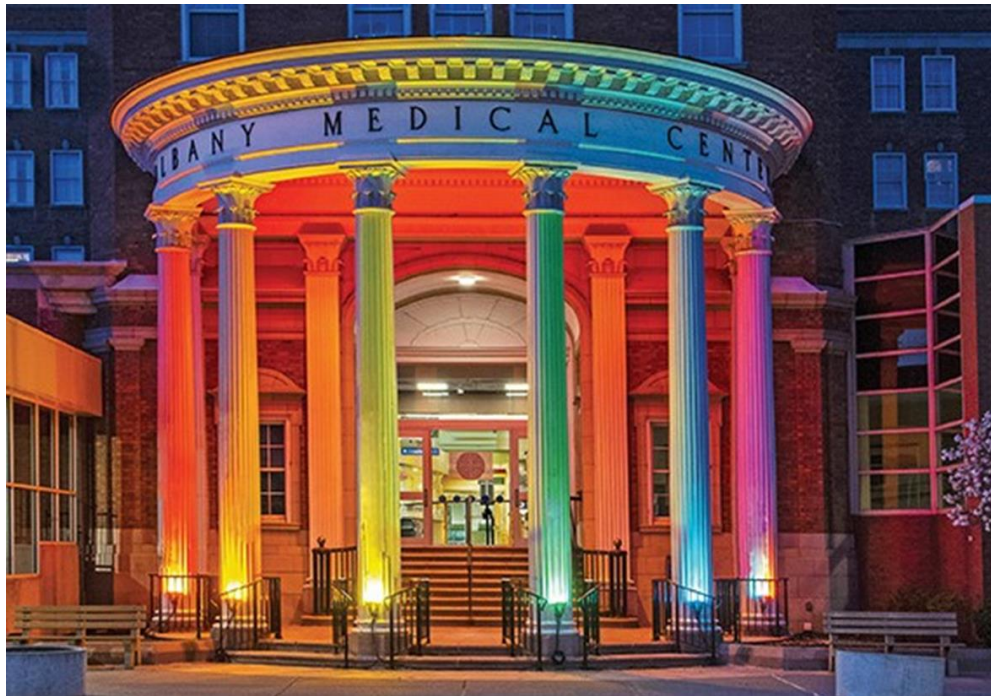
Simply stated, our Department shined brightly as we played a small part in making the world a better place.

It remains an honor and privilege to be a part of this wonderful team.

There is a lot to celebrate in our 2022 annual report. I hope you enjoy it as much as I have!

Enjoy!

Warmest regards,
Denis R. Pauzé MD
Professor and Chair
Department of Emergency Medicine
Albany Med



Emergency Medicine Mission Statement

Albany Med's Emergency Department is on the frontline of health care for the wonderful people in our community. We are the regions health care safety net. We take care of ANYONE at ANYTIME 24/7/365.

Our culture is one of Academic Excellence and Clinical Excellence.

One of Kindness, Goodness, Compassion and Care.

One of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity.....FOR ALL.

One of Integrity, Innovation, Tenacity, Resilience and Grit.



ED Highlights 2022

ED Physicians as Directors of the AMC Transfer Center.

EM Residents matching in a Critical Care Fellowship at UC San Francisco, U of Washington-St Louis and Orlando Medical Center.

Doctors Molly Boyd, Adam Rowden and Alicia Tudor pass the ADDICTION Medicine boards! All are now TRIPLE Boarded!

We continued medical and healthcare presentations to area middle and high schools.

Our Med-War 2021 winners were featured in March 2022 EM Resident Magazine.

Dr. Andrew Chang was the prestigious first author on the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) publication on research training grants.

Our department had an amazing showing at SAEM, 7 abstracts!

Dr. Greg Wu Chair of the AAEM Critical Care Interest Group.

Dr. Laurie Thibodeau Co-Chair of the SAEM Education Innovations sub committee.

Our Wonder Woman Kara Giglia celebrated 25 years at AMC!



Acad Emerg Med. 2022 Feb 2. doi: 10.1111/acem.14456. Online ahead of print.

Influence of Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Foundation's Research Training Grant on Postaward Academic Federal Funding

Andrew K Chang ¹, Sangil Lee ², Rachel Le ¹, Ashar Ata ¹, Kari Harland ², Ayesha Khan ¹, Melissa McMillan ², Nick Mohr ²,

2018-2019, 2019-2020 Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Grants

Affiliations + expand
PMID: 35108429 DOI: 10.1111/acem.14456

Abstract

Objectives: The objective was to measure the impact of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Foundation's (SAEMF) Research Training Grant (RTG) by comparing academic success in grant recipients versus non-recipient applicants. Our primary outcome was subsequent federal funding as a principal investigator (PI) or multiple principal investigator (MPI). Our secondary



Recognition & Appreciation

Rob Ordish, PA finishes 2nd overall in the Crystal Lake Triathlon!



Complaint
"FEVER, VOMITING"
"POST OP RT SIDED NECK PAIN"
"MVA VS PED"
"LFT SIDED WEAKNESS, FACIAL DROOP"
"LEFT RIB PAIN SP FALL"
"CHEST PAIN,DIFF BREATHING"
"L1 Compression Fracture "
"INJURED COLON"
"INTERVENTION CARDIOLOGY DUE TO EL...
"MVA TRAUMA OPEN SKULL FX"
"INCARCERATED HERNIA"
"PELVIC FX"
"CHEST PAIN"
"MCA"
"FALL DOWN STAIRS"
"FALL FROM STANDING"



ED Highlights 2022 continued

Doctors Marissa Potenza and Greg Wu receive AMC iCARE awards.

Publication of AMC Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Publication

Alex Bracey part of a national presentation "5 Resuscitationists walk into a room"

Dr. Laurie Thibodeau presented at SAEM "Vulnerable populations and climate change in Emergency Medicine"

Dr. Ashar Ata awarded the SOSA award for Faculty Scholar.

Dr. Molly Boyd presented "Emerging Drugs of Abuse" at the AAEM National Scientific Assembly

Doctors Wu, Geary, Bracey, Duncan, Le and Kaswer presented "Bronchoscopy skills for the Emergency Physician" at the National AAEM Scientific Assembly

We held our 2nd Annual EMmersion Summer Boot Camp.

Dr. Gretchen Gunn started as our new Administration Fellow

Light up the Night raised \$300,000!

Major EMS saves- please see our EMS section and the save of the Glens Falls arm entanglement

Many Ukrainian Physicians visit our ED, discuss best practices.

Bronchoscopy Skills for the Emergency Physician 

Location: Holiday 3

Speaker: Gregory Wu, MD FAAEM – Albany Medical Center

Small Group Facilitator: Elias Wan, MD FAAEM – Maimonides Medical Center

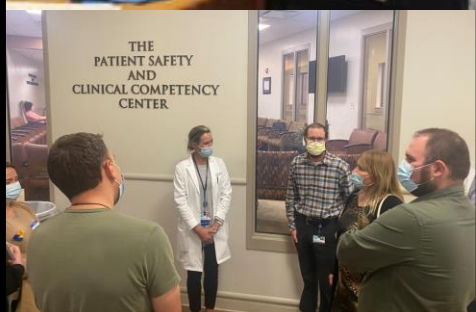
Small Group Facilitator: Sean P. Geary, MD FAAEM – Albany Medical Center

Small Group Facilitator: Luke Duncan, MD – Albany Medical Center

Small Group Facilitator: Rachel Le, MD – Stanford Health Care

Small Group Facilitator: June Gordon, MD FAAEM – Stanford

Small Group Facilitator: Jeremy M. Kaswer, MD – R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center



Emergency Department Specialty Divisions

Editors note: *The Department of EM is made up of several specialty divisions, physicians with extra fellowship training in various aspects of Emergency Medicine.*

The Division of EM-Critical Care Medicine

Division Chief: Dr. Luke Duncan

Dr. Alexander Bracey, Dr. Sean Geary, Dr. Christopher Hanowitz, Dr. Andrew Pellet, Dr. Gregory Wu, Dr. Megan Lieb, Dr. Cameron Waldman

Overview

The Division of Critical Care was founded in 2019 and is directed by Division Chief, Dr. Luke Duncan, an AMCH Emergency Medicine Residency graduate with Surgical Critical Care Fellowship training. The division consists of 3 dual-board certified and 2 three-board certified emergency physicians and intensivists, and one Clinical Resuscitation trained physician. Drs. Hanowitz and Geary successfully passed their neurocritical care boards, in addition to their boarded status in surgical critical care.

Currently, our group constitutes one of the largest divisions of Emergency Medicine/Critical Care in the country. It provides us with a unique opportunity to innovate care delivery to critically ill patients. The mission of the Division is to provide patients with comprehensive critical care while they are in the Emergency Department. Under that banner, we strive to educate Emergency Medicine trainees in advanced critical care modalities, act as a resource to other emergency physicians for their complex critically ill patients, and attempt to improve patient condition to the point where they no longer need ICU care. Additionally, we liaise with other ICU services throughout the hospital to ensure that appropriate care is delivered to all critically ill patients, departmental protocols are up to date with the latest evidence, and transitions of care are completed in a safe and timely manner.

Innovating Care Delivery

Emerging from the COVID pandemic, our effort to develop an Emergency Department based ICU service that is “right sized” for our institution continues. We continued our “treat-in-place” model, where the Emergency Department intensivist assumes care of the patient in place during their initial encounter. Our preliminary data was presented at SAEM 2022 by Dr. Bracey at a lightning Oral presentation showing that this service avoids 1 in 4 ICU admissions in the hundreds of patients that we care for. Plans for a dedicated ED-ICU space are currently in development, and we are actively collaborating with other programs with successful ED-ICUs and ED Critical Care Programs.

Innovating Education

Dovetailing with the ED-ICU development, we created the nation's third Emergency Resuscitation and Emergency Critical Care (RECC) fellowship. Our first fellows are Dr. Megan Lieb and Dr. Cameron Waldman, alumni of the AMC residency. Dr. Warren Hyashi, our graduating EMS fellow, will be part of the second fellowship class. The fellowship is directed by Resuscitator Dr. Bracey, with Drs. Wu and Duncan acting as Associate and Assistant program directors, respectively. It is our firm belief that RECC trained Emergency Physicians will fill a critical role in Emergency Medicine to provide advanced critical care to the ever-increasing number of ICU patients boarding in Emergency Departments nationally. The fellowship centers around shifts as the dedicated ED-Intensivist, additional ICU-based rotations, and preparation to sit for the Critical Care Echocardiography boards led by Drs. Hanowitz and Pellet. The didactic curriculum focuses around both the initial and on-going resuscitation of critically ill patients, as well as de-escalation of critical care treatments before patients leave the Emergency Department. This fellowship will provide a fruitful platform for research into this innovative care delivery model, define the conceptual foundations of Resuscitation as a subspecialty of Emergency Medicine, and pioneer care delivery in this evolving space. We will be offering a "mini-RECC fellowship" for our faculty physicians to provide further career development and opportunities to work in the future ED-ICU.

Congruently on a national level, Dr. Bracey will be joining SAEM's Fellowship Approval Committee in 2022 and has gained preliminary SAEM approval to add RECC programs as a fellowship within Emergency Medicine. We are also working with the other RECC fellowships to define the field, author a white paper outlining the components of the fellowship, and working on a textbook and examination for Emergency Critical Care certification.

Mentoring in Challenging Times

As one of the largest divisions, we have a significant influence on our graduating residents, with significant interest in pursuing critical care training. Dr. Geary continued his role as Residency Program Director and with Dr. Bracey serving as Assistant Residency Program director. We successfully have matched Dr. Max Wang Memorial Sloan-Kettering Critical Care Medicine program, Dr. Alexander Guiliano into UT Southwestern's Anesthesia Critical Care program, and Dr. David Afienko into the Albany Med's Surgical Critical Care program. Additionally, we will be welcoming an Albany Medical College Alum Dr. Matthew Johnson back from his residency at Georgetown for our Surgical Critical Care fellowship. Our graduating SICU fellow, Dr. Andrew Moonian has accepted a position Northwell system splitting time amongst CVICU and emergency departments.

Furthermore, Dr. Gregory Wu continues elevated himself to a national level of expertise. He has taken leadership of SAEM's Critical Care Interest Group. In that role, he is striving to expand interest in Critical Care within the house of Emergency Medicine through innovative educational programs at national meetings, multiple webinars, and newsletters in SAEM and ACEP publications. The division continues to participate at the national meetings of AAEM and SAEM. Drs. Duncan, Wu, Bracey, and Pellet have all have led and participated in joint multi-institution panels, presentations, and skills courses.

Providing Unique Capabilities

Albany Medical Center began its ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) program in 2018 to assist critically ill patient patients. Albany Medical Center is the only comprehensive ECMO center in Eastern New York. Dr. Duncan serves as the Medical Director of this program, with Drs. Geary, Hanowitz and Pellet providing extensive amounts of care to these patients along with the other surgical intensivists.

Exciting points about this program:

- Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) registered ECMO Center since 2019.
- True multidisciplinary program with Cardiac Surgery, Cardiology, Intensive Care, and Palliative Care all contributing.
- Quality reporting into international ELSO registry with benchmarks surpassing international trends.
- Have supported over 100 patients to date since program inception, including multiple COVID-19 patients.
- Working to expand E-CPR program capabilities and explore ED-ECMO capabilities.



Resuscitation and Emergency Critical Care

In August of 2022 we initiated the Albany Medical Center Resuscitation and Emergency Critical Care (RECC) fellowship, the third of its kind in the country. Our inaugural class is comprised of former AMC EM chief residents Drs. Megan Lieb and Cameron Waldman. The purpose of this 1-year-fellowship is to develop and refine the clinical and cognitive skills necessary to care for the critically ill patient in the ED and produce leaders capable of ensuring high-quality critical care within the emergency department.

Fellows focus on the management of hyperacute undifferentiated patients for the duration of their ED stay-- from the moment the patient presents to the ED, to transfer to their disposition (e.g., ICU, hospital wards, home, etc.)-- dedicating their time to the sickest patients. The RECC program teaches a general approach to the management of the undifferentiated critically ill patient, management of critically ill patients by disease presentation, and ongoing supportive care of the critically ill patient boarding in the ED.

The result is critical care training beyond what is offered in typical EM residencies with a focus on the unique features and challenges of caring for critically ill patients in the ED not normally found in traditional critical care fellowships.

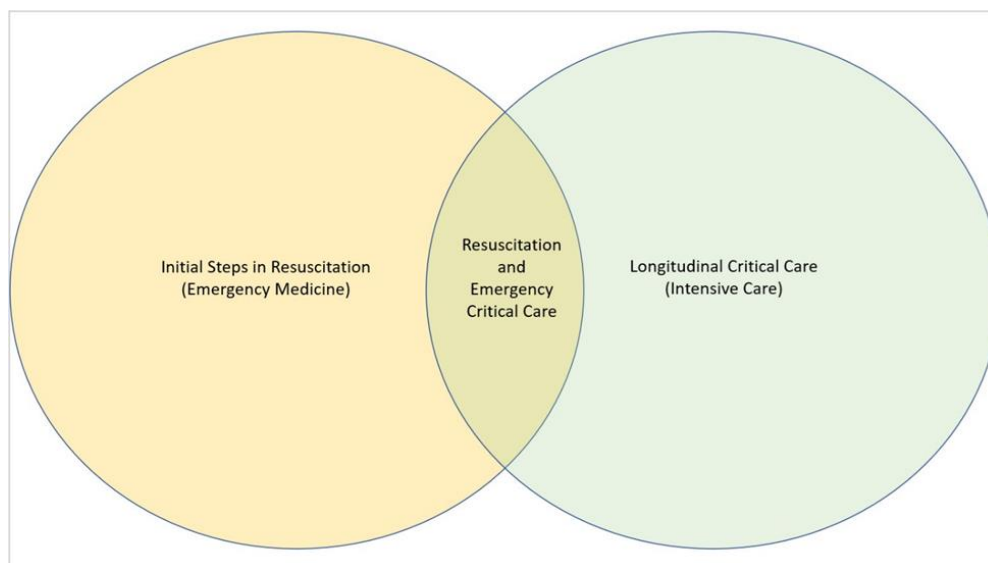


Figure 1. Conceptual Representation of the Role of RECC Fellowships

Our fellows rotate through the emergency critical care service, and various ICU rotations including MICU, SICU, CVICU, and NSICU. Fellows are also prepared to sit for the critical care echo boards (CCEeXAM). Our inaugural fellows, Dr. Megan Lieb (left) and Dr. Cameron Waldman (right)



We are excited to have started this endeavor and are confident that we are training future leaders in EM Critical Care!

Alexander Bracey, MD FACEP Fellowship Director
Gregory P Wu, MD FAAEM FACEP Associate Fellowship Director
Luke J Duncan, MD FAAEM Director of Emergency Critical Care
Assistant Fellowship Director

This is What We Do:

Dr. Luke Duncan; Medical Director of Albany Med's ECMO Program

After 80 days in the Hospital with Covid-19, Patient Returns to Thank Caregivers:

<https://www.albanymed.org/news/after-80-days-in-the-hospital-with-covid-19-patient-returns-to-thank-caregivers>



October 19, 2022

by Sue Ford Rajchel
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
Communications and Marketing

Print

When Cory Yager was hospitalized with a severe case of Covid last year, he promised himself he would not give up. His care team had no intentions of giving up, either.

The 43-year-old father from Lewis County, north of Syracuse in the Adirondacks, spent nearly 80 days at Albany Medical Center, kept alive by extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), prior to receiving a double lung transplant.

Most people had never heard of ECMO before the early days of the pandemic, when doctors began using it in an attempt to save the lives of critically sick Covid patients. The most advanced form of life support, ECMO allows the lungs and heart to rest by using a machine to oxygenate blood outside the body. It had been used mostly for patients recovering from heart surgery, or as a bridge to further treatment. During the pandemic, it became a critical tool for patients like Yager who were young and otherwise healthy and were not improving after being on a ventilator.

Doctors recognized immediately that Yager could be a candidate for the lifesaving measure.

Ironically, Albany Medical Center made it a priority in 2019 to train an additional team of nurses in ECMO, not knowing how critical the training would become the following year. ECMO requires highly specialized training to monitor the machine around the clock and check the patient for infections, clots, and other issues that may arise. Staff spend hours at the bedside and develop close relationships with the patients' loved ones.

For the entire story, please follow the link <https://www.albanymed.org/news/after-80-days-in-the-hospital-with-covid-19-patient-returns-to-thank-caregivers/>



Clinical Resuscitation Fellowships and the Role of the Emergency Department Resuscitator

By Alexander Bracey, MD; Luke J. Duncan, MD; Neil Dasgupta, MD; Gregory P. Wu, MD; Ryan N. Barnacle, MD; Arman A. Sobhani, MD; Scott D. Weingart, MD, and Brian J. Wright, MD, on behalf of the SAEM Critical Care Interest Group

This is What We Do...

EMS and Critical Care Divisions Team Up to Save a Life

On the evening of December 21st, a young resident of Troy presented to Samaritan hospital with a worsening case of Influenza with a saturation of 50% on room air on arrival. Despite excellent critical care in the ICU, she rapidly decompensated and developed severe ARDS and intensivists could not get her oxygen saturation above 80% despite aggressive proning and paralysis. On the morning of December 22nd, they called AMC to transfer the patient for ECMO therapy. However, upon placing the patient supine in preparation for transport, her saturations dipped into the 70% range and she became profoundly hemodynamically unstable. The intensivists did not have any pulmonary vasodilators available at their institution to bridge the patient and it seemed that she would likely not be able to survive the transfer to Albany Medical Center.

That's when the Divisions of EMS and Critical Care teamed up to pool all of AMC's resources to save this young woman's life. Dr. Duncan's first call was to Dr. Michael Dailey, whom happened to be the medical director on call that day. Dr. Dailey was able to rapidly arrange a transport crew from Mohawk Ambulance and the large Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital Ambulance. He also arranged for Dr. Hayashi, AMC's current EMS fellow to assist on the transport. His second call was to Respiratory Therapy manager Don Savage and Transport Specialist Chad Pezzano to arrange for inhaled nitric oxide therapy. Dr. Duncan's final call was to CPS and Cardiac surgery to arrange for ECLS nurse specialist Allison Nerney and to arrange immediate cannulation on arrival to CPS. Fortunately, the patient's transport was uneventful and she was cannulated for VV-ECMO immediately upon arrival by ED-Intensivist Dr. Christopher Hanowitz and Chief of Cardiac Surgery, Dr. Sanjay Samy, with assistance from SICU fellow Dr. Andrew Moonian. Ultimately, the patient made a full recovery after 5 days on ECMO and was discharged to home.

Dr. Luke Duncan and Dr. Michael Dailey

The Division of EMS:

Division Chief: Dr. Michael Dailey

Dr. Heidi Cordi, Dr. Michael Waldrop, Dr. Warren Hayashi, Dr. Cecile Swinburne, Dr. Sean Donovan, Dr. Kevin Collins, Dr. Luke Duncan, Dr. Tom Williams

2022 saw the EMS Division say “so long” to Cecily Swinburne, our graduating fellow, who left to serve as the Medical Director for the Rangers at Acadia National Park in Maine. She will be practicing community emergency medicine and be actively involved in other ground EMS programs. We wish her the best, and look forward to future projects together in wilderness EMS.

Our current fellow is Warren Hayashi, who has a long history working in EMS in the REMO region. Serving as a response physician and medical director is a natural extension of his prior work experience. He hit ground running, and has been actively engaged in the provision of care in the field, as well as training EMS providers.

In 2022 we had multiple field responses caring for critical trauma and medical patients. Our field physicians are prepared for care with field surgical kits, video laryngoscopes and ultrasound. We expand the ED to the field and the bedside, continuing to work in partnership with the blood bank and pharmacy to make sure we are appropriately provisioned to provide cutting edge care in the field. We continue our partnership with the Albany County Sheriff's Office supporting the response program.

Our EMS agencies expanded their practice to include referrals to medication assisted therapy through the MATTERS Network in partnership with the University at Buffalo Emergency Medicine Program. In conjunction with the NYS DOH we have written, and await regulatory approval, to begin the first EMS delivered buprenorphine bridge program with Greene County EMS and other agencies. We coordinate the public safety naloxone program across most of the region, with numerous EMS, fire and law enforcement agencies delivery care to opioid overdose through Albany Medical Center.

The division leadership continues to expand our work with local colleges and universities, with increased engagement with the Five Quad Ambulance at SUNY Albany, and Skidmore College EMS. We also assisted the Union College biomedical Clinical Immersion Project, where we coordinated opportunities for students in EMS, and then advised several projects that impacted delivery of emergent care. We will be expanding to assist the SUNY campus with naloxone and defibrillation programs.

Across the state and the country, we served as advisors to the Council on State and Territorial Epidemiologists through their Non-Fatal Opioid Overdose EMS Advisory Panel, as well as maintaining membership in the State Emergency Medical, Trauma and Stroke Advisory Committees. We are also advising the AIDS Institute of the DOH on opioid overdose prevention and treatment programs. We are also participating in EMS and flight blood regulatory development.

This is What We Do...

Members of the Division of Prehospital Care were requested to respond in the City of Glens Falls to assist the fire department and multiple other agencies in the care of a patient who had gotten his arm entrapped in the rollers of a road-surface milling machine. Dr. Tom Williams, a Division EMS physician and attending in the ED at GFH was first on the scene with two nurses from the hospital, Andi and Krista. They were able to bring blood products to assist EMS in the resuscitation of this entrapped trauma patient. Dr. Dailey responded by ground in the Albany County Sheriff's Physician Response Vehicle with amputation equipment to have available if necessary. Thanks to the efforts of the combined heavy rescue personnel on the scene, the medical management from the fire department EMS and the Glens Falls nursing team, as well as the efforts of the physicians, we were able to disentangle the mangled extremity. The patient was then flown to Albany Medical Center for comprehensive care.

Dr. Mike Dailey and Dr. Doug Girling



CITY OF GLENS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

JAMES P. SCHRAMMEL
Fire Chief

Douglas Girling, DO
Glens Falls Hospital Emergency Department
102 Park Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

October 6, 2022

Dear Doctor Girling,

On behalf of the Glens Falls Fire Department, I would like to commend your emergency care staff who responded to the rescue on October 5, 2022. All the firefighters, police officers, EMS providers, and hospital staff who were part of this joint response, contributed to the success of this difficult rescue, achieving the best possible outcome for the patient.

The professionalism and teamwork displayed by your employees exemplify what it means to be an emergency care worker. You should be proud of the service you and the hospital provide to the community every day.

I have been part of emergency services for over 35 years, and I understand that what we do every day is often not recognized. I would just like to say that I do recognize the sacrifices that are made by emergency care workers every day; not for the recognition, but for the sole purpose of serving their community.

I am proud to be part of an emergency service community with so many dedicated responders and emergency care workers.

Best Regards,

James Schrammel
Chief





Graduating EMS Fellow **Dr. Cecily Swinburne** took a job as the Medical Director of Acadia National Park. In this picture she is part of a Park technical training rescue. Below, a compliment email on our new EMS Fellow, **Dr. Warren Hayashi**.

Good Afternoon,

I am the EMS Captain for the East Schodack Fire Company in Rensselaer County. I wanted to let you know that we, as a BLS first response agency, truly appreciate the support we have received from **Dr. Hayashi** at 2 recent calls. As you may know getting an ambulance and/or ALS in southern Rensselaer County has been very challenging recently therefore increasing the time spent on scene and adding unnecessary stress to the patients. But to see **Dr. Hayashi** on calls within my district recently has been a huge relief. If this is a new program, we are in favor!!

The first response was for a 2-year-old with a seizure disorder. We have responded to that house about 30 times since that family took him in their foster care. The relief on the family's face when **Dr. Hayashi** showed up was priceless. I only see them at their time in need when things are challenging and stressful. Seeing this helped relieve some of my stress. Dealing with pediatric patients adds another level of stress and concern for the EMTs responding.

The second call was just this past Saturday (10/1/22). **Dr. Hayashi** responded to an Echo cardiac arrest with East Schodack Fire, Nassau Ambulance and Mohawk for ALS. I gave him the report when he walked in the room and he very calmly and professionally ran the scene. There was a mix of EMTs and paramedics working this patient along with him, but he treated us all the same. During the arrest he verbally went through the checklist of potential causes and asked if any of us had any other thoughts. No one felt intimidated to make suggestions or ask questions. This was one of the smoothest cardiac arrests I've worked, and I have been an EMT for 20 years. When the time of death was called he asked everyone to take pause and have a moment of silence to remember the patient for the life he lived and the family who will be dealing with the loss. **Dr. Hayashi** used his first name, he first and foremost a person, not just a patient. This shows true compassion for people and wanting to help. Outside the house he debriefed the paramedics from Mohawk. I asked him for input on the BLS aspect so I can adjust the training I give to our fire company members if needed. He gave us great feedback and praised our work and suggestions.

If this is a new program, I can tell you that BLS first response agencies like East Schodack are truly truly appreciative. I would like to offer the opportunity to work together in the future if there is a need or desire. If you feel your trainees may benefit from training in the rural prehospital care setting I can set up training drills and keep you informed.

The Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine

Division Chief: Dr. Carrie Danziger

Dr. George Waterman, Dr. Kirsten Morrissey, Dr. Chris Woll, Dr. Chris Malabanan, Dr. Denis Pauzé

The Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine was founded in 2019 and is directed by Division Chief Dr. Carrie Danziger. The division consists of six board-certified Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) Physicians. The Massry Family Children's Emergency Center at Albany Medical Center is the only pediatric emergency department (pediatric ED) in the region. We saw a surge of pediatric patients in the later months of 2022, leading to our highest record annual volume, caring for nearly 26,000 children. The entire pediatric ED staff rose to the occasion, continuing to provide excellent care that is unique, specialized, and vitally important to our community and children of the region. Our high level of expertise has become an expectation of the region - from parents, community pediatricians, urgent care centers, and emergency departments who are transferring their patients.

The members of the Division of Pediatric Emergency support the emergency medicine and pediatric residency programs with active participation in resident recruitment, lectures series, procedure workshops, simulations and mentoring of residents and medical students. Since the opening of the pediatric ED in 2018, we have had growing interest among residents in pursuing Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) fellowship, with five residency graduates entering fellowship. This is a true testament to their experience in our high acuity, level 2 pediatric trauma center, and a reflection on our PEM attendings as role models.

Members of our division continue to collaborate with our Children's Hospital colleagues on evidence-based pediatric pathways and quality improvement projects, with the goal of improving the care of pediatric patients. We have a monthly conference with the Division of Pediatric Intensive Care to highlight interesting cases and review management. We join our PEM colleagues from Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo, to serve as panelists and presenters in a monthly PEM Consultants Conference.

Highlighting some of our accolades: Dr. Christopher Woll continues as the medical director of Double H Ranch - a specialized camp in the Adirondacks providing summer and winter programs to children and families dealing with life threatening illness. He is also currently getting certified in wilderness medicine and undergoing training to be certified as an instructor in advance wilderness life support. Dr. Kirsten Morrissey serves as the Medical Director of the Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program and the Director of the PEM medical student elective rotation. Dr. Christopher Malabanan was promoted to Associate Professor and for the third year in a row, received the Community Preceptor of the Year award, which is given to an individual who demonstrates being a great teacher or instructor to the graduating residents of the Albany Medical Center Family and Community Medicine Department. He was also accepted to participate in the Academy of Clinical Educators for 2022-2023 through the New York American College of Emergency Physicians (NYACEP).

The Pediatric Emergency Department has a dedicated team of providers, nurses and techs who provide extraordinary care for children and families during unanticipated emergency room visits. A father, whose child was cared for in the Pediatric Emergency Department shared the following message – "I cannot thank you enough for the close attention, quality of care, and kindness of your staff that was afforded to my child and myself throughout our stay in the AMC Pediatric Emergency Department. Whether it be the valet, security, nursing, transport, radiology staff, EEG technician, the resident staff, ED attending or Neurology consultant: our experience was exemplary. You should all be commended and proud of the caliber of service you provide."

This is What We Do...Pediatric Emergency Medicine

"This is what we do"

It's difficult to capture in words how this department makes a difference and its impact on the region. I'm going to share a story of a patient. This summer, a 13-year-old patient was brought to the Pediatric Emergency Department after being called a "code blue" from the melodies center. He was one of the most critical patients I have ever taken care of in my career. He was brought directly to our resuscitation bay by the Pediatric STAT team and the PICU team who responded to the code, where we - the Peds ED team, Pediatric STAT team, and PICU team all immediately went to work providing lifesaving interventions. The communication and collaboration in that room was inspiring. We saved his life. Had he presented to anywhere else other than this Pediatric Emergency Department, the outcome may not have been the same. I recently got a message from one of the amazing PICU attendings who cared for the patient with me - she saw him in the lobby playing games on his iPad heading to his next outpatient appointment. What we can do here is amazing and I'm lucky to be a part of it.

Dr. Carrie Danziger, Pediatric Emergency Medicine Division Chief



ALBANY MED

Albany Med's Emergency Department is on the frontline of health care for the wonderful people of our community. We are the region's health care safety net. We take care of **ANYONE** at **ANY TIME** - 24/7/365.

Our culture is one of:

- academic and clinical excellence.
- kindness, goodness, compassion and care.
- diversity, equity and inclusivity - **FOR ALL**.
- integrity, innovation, tenacity, resilience and grit.

We appreciate each and every one of your staff. On a very busy night, we still felt like a priority and were treated with kindness.

To the Staff of the AMC Peds ED: 03/2022
My son [REDACTED] was recently seen 2x in the ED for swelling of his (R) thigh. After being admitted and seen by Vascular, Hematology/Oncology, a dozen providers and undergoing multiple tests, scans & imaging... he is still a MEDICAL MYSTERY! Your thoroughness was GREATLY appreciated in such a scary time. Thank You!
[REDACTED]

Division of Emergency Trauma Services:

Division Chief: Dr. Howard Snyder

Dr. Luke Duncan, Dr. Carrie Danziger, Dr. Chris Hanowitz

The Division of Emergency Trauma Services was formed in early 2019 to improve the care of trauma patients in our region by working together with trauma surgeons, critical care physicians, EMS providers and other health care professionals.

The Department of Emergency Medicine has played an integral role in the formation of the Lifestar Regional Trauma System since its formation in 1988. Albany Medical Center Hospital (AMCH) is the only level 1 trauma center in Northeastern New York and was certified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) in 2016 and recertified in 2019 and 2023.

Serving 25 counties and over one million people, AMCH has been the busiest trauma center in the entire State of New York with 4,346 trauma admissions in 2022.

Our Emergency Department consists of over 100 beds with six resuscitation suites for both adults and children. An aeromedical system has existed since 1996 and is currently operated by LifeNet of New York with seven helicopters and one fixed wing aircraft. LifeNet flew 957 missions in 2021 (387 inter-hospital, 570 scene), including 438 trauma patients (78 inter-hospital, 360 scene) and 76 pediatric patients. In 2022, there were 894 total missions.

The Lifestar Regional Trauma System is a network of over 400 EMS organizations, 25 non-trauma center hospitals, 2-level 2 trauma centers and our level 1 trauma center. The Department of Emergency Medicine is an active participant in this regional network and committed to improving the accessibility, quality and appropriate utilization of trauma care within Northeastern New York.

We participate in data collection, protocol development, quality assurance and the coordination of community and professional educational programs in our region. A series of Practice Management Guidelines (PMG) have been developed, in coordination with Trauma Surgery, to help standardize trauma care for both adult and pediatric trauma patients. In 2020, we developed PMG for pediatric burns and whole blood administration in addition to a major revision of the pediatric non-accidental trauma protocol. In 2022, we developed protocols for EMS blood transfusion and an expedited isolated hip fracture admission protocol.

Our Emergency Medicine residents are trained to be proficient in the management of both blunt and penetrating trauma by caring for trauma patients during every shift. In addition to patient care experience, trauma education is integrated into the core curriculum for Emergency Medicine residents.

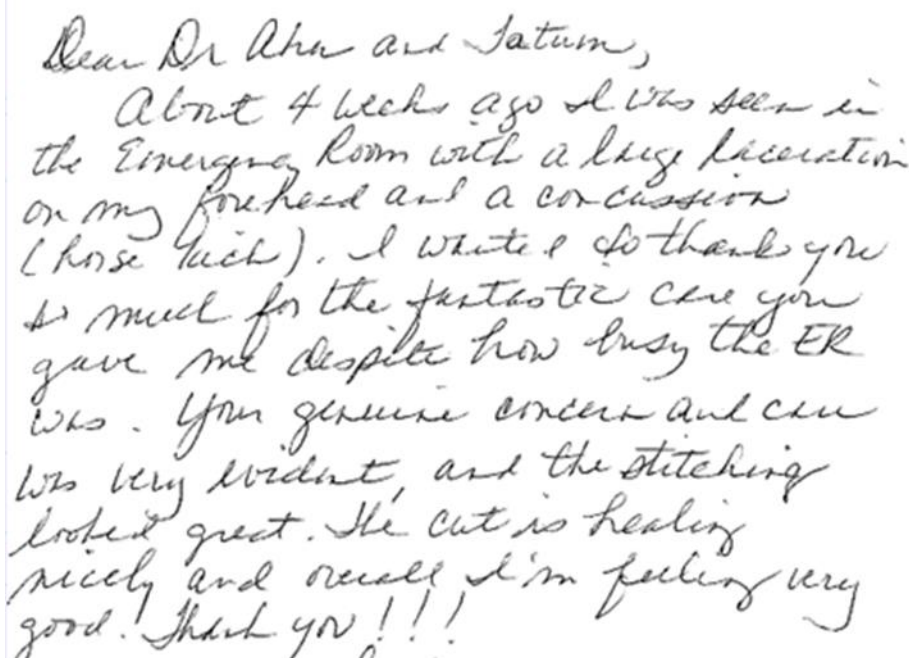
We coordinate a bi-monthly Emergency Medicine Trauma Conference with case presentations, didactic lectures, and guest speakers considered national experts in trauma care.

This conference includes attendings, residents, medical students, advance practice professionals, nurses and administrative support staff. Examples of previous Keynote Speakers included (2019) William (Bill) Smock M.D., a Police Surgeon of Louisville Metro Police Department who gave a fascinating presentation on Forensics in Emergency Medicine, Dr. Jessica Summers M.D. (2021), Medical Director of the Clark Burn Center at SUNY Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York, presenting on "Updates in Burn Management". In 2021, we added a Regional Emergency Medicine/Trauma Conference which is available via WEBEX to EMS providers and Emergency Physicians within our region. Regional Emergency Medicine/Trauma Conference speakers included Dr. Mark Slidell (Comers Children's Hospital, Chicago IL) presenting on pediatric trauma, Dr. Nilda Garcia (Dell Children's Hospital, Austin TX) presenting on pediatric non-accidental trauma, and Dr. Barbara Gaines (Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA) presenting on pediatric resuscitation and shock.

Our Emergency Medicine residents also gain procedural experience in our cadaver lab and simulation training in the Patient Safety and Clinical Competency Center. In 2019, we added mock codes and resuscitations in the Pediatric Emergency Department each month where Emergency Medicine and Surgical residents get an opportunity to work together in a simulated, but realistic environment to form a cohesive trauma team approach.

Our Pediatric Trauma Program expanded with the opening of the Massry Family Children's Emergency Center in August 2018. We received American College of Surgeons Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Program Certification in 2023. Kaylin Dawson R.N. leads our Forensic Nurse Examiner program, which also includes a Child Maltreatment Program in coordination with Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Pediatric Trauma and General Pediatric staff. Emergency Medicine residents are integral members of this team and receive focused training as part of the core curriculum.

The Division is also integrally involved with our community gun violence prevention program (S.N.U.G). This program receives funding from New York State and serves as a model for many programs across the country. We look forward to continuing to grow as a Level 1 Trauma Center and meeting our mission of providing exceptional trauma care to adults and children with traumatic injuries in the entire region.

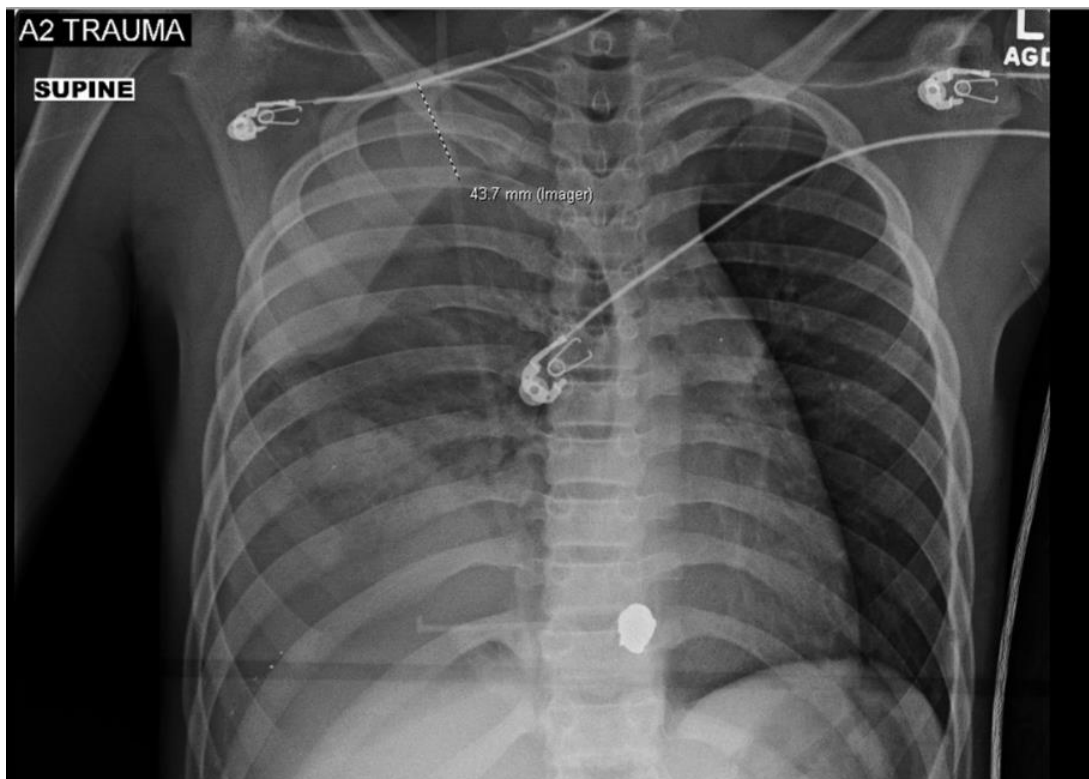
A handwritten note on lined paper, written in cursive. The text is a thank-you letter to Dr. Abu and Jatum, mentioning a medical procedure (stitching) and expressing gratitude for the care provided. The note is written on a piece of paper with horizontal lines, and the handwriting is in dark ink. The paper is placed on a surface with a vertical line to its right.

Dear Dr Abu and Jatum,
About 4 weeks ago I was seen in
the Emergency Room with a large laceration
on my forehead and a concussion
(horse kick). I wanted to thank you
so much for the fantastic care you
gave me despite how busy the ER
was. Your genuine concern and care
was very evident, and the stitching
looked great. The cut is healing
nicely and overall I'm feeling very
good. Thank you!!!

This is What We Do: Trauma:

We received an EMS radio report of a young patient with a gunshot wound --- so we prepare for the worst. The entire Emergency Medicine/Trauma team is assembled and ready. The patient arrives in room A2, one of our two trauma resuscitation rooms, and has what appears to be a single gunshot wound to the R chest just under the armpit. We are partially relieved by the location which is as far away as possible from the most vital structure in the chest....the heart. His initial ultrasound shows no blood around the heart. He is awake and talking with good vital signs, but this can be falsely reassuring in a young patient who tolerates blood loss and compensates. Chest X-ray shows the bullet has made its way to the left chest which is a worrisome sign. Now the situation has potentially changed....for the worse. The team follows him to the CT scanner, down the hall, just 60 feet away. While he is on the CT scanner table, we look at the images as they appear and the bullet is sitting right behind the heart and adjacent to large blood vessels carrying blood into and away from the heart. While the scan is being completed, we note that his blood pressure has dropped. An ultrasound probe is placed on his chest, while he is still lying flat on the CT scanner table, and it shows what we feared.....blood around the heart. This has now changed to an immediately life threatening situation. The surgical resident makes a quick phone call. The Emergency Medicine initiates blood for transfusion and he is transported emergently from the CT scanner suite to the Operating Room where an injury to the right atrium (upper chamber of the heart) is found and repaired. He walks out of the hospital eight days later. We hope and pray that we never see him again.....at least not in room A2.

Dr. Howard Snyder



The Division of Medical Toxicology and Addiction Medicine

Division Chief: Dr. Heather Long*

Dr Molly Boyd-Smith*, Dr Emma Furlano*, Dr Adam Rowden*, Dr Alicia Tudor*, Dr Michael Waxman,, Daniel Resnick, Nurse Practitioner

2022 Highlights :

Members of our Division traveled to Targu Mares, Romania in October, 2022 to lecture at the International Conference in Toxicology at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy. Dr Emma Furlano became board certified in Medical Toxicology and Dr Alicia Tudor joined Drs Molly Boyd-Smith and Adam Rowden to become triple boarded in EM, Medical Toxicology and Addiction Medicine.

Medical Toxicology*

We are 5 physicians board certified in emergency medicine and medical toxicology who provide consults to patients in the adult and pediatric emergency departments, the inpatient setting and in the outpatient clinic at the AMC faculty practice in Latham. Our practice continues to grow and our charges rose 37% from 2021 to 2022.

Addiction Medicine

The opioid epidemic and the scourge of fentanyl continue to ravage our region. We provide services three times a week at the AMC faculty practice clinics in Latham and Hudson. We see patients in acute crisis in the Emergency Department and the inpatient setting, start them on medication-assisted therapy with buprenorphine and follow them up in clinic or bridge them to an appropriate rehabilitation or outpatient setting. In our clinics, we provide low barrier access to buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone) a life-saving medication for people who use opioids. We coordinate with community resources to ensure our patients receive comprehensive addiction treatment. A special call out to Nurse Practitioner Danny Resnick, the pillar of our addiction medicine program, who has significantly increased our ability to see patients in need. In 2022, Dr Tudor joined Drs Boyd-Smith and Rowden and became board certified by the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

Research/Grants

Dr Emma Furlano participated in Albany Med's Junior Faculty Development Program learning fundamentals of research. Her project is entitled "Efficacy and Impact of a Medical Toxicology Rotation at a Regional Poison Center: An Assessment of Virtual and In-Person Learning Curriculums"

Dr Adam Rowden is involved with 3 grant-funded research grants including Substance use disorder/Medication Assisted Treatment grant, the Capital Matters grant and the Focus grant.

Publications:

Warstadt NM, Mohan S, Furlano ER, Shenker JH, Gibbs EP, Smith SW. Abilifright: A Case Report of Massive Aripiprazole Overdose in a Toddler. Clin Pract Cases Emerg Med. 2022 Feb;6(1):32-36. doi: 10.5811/cpcem.2021.10.54520. PMID: 35226844; PMCID: PMC8885235.

Mahonski S, Furlano ER, Chiang W. Validation of a Plant Identification Application Using Digital Images of Toxic Plants. J Med Toxicol. 2022 Apr;18(2):159-162. doi: 10.1007/s13181-022-00877-4. Epub 2022 Jan 27. PMID: 35084709; PMCID: PMC8938528.

Allen R, Furlano ER, Su M, Wiener SW. Cookie monster of a pediatric ingestion of zinc phosphide. Am J Emerg Med. 2022 Aug;58:349.e5-349.e7. doi: 10.1016/j.ajem.2022.04.043. Epub 2022 Apr 30. PMID: 35527098.



Our Toxicology Team in Romania

Presentations

5/13/2022 Chang IY, Furlano ER, Chang AK, Atta A. Do Emergency Physicians Realize that Tramadol is an Opioid? Poster presented at: Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 13, 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Education

Education is a critical part of our mission and in addition to teaching the EM residents and APPs, we teach medical students, residents and fellows throughout the hospital including programs for laboratory medicine and pathology, family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN and the medical and surgical ICUs.

Invited Lectures

Hendrickson R, King A, Long H, Smollin C. Expert panelist. "Can you even BE too alpha, bro? A case-based panel discussion." American College of Medical Toxicology Pre-Symposium. National Congress of Clinical Toxicology. September 14, 2022.

Long H. Grand Rounds New York City Poison Control Center. "Inhalant Abuse" NYU Grossman School of Medicine. April 6, 2022

Long, H. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Antidepressants and anti-psychotics: selected cases" October 7, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Long, H. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Toxic Alcohols." October 7, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Long, H. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Anti-coagulant Toxicity." October 8, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Tudor, A. Opioid and Addiction Teaching Day. Interprofessional education event with 3rd year medical and pharmacy students from Albany College of Pharmacy and Albany College of Medicine. March 21, 2022.

Rowden, A. Buprenorphine Waiver Training. Department of Emergency Medicine, Glens Falls Hospital.

Rowden, A. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Basic toxicology and Toxidromes" October 7, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Rowden, A. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "GI Decontamination and Selected Antidotes." October 7, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Rowden, A. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Agricultural Toxicology." October 7, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Rowden, A. International Conference in Medical Toxicology. "Caustic Exposures" October 8, 2022. University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu Mares, Romania

Medical Toxicology Rotation

We conduct a 4 week rotation for all second year EM residents and EM PA fellows. We offer 2 and 4 week electives for AMC and visiting medical students.

Book Chapters

Long, H. Chapter 81: Inhalants. In: Nelson LS, Howland MA, Lewin NA, Smith SW, Goldfrank LR, Hoffman RS, eds. Goldfrank's Toxicologic Emergencies, 12th edition. McGraw-Hill: New York, in press.

Chapter 80, Gamma-Hydroxybutyric Acid, Chapter 95: Mercury, Chapter 132: Hazardous Materials Incident Response. Biary, R., et al. (2022). Study Guide for Goldfrank's Toxicologic Emergencies (11 ed). McGraw Hill.

Journal Reviewer

Boyd, M: Western Journal of Emergency Medicine

Long, H: Journal of Medical Toxicology

Organizational Memberships

Long, H. American College of Medical Toxicology, Fellow

Long, H. American Board of Emergency Medicine Medical Toxicology Cognitive Expertise Examination Standard Setting Advisory Panel, November 3-4

Rowden, A. American College of Medical Toxicology, addiction medicine committee

Rowden, A. American Osteopathic Association Conjoint Board of Addiction Medicine member and question writer for addiction medicine board certification exam



Medical Oversight

We are volunteer faculty with the Upstate Poison Control Center, Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY providing medical backup and teleconsults to all of upstate New York.

Dr Emma Furlano is the Regional Physician Liaison, Capital District Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals (NY MATTERS).

Dr Adam Rowden is the physician liaison for the Niskayuna Police Department and the Alplaus Fire Department.

This is what we do: Toxicology

I came into a shift at 11p, the Pediatric EM attending asked me to check in on a teenager who had overdosed on her antidepressant medication. She had serotonin syndrome and was intubated. As we made some adjustments in her sedation I noticed how little she looked in the big hospital bed. Her parents were beside themselves looking at their little girl. Having seen so many of these overdoses in the past, I knew that the worst was over, and I could tell the parents with confidence that their little girl was going to be ok. We went up to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit together and they cried with relief. Two days later the patient was extubated and able to receive the psychiatric care she needed. -Dr. Molly Boyd

Making the world a better place: AMC Addiction Medicine Service

Suboxone Clinic

My first patient today was celebrating 10 years of sobriety on suboxone. She goes to meetings five nights a week and sponsors 2 other people in recovery. She has a job and has custody of her kids back.

Another patient takes three buses to get to our clinic to keep working on her recovery.

A third has been sober for three years, graduated from welding school and is seeing his daughter. Another has been our patient for 5 years, is getting married in the fall, and brings her daughter to most visits who I watched grow from a toddler to a kindergartener.

Patient transferred from outside hospital suboxone clinic to our clinic. Pt had been living on the street and drinking alcohol daily when we met her but taking suboxone appropriately. Went to inpatient rehab December 2021 and has been alcohol free since March 2022. Now she is living in her own apartment and getting her health back in order.

Young patient we met while she was admitted to birth her first child. She had been using street opioids for one year. We started her on suboxone the day after she gave birth and she has been following up at our outpatient clinic with success.

Patient with chronic back pain who had been using street fentanyl since 2020 when his pain provider cut him off from pain pills. He was referred by his brother to us, who felt our care was so good, that he wanted to refer his brother he was concerned about. Pt has been successful on suboxone.

Patient we met while he was admitted to AMC for endocarditis (his second bout) and he had a second aortic valve repair (AVR) and first mitral valve repair. Started on buprenorphine. Relapsed again, dx with endocarditis again and had third AVR at MGH in Boston. Has been drug free since January 2022.



Above: Daniel “Danny” Resnick, Nurse Practitioner and one of Albany Med’s Opioid Addiction Specialists.

Left: Please see some of Danny’s superb success stories.

Danny is making the world a better place, one patient at a time. Our Department, and our patients are lucky to have Danny Resnick!

Below: Our Tox Team during EM Resident “Tox Teaching Day”





Emergency Ultrasound Division

Division Chief: Dr. Beth Cadigan

Associate Division Chief: Dr. Boahema Pinto

Dr. Sean Donovan, Dr. Andrew Pellet, Dr. Jessica Noonan, Dr. Christopher Hanowitz, Dr. Thomas Holman

Ultrasounds are now routinely performed at the point-of-care, by the primary clinician, to treat patients faster and more accurately as part of advanced care. This includes many critical scenarios where trips to traditional imaging departments are not feasible or safe. Ultrasound gives the clinician the power to take a look inside a patient. They are immediately able to “see” a number of conditions not identifiable on physical exam alone. Metaphorically it is the difference between shaking a gift box and speculating on its contents vs just opening the package. Ultrasound is used again and again in our department to diagnose acute life-threatening conditions, and to guide invasive procedures improving the care of countless pediatric and adult patients. We perform a huge range of ultrasound exams on behalf of our patients, from evaluating for chest and abdominal bleeding in our trauma patients (FAST exam) to locating the potential splinter causing a child’s foot pain.

Our ultrasound division stands strong with six emergency medicine attendings that are also fellowship trained in emergency ultrasound, in addition to our current fellow. In the past year, one of our faculty has received boarding in the new specialty of Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasound (FDP) established in 2022 and four of our faculty will be board eligible with the next exam offering. With an eye toward cardiac resuscitation and critical care, two of our faculty have passed the CCEeXam and one has passed the ASCeXam. Investing in the exemplary skills of our faculty allows for the cutting edge care and training we provide to our community and region. In the last year alone, we performed 4,448 documented point-of-care ultrasounds in our AMC emergency department to immediately diagnose and stabilize our patients, with many of these exams re-directing care and about one life being saved every 2 weeks that wouldn’t possibly have been saved otherwise.



Educational Mission

To fulfill the training needs of Attendings, Fellows, Residents, Advanced Providers, and Medical Students in emergency ultrasound across the Hudson Valley and broader region.

Emergency Medicine Ultrasound Fellowship – Our ultrasound fellowship, established in 2015, will be welcoming its 8th fellow, Caleb Watkins, this year. Four of our seven previous graduates have stayed on at Albany Medical Center, further growing our division of emergency ultrasound, with an additional 2 of our fellows assuming position in nearby Vermont and New Hampshire. Training 1-2 fellows a year, it is now our hope that this pattern will continue with subsequent fellows going out and assuming directorship roles at our community hospitals, thus advancing the community's training in this modality. This fellowship ensures that the right people are in the right place at the right time to deliver exceptional care. The fellowship was recently nationally recognized by EUFAC, becoming one of only 84 programs in the country to receive accreditation as an Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasound Fellowship during the first year of certification. It was further awarded three years of accreditation, the longest accreditation period the council can bestow. The fellowship provides a one year curriculum in point-of-care ultrasound for emergency medicine attendings. Despite its many accolades, we need to secure financial support each year for the fellowship program, given it does not receive federal funding.

Emergency Medicine Residency Programs in Point of Care Ultrasound – As our residency director is quick to point out, “residents serve not only to deliver direct patient care, but they also elevate the training and thought processes of our entire medical system”. With this in mind, all our interns currently participate in a comprehensive one-month curriculum in emergency ultrasound. As a testament to the dedication of our faculty, the curriculum boasts 30 hours of in-person 1:4 attending lead instruction distributed over six sessions. Each session incorporates just-in-time lectures, bedside training, simulation, pathologic image review, feedback on image acquisition, and scenario-based instruction. The course encompasses the principles of Ultrasound Physics, Trauma Ultrasound (E-FAST), Cardiac and Lung Ultrasound, Aorta/DVT/Vascular Access Ultrasound, First Trimester Pregnancy Ultrasound, Gallbladder Ultrasound, Kidney Ultrasound and Eye Ultrasound. In preparation for these sessions, residents undertake a number of learning modules offered on our course website. Through the rotation, learners generate a portfolio of 100+ scans that are reviewed by our faculty.

Post-graduation residency surveys from last 5+ years, note this rotation to be the most valuable, after their Adult and Pediatric Emergency Department shifts, in preparing them for independent practice.



Medical Student Clinical Ultrasound Training – Twenty plus specialties use clinician performed ultrasound, apart from radiology, as part of their daily patient care (New England Journal of Medicine, Point-of-Care Ultrasound, 2011). With the re-engineering of the medical school curriculum in 2022-23, emergency medicine was invited to lead the integration of clinical ultrasound into the first year curriculum while collaborating with a talented group of faculty drawn from across the medical specialties. Eight half-day sessions are now positioned across the first 1.5 years to train our students in a large complement of ultrasound exams.

We also continue to conduct a two-hour practicum for our 4th year medical students focused just on Trauma Ultrasound (FAST exam) as part of the 10 emergency medicine clerkships offered each year. In the future, we hope to be in a position to expand our current offerings to include a two-week capstone course in point of care ultrasound during the 4th year to further cement our student's bedside integration of ultrasound. The department's ability to integrate these student into our residency offerings has been outstripped by student demand, with 40+ students (>1/3 of the medical school class) vying for 8 slots. With appropriate funding, we hope to develop an innovative clinical course across institution to meet the ultrasound needs of these students as they advance to residency.

Emergency Medicine Physician Assistant (PA) Training

We currently offer a one month rotation in point-of-care ultrasound for our PA fellows each year as an essential part of their training. We also conduct joint training sessions with our advanced provider group as part of our continuing education programs within the department.

Institutional Offerings in Point-of-Care Ultrasound

To ensure the safety of our patients, and clinical excellence from day one, we offer a half day seminar as part of intern orientation to enhance the procedural competence of our surgical, emergency medicine and anesthesia residents in ultrasound guided central line placement. With additional funding, we hope to be able to expand our support of other departments and assist their independent development and implementation of clinical ultrasound. A broad range of medical specialties, from internal medicine to family medicine, are required to now supply training to their residents/faculty in point of care ultrasound. Currently, there is a shortfall of ultrasound trained practitioners to meet this mandate. We hope to bridge this gap while training up future instructors in these individual specialties; broadening our own expertise at the same time and enhancing our collaborative care. With this in mind, we hope to fund an eventual system wide point of care ultrasound director.



Research Mission

- Dr. Pinto continues to spearhead our departmental study on the “Use of bedside lower extremity ultrasound in ED patients to reduce CT imaging” which has completed enrollment.
- Our manuscript highlighting our advances in medical school ultrasound education is pending acceptance: Cadigan BA, Hogan KA, Pinto DB, Donovan S, Weber L, Ata A, Chang AK. Evaluating the Impact of a Blended Ultrasound Curriculum on the Clinical Decision Making of Medical Students Using High-Fidelity Simulation.
- We continue to collaborate with national colleagues in multi-site studies. Gaspari RJ, Gleeson T, Alerhand S, Caputo W, Damewood S, Dicroce C, Dwyer K, Gibbons R, Greenstein J, Harvey J, Hill M, Hoffmann B, Jordan MK, Karfunkle B, Kropf C, Lindsay R, Luo S, Lusiak M, Nalbandian A, Naraghi L, Nelson B, Nickels LC, Nolting L, Nordberg A, Panicker A, Pare J, Peach M, **Pinto D**, Graham P, Rose G, Russell F, Schafer J, Scheatzle M, Schnittke N, Shpilko M, Soucy Z, Stowell JR, Vryhof D, Gottlieb M. A Multicenter, **Prospective Study Comparing Subxiphoid and Parasternal Views During Brief Echocardiography: Effect on Image Quality, Acquisition Time, and Visualized Anatomy. J Emerg Med. 2022 May;62(5):648-656.** doi: 0.1016/j.jemermed.2021.10.032. Epub 2022 Jan 20. PMID: 35065867.

A Commitment to Continued Advancement...

The ultrasound division continues to advance ongoing education in the department on point-of-care ultrasound on behalf of our patients and to further advance the cutting edge care we provide. Highlights among these efforts include...

We support weekly departmental image review sessions following resident conference on Wednesdays. Here we recognize the incredible cases occurring each week in the department and hone our collective ultrasound skills. These are led by the ultrasound fellowship team, and have become a sought after event.

Dr. Thomas Holman's monthly echo contest serves to highlight key saves and pathology from the department. Sharing these cases enhances our ability to recognize life threatening cardiac conditions at bedside, including left heart failure, severe valve pathology, right heart failure, pulmonary embolism, pericardial tamponade and hypovolemia. These findings can help guide lifesaving changes in management such as blood products, vasopressors, thrombolytics, pericardiocentesis, cardiac catheterization and operative intervention with our colleagues. These ultrasounds have become increasingly important with recent studies showing that more than 10% of cases that show asystole on the monitor (no heart beat) actually correlated with ventricular fibrillation on ultrasound, a shockable rhythm deserving of continued resuscitation. Studies also show that roughly 58% of patients without a pulse (PEA) actually have a functioning heart, and resuscitative efforts need to be re-directed to stabilize them. Cardiac ultrasound rapidly helps determine whether or not the heart is indeed the problem, and helps direct the appropriate course of action.

In 2021 the ultrasound division, in combination with the residency, took on a competition looking at ultrasound saves within the department to celebrate the current state and to inspire shared learning on behalf of our patients. Over this period of a few months there were over 90+ significant redirections of care linked to ultrasounds and many outright lives saved due solely to ultrasound. Our resident MVP from this event pursued a critical care fellowship and our resident winner achieved his RDMS certification in ultrasound. We look forward to reinitiating this annual competition as Covid restrictions are being lifted.

We continue to upgrade the emergency department's ultrasound infrastructure. In 2021 through a generous grant from a private donor through the foundation we were able to make upgrades to our aging ultrasound fleet with the purchase of 5 new machines. This made possible the continued care our patients have come to depend on. Entering into 2022, we were able to further utilize the new features of these machines as we upgraded our image archiving system QpathE. Collectively, these upgrades have become an essential life line of communication, with many of our hospital staff being off campus for 2/3 of the Emergency Department work day. As we enter into 2023 we are faced with incredible opportunities, and a few challenges, as we deploy our new system wide electronic medical record, EPIC. We view this as the incredible opportunity it is to further advance workflow, enhance education and to grow the support we can extend to our community campuses under the AMC umbrella.



This is what we do...Emergency UltrasoundWhat we do matters for our patients and our community.....

A middle age patient presented to the emergency department with partial loss of his vision. A bedside ultrasound was performed shortly after his arrival and found a detachment of his retina, the back part of the eye. Based on this information an ophthalmology consultation was able to be expedited and their retina stabilized in a couple of hours by one of our retina specialists.

A pediatric patient was sent in by their pediatrician to the pediatric emergency department for not gaining any weight since their 9 month check-up. The mom noted the child had increased fatigue and was sleeping and feeding less. The child had also not started to walk as expected. After finding the heart looked slightly large on chest x-ray a bedside ultrasound was performed by the emergency physician and they saw that the function of the left side of the child's heart was severely depressed, a condition called left ventricular cardiomyopathy. Blood work was sent that also supported this diagnosis and the patient was admitted to our pediatric intensive care unit where our cardiologists became immediately involved. The patient was started on medications to stabilize their heart and was discharged safely to home. Ultimately their heart problem was thought to be a complication of the flu. The emergency physician's rapid diagnosis by ultrasound allowed the child to get lifesaving therapy before their condition worsened.

An elderly patient presented to the emergency department after a fainting event while eating breakfast. EMS reported he had low blood pressure on scene. He stated that 3 days ago he had left leg pain that was sharp and radiated down his leg but went away with no chest or abdominal pain. A bedside ultrasound was performed on his arrival to try to identify potential causes for his passing out. It showed an unstable abdominal aortic aneurysm. Based on this unanticipated ultrasound finding, our vascular team was mobilized immediately to help stabilize his life threatening condition.

A young woman presented being found on the floor of her apartment confused and unable to communicate. Evaluation by emergency services prior to arrival, they found the patient with fever, respiratory failure, and low blood pressure. Within minutes of arriving to the emergency department, the patient had an ultrasound performed at bedside which demonstrated a multi-lobar pneumonia with associated inflammatory fluid in the chest. It also diagnosed her infected heart valves that were now leaking and sending clots to her brain contributing to both her shortness of breath and confusion (endocarditis). The ultrasound alone allowed for the rapid identification of the patient's heart infection. This led to the subsequent mobilization of our heart surgeons and cardiac life support team (ECMO).

A teenager, with a history of COVID -19 infection earlier that month presented to the emergency department with concerns of 5 days of worsening fever, chills, achiness, shortness of breath, nausea, and abdominal pain. These symptoms raised concern for potential post-covid multi-system inflammatory syndrome (MIS C). A bedside ultrasound was undertaken which showed fluid around the patient's heart immediately verifying heart involvement and favoring the MIS C concern. The physician was also able to further assess the degree to which the heart was impaired, thus guiding the perceived need for further support measure like cardiac life support (ECMO).

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Bo Pinto

Dr. Pauze,

On Sunday, January 03, 2022, I came to the ED after falling earlier that morning which caused an ear injury. Dorcas Pinto, MD was the attending MD who took care of me.

I just wanted you to know how much she impressed me with her very calm demeanor which really soothed my fears. In addition, she was very patient and thorough in treating me.

Everyone ED staff member that I came into contact with including security, the nurses and techs all displayed a very authentic compassion for me and for all the other patients in the waiting room.

Your staff made me feel proud to be an Albany Med employee.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dorcas (Bo) Pinto

- * Voted 2022 Attending of the Year
- * Associate Division Chief: Ultrasound
- * Emergency Medicine Student Clerkship Director
- * Co-Chair ED DREAM Team/Committee

Ultrasound Gurus Dr. Beth Cadigan (left) and Dr. Bo Pinto (right)

Forensic Medicine

Dr. Kirsten Morrissey, Division Chief- Division of Forensic Medicine (established April 2023).

Kaylin N. Dawson, SAFE Program Manager

Dena LeClaire, Program Coordinator

Our team has 20 trained examiners that come from all areas of the hospital.

Over the years, we have been able to grow our own program at Albany Med to include nurses/physicians and APPs from across the organization. Our team of examiners are on call 24/7 and service all areas of the hospitals. Our diverse group of examiners are all NYSafe Department of Health Certified. There are two examiners that are nationally certified in the adult sexual assault patient, and two examiners that are nationally certified in the pediatric sexual assault patient. All examiners have initially taken a 40-hour course that includes didactic/simulation and preceptorship prior to practicing as an examiner independently. The training program consist of pre course work done prior to their first day of didactic training. Examiners during the training will also be introduced to our local community partners including our rape crisis advocates, our local law enforcement, and our district attorneys. Our district attorney's office will also provide a mock trial training to prepare our forensic examiners on what to expect in the courtroom. After the didactic training, all examiners are brought to Albany Medical Center's simulation center. During this period, our simulation experience consists of utilizing all additional equipment on mannequins, history taking skills with our specialized patients, and utilizing the sexual offense evidence collection kit on our specialized patients. All trained examiners once completion of their didactic course is instructed to respond to the hospital with an experienced provided to do precepted exams. Registered nurses are instructed to perform ten pelvic exams on non-sexual as-sault patients. All examiners once practicing is highly encouraged to take a 40-hour pediatric sexual assault course as well as an Interpersonal Violence Certificate program through the IAFN.



Above: Our NYSafe sexual assault forensics team.

In 2022, our program cared for:

500 total patients

217 patients of sexual assault

113 exams being pediatric and 104 being adult sexual assault.

158 patients who were identified as child physical abuse/neglect and

104 patients who were victims of violence.

We CARE 2022

In April, our team collaborated with UAlbany for our annual WE CARE event. This event allows us to give back to our patient's by creating care packages to give to our patient's who present after an assault and seen by our examiners. These bags contain toiletry items, notebooks, coloring books/crayons, stuffed animals, new clothing, underwear and bras. In 2022, our team packaged 700 bags with the support of our donors, Walmart, Seymour Fox Foundation, Albany County Sheriff, SAFE Harbour of Albany County, SUNY got your back, Albany Med and SUNY Albany.

Community Support

We received the Hearst Foundation grant, an award amount of \$150,000. This is going to allow our forensic examiners to be able to attend an online pediatric sexual abuse certified course and take the national examination to be certified in pediatric SA. Kaylin Dawson and Shelby Asher received their national certification thanks to these funds! With these funds, we will also be able to provide additional coverage of a child life specialist for the Pediatric Emergency Department.

This was a competitive year for the Violence Against Women's Act grant that has supported our program since the beginning of our establishment. The grant funds allow us the opportunity to provide additional education, pay for on-call for our examiners and allow extra funds to be used for equipment and/or additional needs. This fiscal year we were awarded \$50,000, and currently in the second year of funding.

Recently our SAFE Program Manager was chosen to be one of three medical providers in NYS to work on the revamp of the NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection kit. Over a three-year time period, Kaylin represented from the medical portion to provide necessary changes needed to better serve victims of sexual assault

NYS legislation changed stating that all sexual offense evidence collection kits that victims did not want to release to law enforcement needed to be held for a period of no less than 21 years. Throughout the years our program has been storing evidence (over 300+). Recently Office of Victim Services released directives to facilitate and transport all evidence to long term storage. With diligent effort made, every patient was contacted via phone, provided with up-dated guidance and their evidence was shipped out for long term storage. All information will be accessed via a portal system for patients to follow up. Albany Medical Center was the 1st hospital in NYS to transfer all evidence to long term storage. The facility stated, "Everything was in great shape." This is a testament to the diligent efforts of our examiners to maintain proper integrity of all evidence on every patient.

Education:

Dr Morrissey & Kaylin collaborated with Albany Medical Student Haley Hogewind on an Interpersonal Violence Education Project. This project identified needs within our providers of all levels about basic understanding of IPV and resources available within our community to our patients. Within this project, we developed a "Tips for Intimate Partner Violence Screening", Hailey developed a Power point with voiceover, and badge buddies were created to help spread awareness. Our maltreatment committee worked together to bring FREE education for the second year to our community. With a monthly webex series, that is available to Albany Med and beyond were provided



Updated

Pediatric Maltreatment Education WebEx Series 2022

DATE AND TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
March 24 10—11am	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>The Social Worker Role in Child Cases & Mandated Reporting</i>	Martha Schultz, LCSW, LPN School SW – TLCSD, Crisis Clinician-ADK Medical, CPSE Counselor-Franklin County
April 25 12 – 1:00 pm	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Burns, Bites, & Bruises</i>	Dr. Kirsten Morrissey
May 4 1 – 2:00 pm	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Pediatric Strangulation</i>	Tara Accavallo, SANE RN, Suffolk County
July 13 9-10:00 am	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Being Bedside in Child Abuse Cases: A Roundtable Discussion</i>	Staff from PICU, C7, D7, & Child Life
August 29 12—1:00 pm	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Abusive Head Trauma</i>	Dr. Matthew Adamo
September 29 12—1:00 pm	Pediatric Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Child Protective Services & their Role in Child Abuse Cases</i>	Tonisha Fields and Jan Au Claire - Albany County CPS
October 31 10-11am	Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Radiographic Findings in Child Abuse Cases</i>	Dr. Lisa Ribons
November 9 12– 1:00 pm	Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Medical Mimics of Child Sexual Abuse</i>	Dr. Rebecca Butterfield
December 12 10-11 am	Maltreatment Education 2022: <i>Social Media and Pediatric Patients</i>	Dr. Adam Morris & Chris Smith, Task Force Officer with FBI, Albany Child Ex- ploitation Human Trafficking Task Force

Kaylin Dawson Presentations

Victims of Violence-Union College
Trafficking-SIMS Lab
Child Abuse Recognition -EMS Education Day

The SOECK NYS Kit-NYS Chapter IAFN Conference
The Sexual Assault Examination-The National Guard

The Sexual Assault Examination -Albany Medical College
Child Maltreatment & Human Trafficking-Emergency Preparedness
Human Trafficking in the healthcare setting-Homeland Security & Volunteer Fire Dept
Pediatric 40-hour Course-NYS Forensic Examiners



ED DREAM TEAM

The AMC Emergency Department **Diversity, Recruitment, Education, and Allyship in Medicine** (D.R.E.A.M.) Team, co-Chaired by Dr. Bohaema Pinto and Pamela Young, PA–C, expanded their outreach to local students. Generous funding from the Touhey Foundation, combined with the 2021 Kathy Peterson Grant allowed them to host a high school student for the 2021-2022 school year and again in the 2022-2023 school year. The team conducted a Winter Boot Camp session on the AMC campus with 20 students from Albany High School and for teachers spending the day in various areas of the department.

Members of the D.R.E.A.M. Team published an article in the Western Journal of Emergency Medicine, “Rapid Response: An Intensive Approach to Improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an Academic Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine”. As part of the ongoing commitment to education, the group led several Resident conference sessions, including a four hour block of lectures that was available for anyone in the institution to attend. Dr. Pinto continues to lead the “Race in Medicine” workgroup and work with Hospital administration in discussions in this forum. Pamela presented to the AMC Physician Assistant program on “Diversity and Allyship”.

CAPITAL REGION COMMUNITY



Albany Med Emergency Department

Albany High School students learned about emergency medicine from members of the Albany Med Emergency Department on Friday, Jan. 28. The three-hour “boot camp” hoped to inspire students to pursue a future in health care and gave them a crash course in on-the-job skills as well as those needed to succeed in the workforce. The sessions, held at various times throughout the year, aim to increase interest in the medical field for those who have been historically underrepresented in medicine.

The D.R.E.A.M. Team hosted our second annual EMMersion Boot Camp and was able to slightly increase our attendance by local high school students. The students participated in the completely free three-day program, which was able to be held on campus this year. As a result, students had access to the full gamut of AMC education resources including SIM lab, dissection and a “job fair” with 12 different career

An Intensive Approach to Improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an Academic Emergency Department

Pamela Young, PA-C
Dorcas Boahema Pinto, MD
Shellie Asher, MD
Sara DeSanctis, PA-C
Karen Gardner, AAS
Sean Geary, MD
Heather Long, MD
Jennifer Pelesz, PA-C
David Peltier, MD
Lorraine Thibodeau, MD
Denis Pauze, MD

Albany Med Health System, Department of Emergency Medicine, Albany, New York

Section Editor: Mandy Hill, DrPH, MPH

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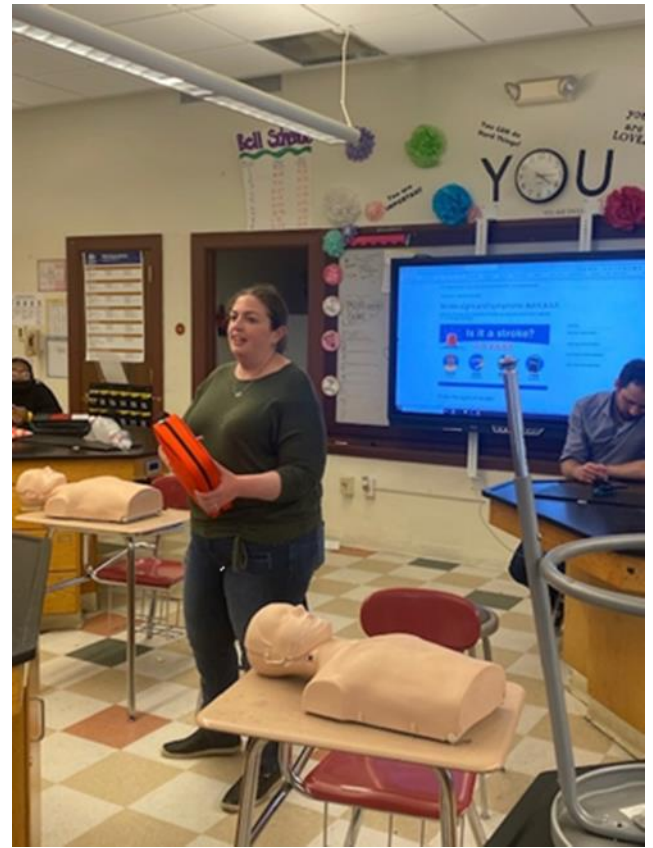


Our 2022 Summer EMersion Boot Camp For High School Students





Our team teaching CPR in a Middle School classroom.



Beth Gresen teaching CPR and AED use for Middle School Students in Albany.



Students graduating from our 2022 Summer Camp

Light up the Night

In 2022, Light up the Night raised over \$300,000 for our department. This money helps fund advanced training, specialized education, research/scholarly work, conferences and emergency medicine equipment. To our community and our donors, **WE THANK YOU!**

Light Up the Night Raises \$300K for Emergency Medicine

More than 500 guests attended the annual *Light Up the Night* summer gala at the Saratoga National Golf Club, raising \$301,442 for the Department of Emergency Medicine. Proceeds from the fundraiser are used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and support educational, training, and research opportunities for Emergency Department physicians and staff.



Light up the Night JULY 22, 2022 Empire Blue Cross



Our ED Team with President and CEO Dr. Dennis McKenna at Light up the Night.







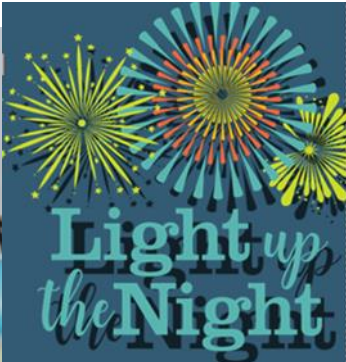
EM Resident Class of 2023



Light up the Night honored grateful patients Laura and Al Williams from Clifton Park, NY, survivors of a 2022 snowmobile accident. Their story showed the true impact of the Emergency Department at Albany Medical Center.



Above: Light up the Night 2022 with the 2023 Emergency Medicine Resident Class and Program Coordinator Kara Giglia
 Top Left: Arthur Strzepka, Caleb Watkins, Lauren Icken, Grace Huang, Max Wang, Peter Ahn
 Bottom from left to right: Alex Giuliano, Kara Giglia, Jack Lewis, Wes Christenson



Our Emergency Medicine Residency Program (est. 1988)

Residency Program Program Director: Dr. Sean Geary

Associate Program Director: Dr. Yvonne Chow

Assistant PDs: Dr. Jessica Noonan, Dr. Alexander Bracey

Program Coordinator: Kara Giglia

Congratulations to the Class of 2022!

Brendan Blagbrough, DO- Community Practice Poughkeepsie NY

Andres M. Crane, MD- Community Practice Pittsburgh, PA

Dan Finnin, MD- Military Practice San Diego, CA

Brian Frodey, MD- Medical Critical Care Fellowship, Wash U St Louis

Warren Hayashi, MD- EMS Fellowship, Albany Med

Megan Lieb, DO- Resuscitation Fellowship, Albany Med

Amanda May, MD- Academic Practice, Buffalo, NY

Stacey Natterer, DO- Community Practice, Columbus, OH

Yuvraj Singh, DO Medical Critical Care Fellowship, Advent Health, FL

Stephanie Tsang, DO Academic Practice, Long Island, NY

Cameron Waldman, MD Resuscitation Fellowship, Albany Med

Briana Wenberg, DO Community Practice, Albany, NY

Mitch Zekhster, DO Anesthesia Critical Care Fellowship, UCSF, CA



Since our first class in 1988 we have trained hundreds of Emergency Physicians in our residency program. This year, almost half of our graduates sought advanced training; mostly in the realm of critical care as we here at AMC strive to provide cutting edge care to our patients.

We remain a resource not only for the care provided here but to our region as a source of exceptionally trained emergency physicians. This year, half of our graduates remained in NYS with almost a third staying in the immediate area.

We welcome the class of 2025. We again drew applicants from all across the nation and have created a cohesive group of interns here in Albany. We look forward to watching them mature into successful emergency physicians over the next three years. Candidates continue to comment on our residents' ability to give them a feel for our program even over the internet. I will never cease to be amazed at the impression our residents make on the applicants.

We look forward to 2023 with cautious anticipation but reflect on 2022 with pride.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sean P. Geary

Emergency Medicine Residency Director

Albany Medical College | Emergency Medicine
Annual Report 2022



Our Emergency Medicine Residents and EMS Fellow at The Difficulty Airway Course in New Orleans. This is a national course training our Team in Advanced airway management. We were able to go to this using Light up the Night funds.



Marianne Pellon Award Recipient

Dr. Cameron Waldman

Jeffery Seymour Award Recipient

Dr. Yuvraj Singh

Resident Teaching Award Recipients

Dr. Andres Crane

Dr. Mitchell Zekhster

Resident Research Award Recipient

Dr. Brian Frodey



The Advanced Practice Provider group continued to grow and thrive, emerging from the pandemic with several newcomers to the group. We continued to manage the highly successful ED Observation Unit with Dr. Potenza. This unit is efficient and offloads the hospital from patients who may be long length of stay otherwise. This very versatile group also provides telehealth medical care for over 40 prisons with the Department of Correctional Services.

Our providers exhibited leadership skills and thrived in their outside activities. Sara DeSanctis, PA Fellowship Director participated in various forums with the Society of Emergency Medicine Physician Assistants. Katherine Mitchell continued in her military commitment with the Army reserves.

The APP group continued its commitment to the community. We renewed our partnership with the Homeless and Travelers Aid Society Feed and Read, which provides packages to hundreds of Capital District families who are food insecure. Multiple faculty members also teach at the AMC Physician Assistant Program and participate in the ED D.R.E.A.M. Team initiative.

The APP commitment to academic and clinical excellence continues, with three of our members, Pamela Y. Young, PA-C, Jennifer Pelesz, PA-C and Sara DeSanctis, PA-C as authors for the Western Journal of Emergency Medicine “An Intensive Approach to Improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an Academic Emergency Department”. The group also continues with the Clinical Advancement Program that participates in routine didactic lectures and simulations to hone their clinical acumen.

The Physician Assistant Fellowship Program

In 2022 The Physician Assistant Fellowship Program had some leadership changes this year. Sara DeSanctis, PA-C, MHS took over as Program Director and Patrick Fontaine, PA-C, MPAS and Anthony Parenti, PA-C, MPAS came on board as Associate Directors and Dr. Geoffry Gillespi, MD joined our leadership team as Medical Director. They graduated their eleventh class.

Our fellows completed their rotations in Ultrasound, Airway, Trauma, Ophthalmology, Toxicology, Surgical Critical Care, Cardiac Critical Care, and Pediatrics. The fellows spend a varying amount of time on each service for heightened exposure to these areas. Fellows also selected elective rotations in several areas and participated in certification programs, including ACLS, PALS and ATLS. They were able to participate in weekly conference and journal club with the reside as well as newly added biweekly fellow specific lectures. SIM Lab sessions and cadaver labs continue to be an invaluable source of learning and growth for our fellows.

Our fellows attended The National SEMPA 360 annual conference in Las Vegas including the Quiz Bowl where Benjamin Verbil and Michael Jefferson represented Albany Med. Sara DeSanctis continues to be a member of the SEMPA Postgraduate Education Committee, as well as the Quiz Bowl Committee.

All of our fellows continue to participate in the SEMPA/Rosh Review Assessment Program with solid performances.

All of our Fellows have also all attained employment after graduation. They are as follows:

- Michael Jefferson—Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield, MA
- Tuyen Nguyen—The Queen’s Medical Center, Honolulu, HI
- Benjamin Verbil—McKenzie -Willamette Medical Center Springfield, OR

Dr. Howard Snyder was voted attending of the year by the class of 2022.

The Fellowship Program Administrative Team thanks all of you for your continued support and dedication to the success of our program. It is because of all of you that our program can boast our exceptional learning environment, camaraderie, and experience that sets our fellows on the path to being leaders in their field.



Undergraduate Medical Education

Physicians from our Emergency Department are actively involved and engaged in undergraduate Medical Education (Medical School education).



4th Year Medical Student Emergency Medicine 4-week Clerkship

- Director Dr. Boahema Pinto
- Associate Director Dr. Alicia Tudor
- Clerkship Coordinator Brandi Johnson
- 71 students rotated through our Emergency Department
- Monthly presentations/skills labs included: Ethical dilemmas in the ED (Dr. Shellie Asher), FAST Ultrasound (Dr. Beth Cadigan, Dr. Alicia Tudor and 3rd year EM residents), Splinting workshop (PA Jenn Pelesz), Suturing workshop (PA Pat Bunk), IV workshop (RN Mary Geisel), and Lumbar Puncture workshop (Dr. Boahema Pinto)
- Monthly simulation days run by Dr. Lorraine Thibodeau and Dr. Boahema Pinto
- Daily teaching: EM residents, faculty and APPs teach the students one on one during clinical shifts.

- Some quotes from AMC students about the rotation:
 - “One of the best opportunities I had throughout medical school to dive in head-first and get involved on a service. All of the residents and attendings I worked with were great about providing a reasonable degree of independence while still making themselves available for support as needed.”
 - “This was a great rotation to complete in the second semester of 4th year. It helped me feel comfortable with procedures and a broad range of presentations and acuity levels prior to starting intern year.”

Advanced Emergency Medicine 4-week Clerkship

- Director Dr. Boahema Pinto
- We hosted 14 visiting students interested in applying to Emergency Medicine.
- 6 of these students will be joining our EM residency incoming intern class.

Student Advising/Mentorship

- Director of Undergraduate Medical Education Dr. Lorraine Thibodeau
- EM Faculty Advisors Drs. Lorraine Thibodeau, Boahema Pinto, Kathryn Hogan, Sean Geary, Shellie Asher, Alex Bracey, Yvonne Chow, and Jess Noonan
- Advising Deans for Albany Medical College include Doctors Joel Bartfield, Shellie Asher, Kathryn Hogan and Annette Grajny

Medical School Courses and Threads

Albany Medical College underwent a curriculum revision that included a revamping of prior courses and the addition of several “threads” throughout the new curriculum.

Clinical Skills

Director Dr. Kathryn Hogan

- This longitudinal course is woven throughout the 1st and 2nd years of medical school to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to translate textbook knowledge to clinical practice and achieve proficiency and competency in clinical skills.
- In the Fall of 2022, Albany Medical College began a multi-year curriculum renewal process with a condensed, 18-month pre-clinical phase [Scientific Foundation Phase] for the Class of 2026. Accordingly, the Clinical Skills Course was restructured and reimagined, including accelerated training on core history-taking and physical examination skills, along with early incorporation of

diagnostic reasoning and clinical correlations through new small-group didactic sessions and case encounters.

- The traditional 2nd year curriculum was delivered [for the final time] to the Class of 2025 which incorporates a Clinical Reasoning Series focused on targeted history taking and physical examination to inform an appropriate differential.

Professional Identity Formation Weeks

- The 22-23 academic year for the Class of 2026, began with an Introduction to Medicine week followed by four new Professional Identity/ Inter-session weeks. Dr. Grajny served as a co-director for the Introduction to Medicine week which featured sessions and workshops dedicated to professional identity formation at the start of training. In addition, Dr. Hogan served as a preceptor for Inter-session workshops geared toward real-life application of clinical skills – including In-flight Emergencies and Roadside Emergencies.

Capstone Course

Director Dr. Annette Grajny

- 4th year medical school transitional course from medical school to residency, with an emphasis on clinical and procedural skills.

Health Care and Society

Dr. Shellie Asher serves as a small group preceptor in this longitudinal course starting in the first year of medical school. During 4th year she leads an interactive session on “Ethics in Action” for all students rotating through the Emergency Department.

The Climate Change on Health

Director Dr. Lorraine Thibodeau

Dr. Thibodeau has received approval from the Vice-Dean of Academic Affairs and the UME Committee to integrate education on the impacts of climate change on health in the medical school curriculum in a three-phase approach. She has also secured a \$30,000 grant to assist in this work. First, key foundational material is presented in a half day experience for the entire incoming medical school class introducing the myriad of health impacts caused by climate change. Following a didactic, students are divided into small groups rotating through real clinical scenarios directly linked to climate change. All of these cases are authentic and local, and three of the cases also link to social determinants of health. The second phase involves integration of core material into the existing pre-clinical curriculum and selected clerkships, and phase three will create a senior elective with a capstone project and community outreach.

Ultrasound

Co-Directors Drs. Beth Cadigan and Boahema Pinto

- In the first year of this longitudinal thread, 144 first-year students have been exposed to ultrasound image acquisition using standardized patients to identify normal anatomy, as well as interpretation of basic pathology.
- Lessons taught include basic ultrasound physics, lung, cardiac, vascular, renal and general abdominal ultrasound.

Evidence Based Health Care Course

Associate Director – Dr. Timothy Palmieri

This longitudinal theme begins in the first year and continues through all four years of medical school. It utilizes Team-Based Learning, a “flipped classroom approach,” to introduce students to the fundamentals of evidence-based medicine. Students learn the skills to critically appraise medical research and apply that knowledge to their clinical practice. Dr. Palmieri continues a long tradition of emergency medicine faculty leading the course and has big shoes to fill taking over from the evidence-based medicine guru Dr. Waxman.

Student Interest Groups

Emergency Medicine Interest Group

Faculty Advisor Dr. Claudwardyne Thevenin

- This group offers opportunities to medical students interested in Emergency Medicine. Some of their activities include:
 - o Trauma simulations
 - o Splinting sessions
 - o Hands on FAST Ultrasound Session

Medical Simulation Interest Group:

Faculty Advisor – Dr. Timothy Palmieri

This group introduces students to the many applications of simulation-based education in healthcare. This academic year the group hosted a “Meet the Task Trainer” event, and co-hosted “Speed Saving: An Emergency Response Bootcamp” with the Emergency Medicine Interest Group. Both were well attended by first and second year medical students and received excellent feedback. Students truly appreciated the opportunity to interact with emergency medicine faculty, fellows, and residents at these events!

Ultrasound Interest Group

Faculty Advisor Dr. Christopher Hanowitz

- This group was formed in response to the growing interest in ultrasound education among medical students. Activities done in 2022 include hands on workshops focused on :
 - o Musculoskeletal ultrasound
 - o Ultrasound-guided IV placement
 - o FAST ultrasound

Student National Medical Association

Faculty co-advisor Dr. Boahema Pinto

- This group of students are committed to supporting current and future underrepresented minority medical students, addressing the needs of underserved communities and increasing the number of clinically, culturally competent and socially conscious physicians. Some activities they hosted last year included:
 - o AMC’s annual sickle cell walk and fundraiser with proceeds going to AMC Melodies Sickle Cell Center for Kids
 - o Community Health Fair in partnership with Capital District Latinos.
 - o Black History Month events including community grand rounds on incorporating racial equity into trauma-informed care, and a networking dinner for faculty and students of African descent.

Medical Students for a Sustainable Future

Faculty advisor Dr. Lorraine Thibodeau

- The AMC chapter of this national medical-student run organization is a network of students who recognize climate change as an urgent threat to health and social justice. In its inaugural year of inception.
- They will be hosted a community grand rounds event

Patient Safety Clinical Competency Center (PSCCC)

Director Dr. Annette Grajny

- Dr. Grajny and her team have overseen the training of numerous medical students, residents and faculty using the state-of-the-art PSCCC.
- High school students from different AMC community outreach groups have also utilized the PSCCC for learning and exposure to hands-on medical skills.

Hospital Education Committees

Albany Medical College Admissions Committee, voting members Drs. Bartfield and Thibodeau

Academic Governing Council, Dr. Bartfield

M.D. program Curriculum Assessment Team, Dr. Kathryn Hogan

Undergraduate Medical Education Promotions Committee Chair, Dr. Thibodeau, voting member Dr. Pinto

Advising Deans' Council Drs. Asher, Bartfield, Grajny, Hogan

Junior Faculty Development Program Steering Committee, Dr. Asher

Clinical Pastoral Education Advisory Group, Dr. Asher

Office of Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Council Drs. Thibodeau and Pinto

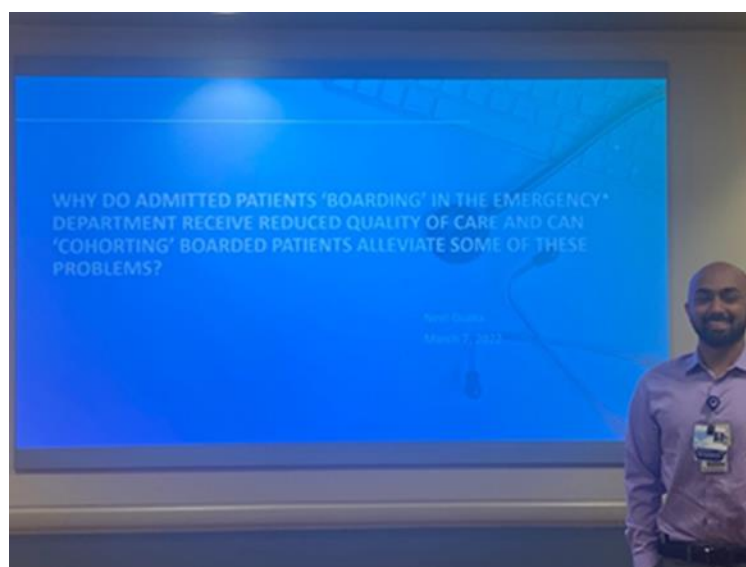
National Leadership and Educational Advancement

Chair, Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Innovations sub-committee, Dr. Thibodeau

Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine Past Presidents' Council, Dr. Thibodeau

AAMC Group on Resident Affairs, Drs. Bartfield and Asher

Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine Grants and Awards Committee, Dr. Pinto



Congrats to 4th year medical student Neal Gupta, who will graduate with a Doctor of Medicine with Distinction in Health System Analysis. He successfully presented and defended his dissertation "Why do Admitted Patients Boarding in the ED Receive Reduced Quality of Care and can 'Cohorting' Boarded Patients Alleviate Some of these Problems?" Way to go Neal!

SIMULATION MEDICINE:

Simulation-based education has become an integral part of all levels of medical training. Annette Grajny, Tim Palmieri and other members of our emergency medicine team continue to utilize medical simulation to develop robust and rigorous educational programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and faculty level.

Dr. Grajny continues in her role as medical director of the Patient Safety and Clinical Competency Center and oversees the educational content and delivery of didactic material to all types of learners. In her work at the PSCCC, she trains and mentors medical students, as well as experienced teams in healthcare. Dr. Grajny works with senior medical students as director of the Capstone course prior to their matriculation to internship.

Dr. Palmieri has been a welcome and valuable addition to the simulation team. Prior to his arrival at Albany Medical Center, he completed a fellowship in Health Professions Simulation-Based Education at Northwell Health. Upon his arrival at AMC, Dr. Palmieri took on the role of overseeing the simulation curriculum for emergency medicine residents. He also frequently participates in simulation-based activities with all levels of medical students and is the faculty advisor for the college's Medical Simulation Interest Group. This year, Dr. Palmieri and Dr. Kathryn Hogan introduced the "Approach to the Acute Environment," a newly developed clinical skills session which utilized manikin-based simulation to help prepare first year medical students for their transition to clinical medicine. In July, Dr. Palmieri plans to continue to further integrate simulation-based activities into emergency medicine intern orientation to help prepare our incoming resident class.

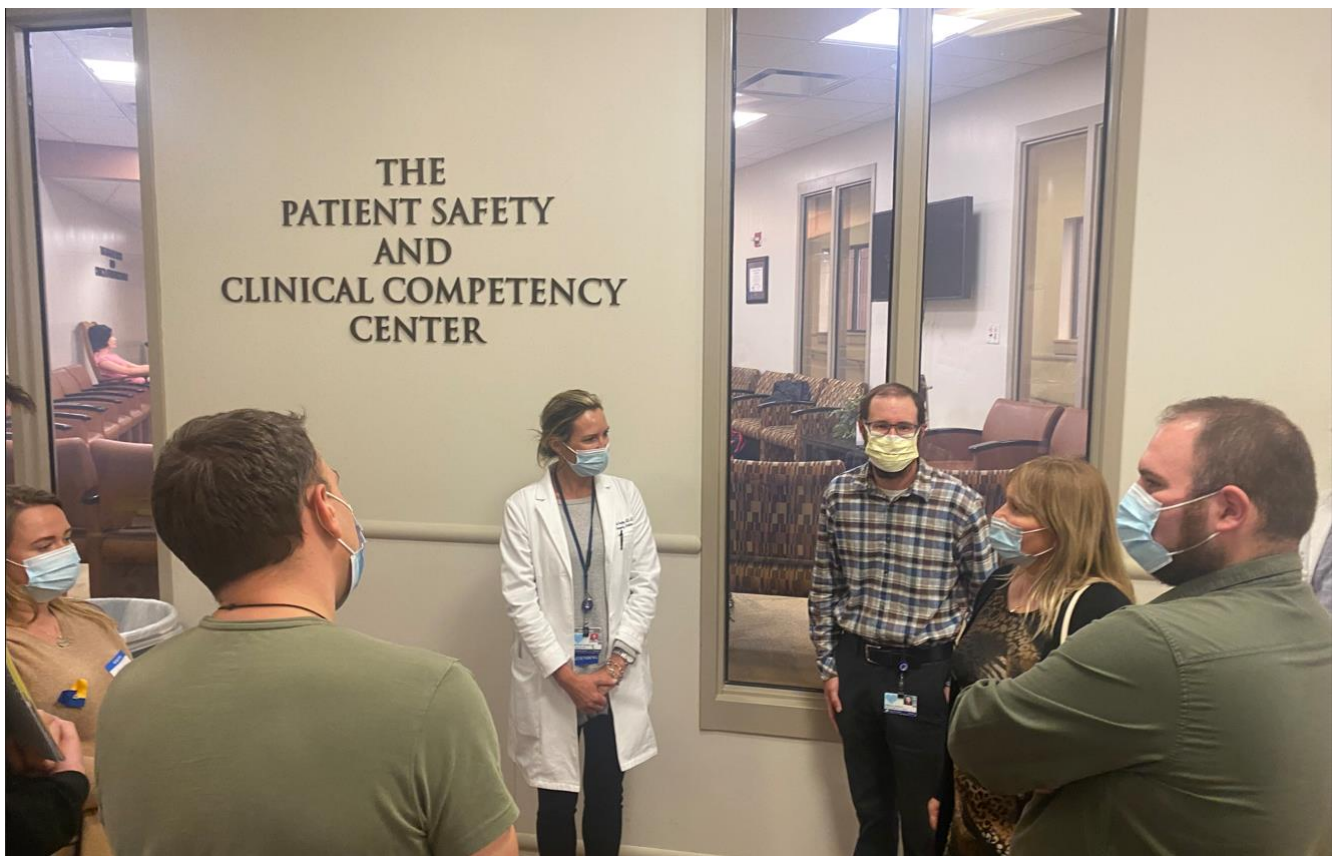
Multiple times each year, residents participate in an afternoon of manikin-based simulation at the Patient Safety and Clinical Competency Center. There, residents are given the opportunity to manage difficult clinical scenarios, practice high-risk procedures, and improve their leadership and communication skills. Our outstanding faculty, including Drs. Waterman, Long, Malabanan, Palmieri, and Grajny, help facilitate these cases and provide meaningful feedback. Additionally, residents frequently participate in cadaver-based skills training throughout the year to hone their skills in performing high-risk procedures.

Drs. Grajny and Palmieri are also exploring the use of in-situ simulation (simulated cases in real clinical environments) for both quality improvement measures and team training, as well as part of the medical school curriculum. This winter, as a response to the overcrowded waiting room and increased length of stay, they piloted a novel in-situ simulation in the ER waiting room. This innovation has been accepted as a poster presentation at NYACEP. They are also using in-situ simulation training for ED and Surgery residents as well as medical students. In addition to their training sessions, Dr.'s Palmieri and Grajny continue to develop scholarly activity related to simulation.





Area High School students are being taught by EM APP Pam Young (left) and Sara DeSantis (right) in our Patient Safety and Competency Center (Simulation Center)



Dr. Annette Grajny giving a tour of the Patient Safety and Competency Center (Simulation Center) to a team of Physicians from Ukraine.

ED Operations:

Our Emergency Department is the “Front Door” of our Hospital and AMC Health System. In 2022, we saw 84,205 total patients. We saw our highest number of pediatric patients, 25,693.

Adult ED Operations Annual Report

2022 saw ongoing challenges to the operation of our emergency department as well EDs throughout our region and country including volume surges related to Covid-19 and respiratory viruses, nursing shortages and markedly prolonged boarding times of admitted patients waiting for hospital beds. Faced with these challenges, our triage and waiting area - our front end – has flexed to become an area where we not only initiate patient work ups but also provide definitive care to over a third of our patients.

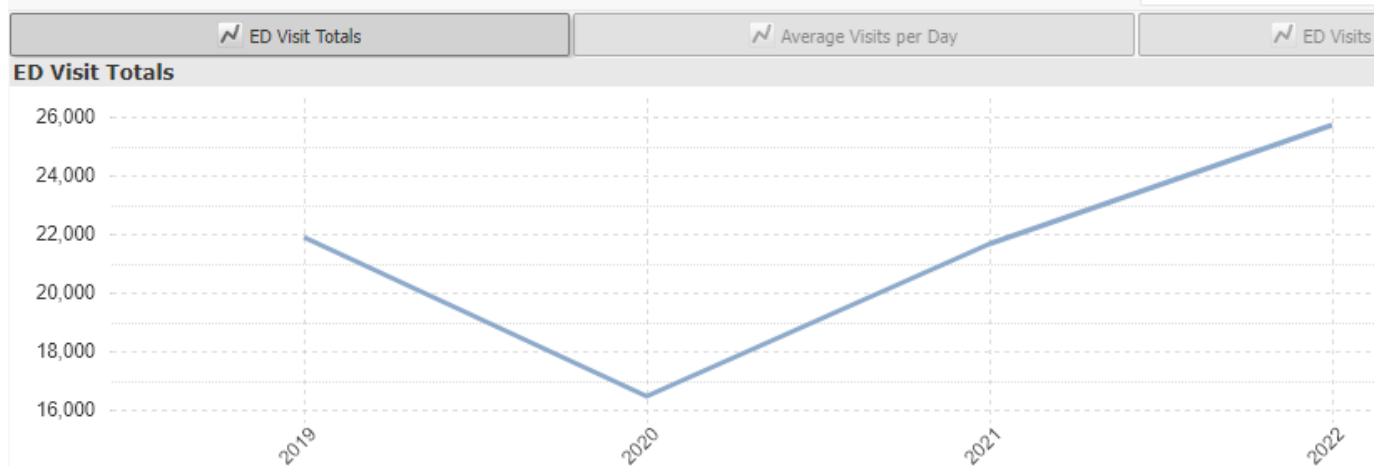
To meet these challenges and promote patient safety

- We welcomed new AVP Christine Pakish, Adult ED nursing supervisor Lisa Cammer and Pediatric ED nursing supervisor Nicole Friedman
- We revamped our front end process of triaging and initiating patient evaluations
- We opened a new radiology waiting area and a new patient waiting area
- We expanded staff coverage of the front end with 24/7 providers on our busiest days

To address the boarding crisis, the Front-End team identified novel areas for patient throughput including triage overflow and other flex areas. The pediatric ED used a flex area on the second floor for either rapid throughput patients or boarding patients.



Final ED	Patient Status	Acuity/ESI	Ambulance or Stretcher	19,383
Peds ED 85,674	DC ED 66,660	1 315 4 25,911	Wheelchair	1,932
ED Disaster Overflow 0	IP 15,588	2 12,437 5 3,500	Helicopter	220
Main/Adult ED 0	Obs 3,426	3 42,870	Not Recorded	1



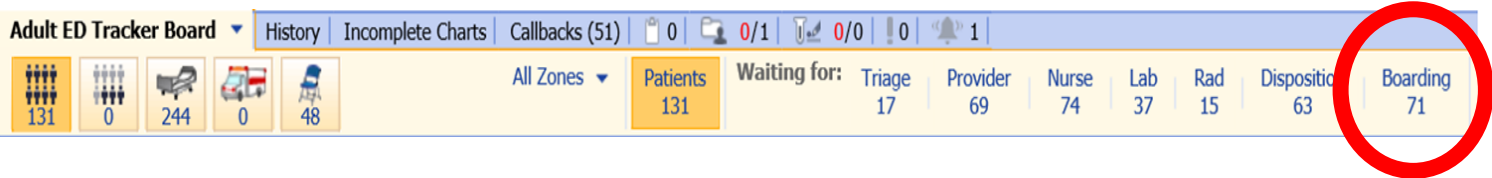
The mental health crisis throughout the country had a particular impact in both our adult and pediatric ED. Therefore, we continued usage of a telehealth psychiatry service to facilitate disposition of patients. We collaborated with the psychiatry services to create a process for improved evaluation of patients.

Publications: Long, Frodey B, Ata A, Waxman MJ. Emergency department length of stay, volume and acuity during ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Acad Emerg Med. 2022;29:S284.

Research: LifeBell System Assessment. WCG Protocol # 20230153 Heather Long, MD Principle Investigator; Michael Waxman MD and Andrew Chang MD, co-investigators in industry-partnered study exploring feasibility of vital sign monitoring of ED patients

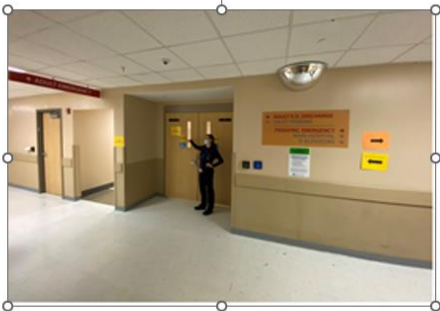
ED Overcrowding:

Emergency Department (ED) overcrowding and boarding has long plagued hospitals across the United States, but with the COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare worker burnout and the great resignation America’s EDs were brought to a new breaking point. An “ED boarder” is an admitted patient waiting in the ED for an inpatient bed in the hospital. When admitted patients board in the ED, they occupy an ED bed, provider, and nurse; therefore, reducing the capacity of the ED. New patients back up in the waiting room, where they may wait for hours for an assessment and definitive care. Last winter, ED overcrowding became national news and in November of 2022 the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) penned a letter to the President of the United States to bring attention to this “public health emergency.” Albany Medical Center ED is nimble and quickly shifted to treating patients where they were at, whether that be in a room, hallway or waiting room. Our ED providers and staff put our patient’s health and well-being above all else and will continue to work tirelessly to improve patient care.



Above: 131 total patients & 71 Boarders in our 59 Bed Adult ED. The ED is at 220% Capacity.
Below: ED Operations Team working on new space and new patient flow opportunities.

Repurposed Service Area Thank you Facilities Team!



RWA presentation.mp4
albanymedicalcenter-my.sharepoint.com

New E zone WR Patient Flow



Status	Room/ID
D	DOF6
E	E46
E	E47
E	E48
E	E51
E	E53
Priorit...	EDWR-M04
Priorit...	EDWR-M05
TOF ...	EDWR-M20
Waiting	EDWR-M22
Waiting	EDWR-M23
Waiting	EDWR-M24
Waiting	EDWR-M25
Waiting	EDWR-M26
Waiting	EDWR-M27
Waiting	EDWR-M28
CT SCAN	
Waiting	EDWR-M29
Waiting	EDWR-M30
Waiting	EDWR-M34
EMS ...	EDWR-M95
EMS ...	EDWR-M99
E Zon...	EDWR-P04
Triage	EDWR-T01
Waiting	bTROF01

Emergency Department Crowding: A National Health Care Crisis

An open letter to President Biden re: Emergency Department Overcrowding.
From the American College of Emergency Physicians.

November 7, 2022

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Mr. President:

There is no question that Americans have suffered great loss of life and endured financial hardships, across all sectors, over the past 32 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Frontline healthcare workers risked their lives, provided care during physically and emotionally demanding situations, and bore witness to their patients' goodbyes to loved ones from afar.

Yet, in recent months, hospital emergency departments (EDs) have been brought to a breaking point. Not from a novel problem – rather, from a decades-long,¹ unresolved problem known as patient “boarding,” where admitted patients are held in the ED when there are no inpatient beds available. While the causes of ED boarding are multifactorial, unprecedented and rising staffing shortages throughout the health care system have recently brought this issue to a crisis point, further spiraling the stress and burnout driving the current exodus of excellent physicians, nurses and other health care professionals.

Boarding has become its own public health emergency. Our nation’s safety net is on the verge of breaking beyond repair; EDs are gridlocked and overwhelmed with patients waiting – waiting to be seen; waiting for admission to an inpatient bed in the hospital; waiting to be transferred to psychiatric, skilled nursing, or other specialized facilities; or, waiting simply to return to their nursing home. And this breaking point is entirely outside the control of the highly skilled emergency physicians, nurses, and other ED staff doing their best to keep everyone attended to and alive.

Please see the entire letter at <https://www.acep.org/siteassets/new-pdfs/advocacy/emergency-department-boarding-crisis-sign-on-letter-11.07.22.pdf>



Hospital organizations warn that the lack of space and staff is creating a crisis.

President Joe Biden received a letter from a group of medical organizations regarding the “breaking point” that hospital emergency departments are reaching. They detailed the staffing shortages and lack of beds for waiting patients, and lack of space is causing admitted patients to be kept in emergency departments. This has also caused a delay in care.

AMC ED Team starts Telemedicine initiative with the NY State Department of Corrections:

Our AMC Emergency Department has also expanded into telemedicine! Our department was retained by the New York State Department of Corrections to provide high quality expert healthcare to this population. Our ED providers take calls from correctional facilities across New York during evenings, overnights, weekends and holidays. We assist the medical providers in the facility with assessment, treatment and determining if a higher level of care is required during these off hours.

Complaint
"PEDESTRIAN VS CAR"
"DVT"
"R ARM WEAKNESS, AMS, SYNCOPÉ"
"AMS"
"MVA"
"RAN OVER BY FARM TRACTOR"
"WEAKNESS, DIZZY"
"STROKE"
"WR FALL, HEAD FX"
"ABD PAIN DUE TO AN INTENSTIN..."
"SDH"
"EXPRESSIVE APHASIA"
"POSS KIDNEY STONES"
"BRAIN BLEED"
"VOMITING , NOT EATING ,DRINKI..."
"ABNORMAL LABS"
"L HIP PAIN SP FALL"
"POSS SEIZURE"
"HYPOTENSION"
"T11/L1 FRACTURE SP FALL"

On a daily basis, our Emergency Department Tracker Board displays multiple different illnesses and injuries. Albany Med's Emergency Medicine Team is prepared to care for anything that walks into the door...

...We are here for you....

... 24/7/365

Albany Medical College | Emergency Medicine
Annual Report 2022

Complaint
"STROKE"
"SYNCOPAL EPISODE"
"MVA ROLLOVER"
"WR THROWN FROM HORSE"
"DECREASED SP02"
"TRACH EVAL"
"R HAND WEAKNESS"
"UNRESPONSIVE"
"MCA"
"TRAUMA FALL"
"FALL"
"CEREBRAL CONTUSION SP FALL"
"MISSED DIALYSIS"
"L FLANK PAIN SP FALL"
"LT FACIAL DROOP"
"DIFF SPEAKING LOSS OF MOVEMENT RIG..."
"SICK"
"ESRD"

The ED Patient Access Team

Patient Access Specialists and Liaisons serve the Emergency Department mission alongside the clinical and nursing teams. We contribute to the creation of a compassionate and caring environment for patients, families, and colleagues through displays of kindness and active listening. We recognize and appreciate that each employee's work is valuable and contributes to the success of the healthcare system.

Patient Access is often the first contact for our patients and families. Each of the team members takes a pledge to uphold Albany Med Cares with every interaction. Demonstrating compassion, accountability, respectfulness, and engagement.

Patient Access provides a caring and efficient intake of all our patients, ensuring proper patient identification for walk-in and agency transported patients. The intake allows the nursing team a quick glance at why the patient came to Albany Med which allows them to determine if a patient needs immediate attention.

Each Specialist is held accountable to the Revenue Cycle and the needs of the patient. The Revenue Cycle is any function that contributes to the accurate payment of claims and reimbursement for services provided, this is especially critical in the Emergency Department with admission numbers as high as half the daily admissions to the facility. Each patient is interviewed to update their personal information during a face-to-face registration. This includes accurate capture of health insurance and copay collection.

The Specialist also provides traditional clerical support to the department, including answering of multi-line (10) telephone and managing all inquiries, transferring of telephone calls; discharging of patients via the patient medical record; verifying all laboratory specimens for accurate labeling by nurse or provider prior to sending to the laboratory for processing.

The Liaison team focus on managing visitor flow in concert with the clinical care provider needs. The Liaison will ensure that the patient's visitors are comfortable and knowledgeable about Albany Medical Center, Visitor Guidelines, and the experience of the patient in our Emergency Department. The Liaison is often the voice of compassion when dealing with families for trauma and critically ill patients. The liaison works in conjunction with security services to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for families waiting to visit their loved ones.

The Patient Access team takes great pride in being a part of the Emergency Department team!

Karen Gardner, Manager, Access Services

Brenda Pascarella, CHAM, M. Ed, Director



Glens Falls Emergency Department

There has been little in the realm of Emergency Medicine left untouched by the pandemic. And while 2022 witnessed a return to pre pandemic patient volumes, more than ever Emergency Departments nationwide experienced the pandemic's indirect effects: Hospital overcrowding, critical shortages in staffing and reduction in community services. As a result, ED's experienced unprecedented challenges with overcrowding and patient throughput. Glens Falls ED was no exception.

Amid the many challenges of 2022, however, the Department of Emergency Medicine has demonstrated time and again the extraordinary capacity of our medical staff and indeed the entire ED team, to pull together to achieve remarkable results. Not only in meeting the emergent medical needs of over 47,000 patients but doing so with (never before) levels of efficiency and excellence. To highlight a few significant examples of the ED team's success over the year:

It became readily apparent that lack of ED beds and our small waiting were contributing to excessively high LWBS rates – peaking at over 10%. The ED team responded, with adaptability and out of the box thinking, finding a workable solution from limited resources: We performed a rapid conversion of the entire ED administrative suite into patient treatment rooms creating a (rapid) disposition area. As a result, we were able to expedite the care of approximately 7,000 patients through this area, without which, these same patients would have experienced protracted wait times and many of whom may ultimately have left without receiving any treatment.

Acute stroke was one of the clinical pathways we focused on. Recognizing that overcrowding was resulting in critical delays in management of these extremely time sensitive cases. Through collaboration with our EMS agencies, enhanced utilization of the provider in triage and enhancing our stroke pathway algorithms we were able to realize significant reductions in treatment times of our stroke patients. With mean treatment times decreasing by (x % / minutes.) These improvements ultimately lead to a the AHA Stroke accreditation Bronze medal award – an outstanding achievement for a relatively new stroke program.

These are but two of the many successes that together we have achieved. Most importantly, however, have been the many ways, both big and small, in which members of our department have stepped forward to sustain the mission of AMHS in Glens Falls.

In addition to these fine achievements, we also recognize that the key to healthy and happy patients, is a healthy and happy medical team. Ensuring that the often chaotic and stressful environment of the ED is conducive to our team's efficiency, well being and happiness is central to our mission. Sustainability and longevity of our EM providers ensures a strong and vibrant future for Emergency Medicine and ensures our communities have continued access to the highest levels of emergent care.

To my colleagues – friends, and everyone in our department and wider Albany Health System: Thank you... for all you do, every day, in support of our collective goals, and in support of one another. I am fortunate to lead this amazing department, and I am excited for what we will continue to achieve together in the years ahead.

Dr. Doug Girling Chief of EM at Glens Falls Hospital

Research and Scholarly Activities:

Dr. Andrew Chang Vice Chair of Research & Academic Affairs

Dr. Michael Waxman Research Director

Dr. Ashar Ata Biostatistician

The research division in Emergency Medicine at AMC continues to grow. The Division includes Dr. Andrew Chang (Vice Chair of Research and Academic Affairs), Dr. Michael Waxman (Research Director), Dr. Ashar Ata (Biostatistician), and Maaham Rehman (Research Assistant). 2022 was a particularly exciting year for research in our Department, as faculty in our department published over 12 manuscripts and presented over 22 national presentations during 2022.

Our critical care division has established themselves as national leaders, with Dr. Luke Duncan publishing on critical care transport, Dr Gregory Wu publishing on respiratory failure in Covid, and Dr. Alexander Bracey publishing on airway management and myocardial infarction.

Our research on the intersection between public health and emergency includes continues to grow as well. In 2022, researchers in our department disseminated their work on Covid vaccination in the emergency department; developed ongoing research into alternatives to opioids for pain management in the emergency department; and established itself at the forefront of research on trends in interfacility transfers.

Our faculty continue to partner with outside collaborators and mentor AMC medical students. In 2022, our department worked with the Department of Ophthalmology to publish a manuscript on the epidemiology of sinusitis and established a relationship with researchers in the Department of Orthopedics to better understanding trends in patients transferred to the emergency department with orthopedic injuries. We are in the early stages of collaborating with a basic scientist to examine the epigenetic signatures of socioeconomically disadvantaged patients in the emergency department. And, finally, we host AMC student researchers through a structured mentorship program and we were quite proud when three of AMC students presented their research at the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine 2022 Annual National Meeting.

► Acad Emerg Med. 2022 Feb 2. doi: 10.1111/acem.14456. Online ahead of print.

Influence of Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Foundation's Research Training Grant on Postaward Academic Federal Funding

Andrew K Chang ¹, Sangil Lee ², Rachel Le ¹, Ashar Ata ¹, Kari Harland ², Ayesha Khan ¹,
Melissa McMillan ³, Nick Mohr ²,

2018-2019, 2019-2020 Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Grants

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 35108429 DOI: 10.1111/acem.14456

Abstract

Objectives: The objective was to measure the impact of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Foundation's (SAEMF) Research Training Grant (RTG) by comparing academic success in grant recipients versus non-recipient applicants. Our primary outcome was subsequent federal funding as a principal investigator (PI) or multiple principal investigator (MPI). Our secondary



Dr. Ashar Ata receiving a SOSA award

Research & Scholarly:

Society of Academic Emergency Medicine National Presentations:

New Orleans, Louisiana

May, 2022.

Speakers:

Michael J. Waxman, MD, MPH; Michael S. Lyons, MD, MPH; Elissa Schechter-Perkins, MD, MPH; Moschella Phillip, MD PhD. Emerging Models for Implementing an Emergency Department COVID-19 Vaccination Program (Emergency Medicine Transmissible Infectious Disease and Epidemics Interest Group Sponsored). Accepted for didactic session on Friday May 13, 2022 at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Abstracts:

Aaron Wu, MBA; Symone Reid; Arnold Moore III, MBA; Ashar Ata, MBBS, MPH, PhD; Denis Pauze, MD; Ashley Telisky, DO, MBA; Kim Williams, MBA; Michael J Waxman, MD, MPH. Characteristics of Patients Transferred from Urgent Care Centers to an Academic Emergency Department. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Arnold Moore III, MBA; Symone Reid; Aaron Wu, MBA; Ashar Ata, MBBS, MPH, PhD; Denis Pauze, MD; Ashley Telisky, DO, MBA; Kim Williams, MBA; Michael J Waxman, MD, MPH. Trends in Interhospital Transfer Volume by Season, Weekday, Time of Day, and Federal Holiday Status. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Heather Long, MD; Brian Frodey, MD; Ashar Ata, MBBS, MPH, PhD; Michael J. Waxman, MD, MPH. ED Volume, Length of Stay and Acuity During Ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

John Jawichel; Ashar Ata, MBBS, MPH, PhD; Hyacinth Mason, MPH, PhD; Sean Geary, MD; Heather Long, MD; A Comparison of Emergency Medicine Intending Graduates With Their Non-Emergency Medicine Intending Counterparts. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Alexander Bracey MD, Luke Duncan MD, Sean Geary MD, Andrew K. Chang MD, MS Gregory Wu MD, Andrew Pellet MD, Christopher Hanowitz MD, Denis Pauze MD. An ED Critical Care Team Reduces the Need for ICU Admission. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA. Ryan Barnicle MD, MS Ed, Alexander Bracey MD, Matthew Tanzi MD, Peter McKenna MD, Somair Malik MD, MBA, Scott Weingart MD. A Taxonomy of Key Performance Errors During Emergency Airway Management. Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Isabella Chang, Emma Furlano, MD; Andrew K. Chang, MD, MS, Do Emergency Medicine Clinicians Realize that Tramadol is an Opioid? Accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine; May 2022; New Orleans, LA.

Lorraine Thibodeau Vulnerable Populations and Climate in Emergency Medicine (Climate Change and Health Interest Group Sponsored)

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

AAEM Leadership Positions

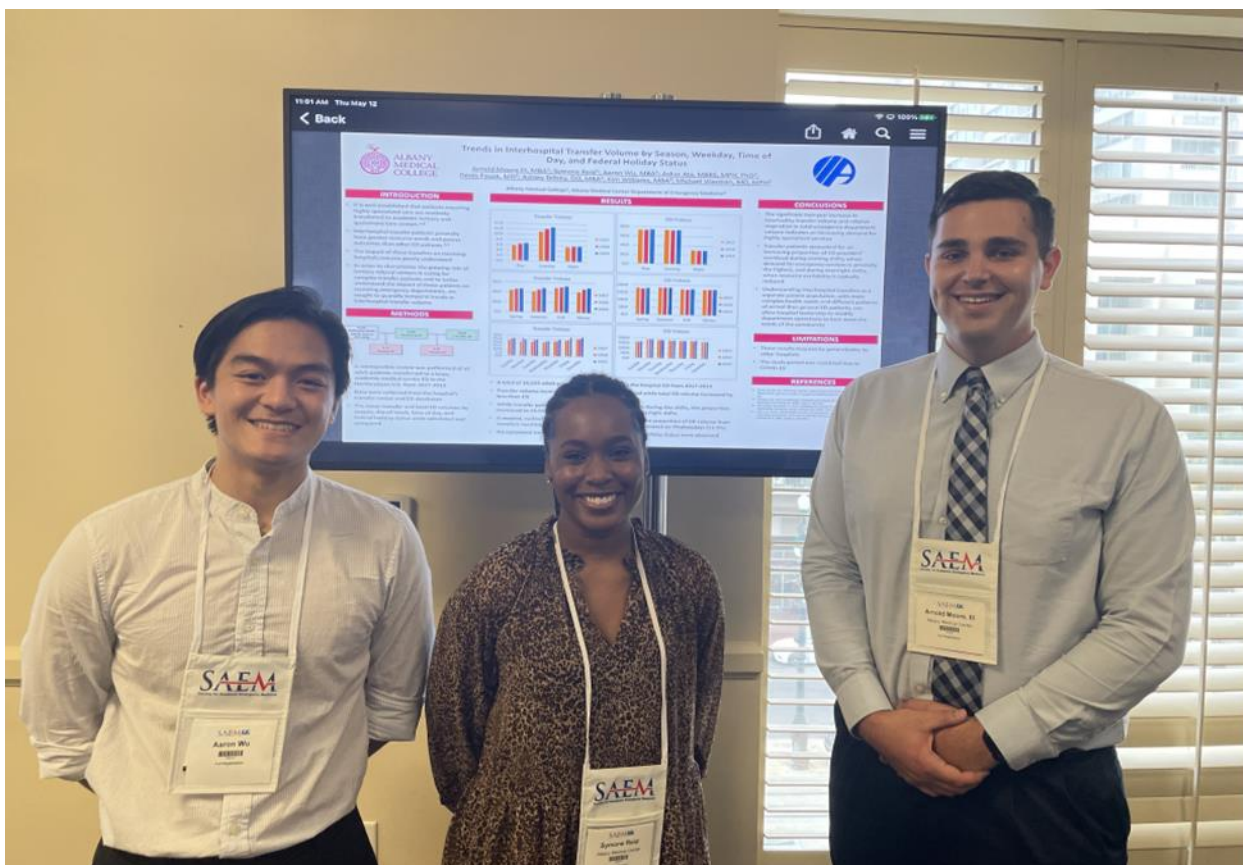
Greg Wu, MD: Chair, Critical Care Interest Group

Laurie Thibodeau, MD: co-Chair, SAEM Education Innovations sub-committee

AAEM Presentations

Dr. Molly Boyd-Smith “Emerging Drugs of Abuse”

Bronchoscopy Skills for the Emergency Physician: **Doctors Wu, Geary, Duncan, Le and Kaswer**

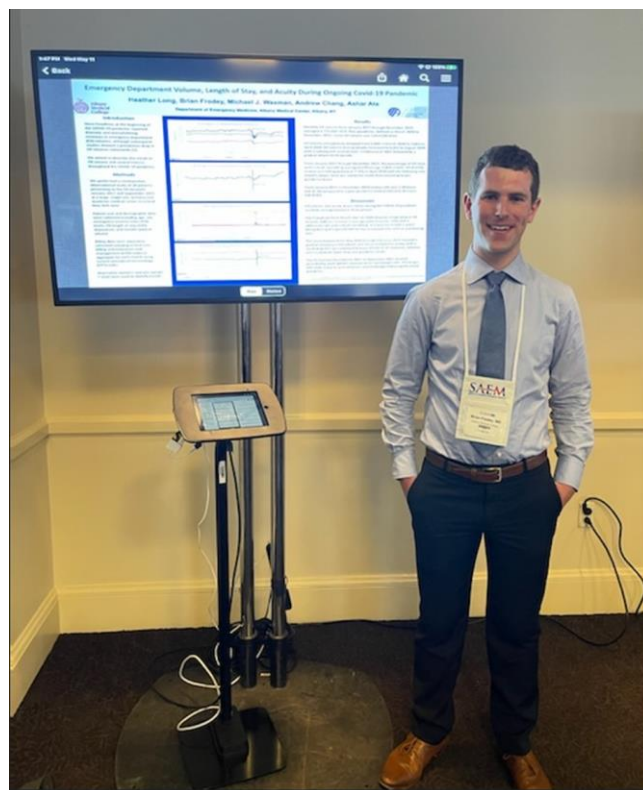


Medical Students **Aaron Wu, Symone Reid, and Arnold Moore** presenting at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine annual conference in New Orleans.



Dr. Michael Waxman, EM Research Director, presenting on *Vaccinations in the Emergency Department* at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine annual conference in New Orleans.

Emergency Medicine Resident **Dr. Brian Frodey** presenting at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine's annual conference in New Orleans.



Medical Students **Aaron Wu** and **Symone Reid** presenting at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine annual conference in New Orleans.

An ED Critical Care Team Reduces the Need for ICU Admission

Alexander Bracey, MD, Sean Geary, MD, Luke J Duncan, MD, Christopher J Hanowitz, MD, Andrew Pellet, MD, Gregory P Wu, MD, Denis R Pautz, MD
Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY

BACKGROUND

- The volume of critically ill patients has risen drastically in recent years
- Along with this increase in volume has come an increase in patients boarding in the ED for ICU beds
- This trend is expected to increase as the Baby Boomers enter senior citizenship
- Recently, emergency department intensive care models have been implemented to improve early care to the critically ill
- One such model, an Emergency Department Critical Care Team (EDCCT), was established at the Albany Medical Center Emergency Department

OBJECTIVES

- The primary objective was ICU admission rate of critically ill patients boarding in the ED or progressive care units (PCUs) during the time period that the EDCCT was active
- The secondary objectives were: # of critical care procedures performed, # of point-of-care ultrasounds (POCUS) performed, amount of critical care time billed per patient during the time the EDCCT was active

METHODS

- Retrospective, observational chart review of critically ill patients presenting to the ED during time which the EDCCT was active (September 2 – October 26, 2020)
- Urban, tertiary-care center in upstate NY with ~80,000 ED visits per year
- EDCCT was comprised of 3 dual-boarded EBCCM trained physicians (1 surgical critical care, 1 medical critical care) and 1 EM/Resuscitation trained physician
- During the trial period, patients who were identified as critically ill and boarding in the ED for an ICU or PCU bed were evaluated and managed by a member of the EDCCT between the hours of 2p-12p Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
- Medical records were reviewed for demographics, admission, procedure, and admitting diagnosis data, which were then collected

RESULTS

- 102 patients evaluated during study period over 20 shifts, 5.2 patients per shift on average
- 57% female, 65% Caucasian, median age 62 years, 2 patients identified as Hispanic/Latino
- ICM, acute hypoxemic respiratory failure, and septic shock accounted for 35.3% of admitting diagnoses
- 21 critical care procedures were performed, as well as 44 POCUS
- A total of 8720 minutes of critical care time was billed at 200 minutes/shift

CONCLUSION

An EDCCT may spare the use of scarce hospital resources in the form of ICU and PCU beds and may spare hospital admission altogether. Such a team may generate additional ED revenue through procedures and critical care time billed.

During the trial period, 16 of 102 (15%) were downgraded from ICU to step-down or floor level of care. 29 of 102 (28.4%) of patients were intubated, of which 3 (10%) were extubated and discharged to home.



DISCUSSION

- An EDCCT has an impact on hospital flow and may spare ICU and PCU beds
- These patients were spared hospitalization altogether after being extubated for altered mental status later found to be intoxication
- At a rate of 8 downgrades and 1.5 extubations followed by discharge per month, 96 patients would be downgraded and 18 discharged per year
- A higher amount of revenue was generated for providing high quality critical care in the ED in the form of intubated procedures, POCUS, and critical care time
- Further investigation comparing historic cohorts to the study period, and physician attitudes towards such a team is warranted and on-going
- Future prospective studies include evaluating rates of re-admission to the ICU after EDCCT downgrade and EDCCT impact on mortality

FIGURE 1

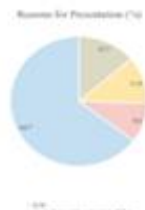


FIGURE 2

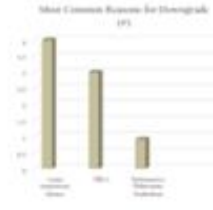


FIGURE 3

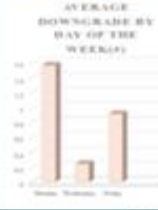
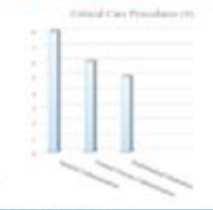


FIGURE 4



DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

None of the authors have any conflicts of interest to disclose.

ED Critical Care Research

Doctors Bracey, Geary, Duncan, Hanowitz, Pellet and Wu



EM Nurse Arnel Umayam and EM Attending Dr. Laurie Thibodeau point to a ZERO waiting room Nov 18th, 2022.

ED Nursing

Christine Pakish, AVP Emergency and Trauma Services, as stated at 2023 Light up the Night

Passion, dedication, perseverance, resiliency, and grit are just a few adjectives I will use to describe what an ER nurse truly is. ER Nurses are the pulse of the ED, the eyes, and ears for our providers, and when things get rough, we are the first to respond.

Good evening, I am Christine Pakish, Assistant Vice President of Emergency and Trauma Services. Emergency Medicine; as an RN, flight nurse and Nurse leader; has been my home over the last 25 years. Being an ER nurse is the best career decision I've made. Now, I have the privilege to lead and grow an amazing nursing team by bringing my experience, dedication and understanding.

Emergency Nursing is like no other. We thrive in an environment that we describe as "Controlled Chaos", As an elite team, we share the same goal, providing excellent, compassionate care resulting in the best patient outcomes, as well as meeting the needs of our community. Our ability to adapt to our environment and circumstances is astonishing.

We are autonomous and steer our focus in the right direction. We have a great team dynamic not only with our ER providers, but many other stakeholders that make our ED operational. ER nursing is a collaborative discipline. We all grow and learn together as a team.

We are the first face our patients see whether under extreme circumstances or a common cold. We are a hand to hold when someone is frightened, the voice for our patients when they can't speak for themselves. We are the caretakers, the educators, their safety net, a shoulder to cry on and the one that helps a family heal. Just seeing our faces, no matter how critical the situation is, our calmness and caring that we display helps ease their distress. We are very skilled, quick to respond and critical thinkers. We discover the first piece of our patients puzzle. The fact that we can finish coding a patient, walk out of a room and greet our next patient with a smile and concern, proves how adaptable we truly are. NO one ever calls 911 because they are having a great day. Our community depends on us to help them get through whatever crisis they are experiencing. They know our door never closes and we will always be there for them. Our PARENTS entrust us with their most precious gifts, and families with their loved ones. Over the years, I have cared for, treated, comforted, held the hand of someone dying, sat on the floor with a grieving mother, listened to an elderly wife tell stories about her husband, been a voice for someone I didn't know. I have been scared, sad, mad, and felt defeated. We cried, laughed, as well as stayed over past our shift because we made a promise, I am PROUD to be a part of an elite group known as Emergency Nurses. We can share these same stories, funny or sad, have an understanding without saying a word, always have each other's back, and know that our patients and our community will be forever grateful that we are here. As I have said so many times to my team, "They may not remember your name, HOWEVER, they will never forget what you did for them" and this always proves true.

Thank you,

Christine Pakish, AVP Emergency and Trauma Services

Emergency Department Assistant Nurse Manager Named Employee of the Year



December 12, 2022

Dec. 12, 2022

Employee of the Year

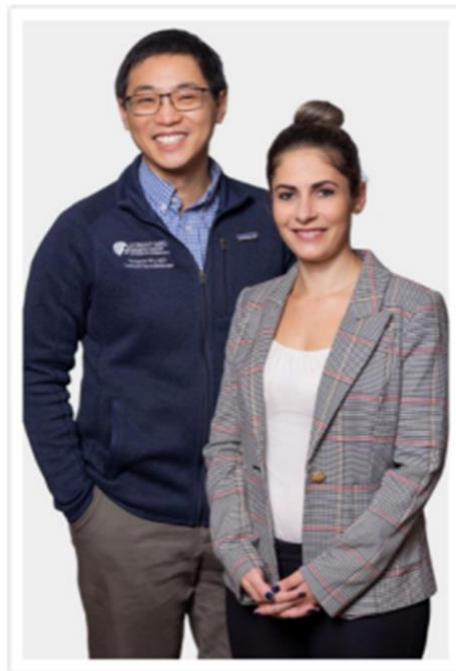
Dennis P. McKenna, M.D. | President and Chief Executive Officer
Assistant Nurse Manager Briana Caban is the 2022 Employee of the Year.

In September, Briana celebrated 10 years at Albany Med and has held various roles over the past decade. She began her journey as an ASA in Patient Access in the Emergency Department, moving to a Patient Care Tech, then becoming a registered nurse, and ultimately being promoted to assistant nurse manager. Briana received more than a dozen nominations from her colleagues who described her as “an incredible anchor, holding everything and everyone together.” They said that in the stressful and fast-paced environment of the ED, Briana handles herself with grace, remains calm and focused, and goes to great lengths to care for her patients.

2022 Pillars of Nursing Recipients Honored

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2022 Pillars of Nursing Excellence Awards, one of the most prestigious honors bestowed by Albany Med for nurses exhibiting excellence in patient care and leadership. The following nurses were recognized during a ceremony in ME-700 on Wednesday: **Joanne Carter, RN, from Emergency Department/Case Management, Danielle McDonald, RN, from Pediatric Emergency Department, Anthony Stefanelli, BSN, RN, from SICU, Cheryl Clow, RN, from Genetics and Genomics in the Department of Pediatrics** Congratulations!

January: Dr. Marissa Potenza & Dr. Gregory Wu



I CARE Awards were presented to Dr. Gregory Wu, Dr. Marissa Potenza for the month of January. Dr. Wu, a physician in the ED and ICU, and Dr. Potenza, an associate medical director who works nights in the ED, together with the apheresis team, developed an infrastructure for the monoclonal antibody program, refined the guidelines for use and created a referral plan for our physicians to follow. They have screened more than 2,200 patients and have provided nearly 1,000 treatments, saving countless lives and preventing many more hospitalizations. "They have tirelessly run the monoclonal antibody program over the last several months, and in doing so have likely saved many lives and many more hospitalizations—all while on their own time, and on a 24/7 basis, with full-time jobs."

Women in Emergency Medicine



2022 Women in ED Leadership Positions

VICE CHAIR OF SYSTEM INTEGRATION; MEDICAL DIRECTOR TRANSFER CENTER Ashley Telisky, DO	ASSISTANT DEANS Shellie Asher, MD Annette Grajny, MD Kathryn Hogan, MD	RESIDENCY LEADERSHIP Jessica Noonan, MD Yvonne Chow, MD	DIVISION CHIEFS Carrie Danziger, MD Heather Long, MD Alison Spear, MD Beth Cadigan, MD
ED MEDICAL DIRECTOR Heather Long, MD	DIRECTOR OF APP OPERATIONS Pamela Young, PA-C	EM CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR Dorcas Pinto, MD	MEDICAL DIRECTOR, SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINER PROGRAM Kirsten Morrissey, MD
ASSOCIATE CLERKSHIP DIRECTOR Alicia Tudor, MD	EM INTEREST GROUP DIRECTOR Claudwardyne Thevenin, DO	CO-DIRECTOR, APP FELLOWSHIP Sara DeSanctis, PA-C	
DIRECTOR OF ED OBS UNIT Marissa Potenza, MD	ASSOCIATE DIVISION CHIEFS Dorcas Pinto, MD	PRACTICE MANAGER EMUC Brooke Zimmerman	DIRECTOR OF M&M Alicia Tudor, MD

ED Administrative Team Highlights

2022 was another busy year for the administrative team. We were all sad to say farewell to Maria at the beginning of 2022 and Brooke at the end of 2022. Both Maria and Brooke were outstanding to our Administrative Team and are missed daily.

We added new members Brandi Johnson as the Front Desk Administrative Assistant in March, Maaham Rehman in June as the Research Assistant and Senada Ibralic in July in the role of Administrative Coordinator. All three have been amazing additions to the Team and we continue to be truly blessed by the caliber of people on our team!



Our wonderful ED Administrative staff enjoying the park and Tulip Festival in Albany.



Individual Highlights for 2022:

Brandi:

"My 2022 highlight was starting a new position with AMC working with amazing people in Emergency Dept. Being the coordinator of the EM/EMS clerkship is one of the favorite parts of my job."

Kara:

"You know me everything about my job is a highlight! I have to say it was celebrating my 25th work anniversary with the residents and the ED staff and celebrating at the 25-year club."

Senada:

"One highlight in my career for 2022 is getting my current job as the ED Administrative Coordinator. I have learned so much in these 10 months and continue to learn every day and I am very grateful for that. I love working here. I have great coworkers, and amazing manager Diana who help me every day to succeed in my position. I enjoy doing Kronos, I think that is the easiest task for me."

Katie:

"Wow my first whole year with AMC! I'm so appreciative of being on such a supportive team. The Admin team at AMC is so supportive, loving, caring, and fun. I always enjoy when I get to come down and hang out with that team for the day. The Northern providers at the GFH ER are really like family, and it makes being part of the team that much sweeter. I honestly don't think I have ever been so taken care of by a work group that genuinely cares about me."

Ellen and Diana:

"Losing both Maria and Brooke was very tough but taking our time and finding the three new great additions to our team has been very rewarding. Building such an amazing, dedicated team to support the Ed Administratively has been very rewarding for both of us. The incredible generosity of everyone who participated in Adopt and Angel and being able to provide an amazing holiday for six children/teens and their parents."



Kara Giglia, Emergency Medicine Residency Coordinator, celebrates her 25th anniversary at Albany Med! 72

Division of Urgent Care

Division Chief: Dr. Alison Spear

Associate Division Chief: Dr. Jacqueline Weaver

Practice Administrator: Brooke Zimmerman

Dr. Katie Chen, Dr. Michael Reilly, Dr. Robert Holterman, Lauren Blaisdell PA, Cindy Coons PA

Practice Coordinators: Debra Bigelow, Julie Sylvester, Robin Augustine, Schaquette Ivery, Rebecca Evans, Narges Mukhtar

The Albany Medical Center’s Division of Urgent Care was established in January of 2014. It began with 2 established Urgent Care clinics in Cxsackie and Saugerties and grew very rapidly. The division now consists of 10 EmUrgentCare locations serving our community. Our success requires us to be able to adapt to the needs of our patients at a time when staffing in healthcare has become a challenge. We went through 2022 having to temporarily close two of our sites when the region was experiencing a shortage of health care workers. Through a lot of thought and careful restructuring we were able to open those sites and are now operating out of all 10 sites. Through all of this, our staff strove to be the best in an ever-changing healthcare environment. This was validated in February 2023 when our Wolf Road location was voted the “Best Urgent Care” in Times Union’s “Best of the Capital Region” poll.

This past year we implemented rapid PCR COVID/influenza testing in all our sites allowing us to quickly identify and treat high risk individuals for whom early therapies are critical. When Mpox (formerly Monkeypox) came on the scene our education guru, Dr. Jackie Weaver, worked with infectious disease and epidemiology to implement a procedure to handle yet another pathogen new to our region. Taking on challenges and finding solutions is what we strive to do.

Our primary focus is caring for patients. Many of these patients have sore throats, sprains, viral illnesses, and minor lacerations but others have anaphylactic reactions to bee stings, chainsaw injuries and acute MIs. We see patients of all ages. A provider may go from seeing a toddler with a nursemaid’s elbow to an elderly patient with dizziness. A provider could be in the middle of arranging follow up for a corneal ulcer when they are called to see a patient in the waiting room who became apneic and pulseless. They do all of this with very little at their disposal. Our sites are staffed with two providers and one x-ray tech or PCA as the entire clinical staff. We see whoever shows up at our door with a single mindset: treat every patient to the best of our ability. Our providers must have a wide range of knowledge and skills, as well as the ability to recognize sick patients and act quickly.

We have always taken a hands-on approach to training and developing our staff. Most of our APPs were new graduates when they were hired and required extensive education and precepting to provide them with the knowledge and skills to become an independent urgent care provider. We stress not only clinical skills and knowledge but also our EmUrgentCare culture: you must believe in what you are doing to be good at it; no job is too big or too small.

Education is essential to what we do and who we are at EmUrgentCare. We educate our patients, we educate our staff, and we educate students. Our urgent care division continues to precept PA students from Albany Medical College and Marist’s PA programs, as well as nurse practitioner students from local NP programs. Our providers take great pride in helping educate and mentor these students. Many of the students who have rotated with us have returned to join our staff. It is our commitment to education that has often been the reason they return. They know they will receive the training and support they need to be a successful provider.

In addition to the hands-on training we have always done, being there to help teach procedures or mentor a challenging medical case, having a dedicated clinical management team has enabled us to have a robust training system for providers who must be able to care for everything from the simplest cases to the sickest patients in a setting with limited testing and staff. In 2022, our two APP supervisors improved and implemented an onboarding program ensuring new staff get all the essential knowledge they need to begin caring for our patients. Dr Weaver’s educational focus has allowed us to have EmUrgentCare focused educational lectures as part of every monthly meeting, interactive cases on everything from derm to ekgs and xrays to medical cases, and updates on changes in treatment guidelines. Early 2022, APP Supervisor Lauren Blaisdell and Dr Weaver went to AMC’s eye clinic after hours where one of the chief residents gave them an intensive slit lamp class, enabling them to go to every site to give individual instruction efficiently and

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If there is a gap in our clinical knowledge, a way to improve our patient care, or a way enhance how we operate our EmUrgentCare sites, we have a team that has been able to adapt and succeed, allowing us to provide the best care for our patients. We are working on enhancing our occupational medicine operations, which we started in 2022 with inhouse Cloud CME offerings for our providers on performing fit testing, PFTs and PPDs. Careful consideration of new point of care testing (such as rapid PCR for strep instead of sending out throat cultures) to enhance our patient evaluation capabilities is in process. As always, our goal for 2023 is to continue doing the right thing for our patients, so we can remain the "Best Urgent Care" in the Capital Region.

Dr. Alison Spear
Division Chief

DID YOU KNOW...
In 2022...
Our EmUrgent Care
Sites cared for
146,129 patients!



Community Outreach

Our Emergency Medicine team participates in community involvement. We are actively trying to ***"make the world a better place"***. Our APPs partnership with the Homeless and Travelers Aid Society Feed and Read, which provides packages to hundreds of Capital District families who are food insecure.

Dr. Molly Boyd-Smith and husband Tim have a fundraiser every Friday in the summer called farmstand Fridays. For every dollar we make between 4-6p on Friday we donate that much to the Stillwater Food Pantry.

Dr. Shellie Asher; Board President and Medical Director, Camp Cedarbrook in the Adirondacks, Rensselaer County Medical Reserve Corps volunteer, Brunswick Cares Community Food Pantry volunteer Youth athletics official for soccer, Track & Field.

Dr. Chris Woll is the Medical Director of Double H.

Dr. Carrie Danziger - Physician volunteer at Double H, Member of COVID taskforce at Congregation Beth Emeth.

Drs Heather Long and Adam Rowden volunteer at Double H Ranch.

Dr Adam Rowden is a National Ski Patrol Physician Partner.



CAPITAL REGION COMMUNITY

Women's Career Day at Albany Leadership Charter School for Girls

On Wednesday, March 23rd, Albany Med providers, staff, and students joined Albany Leadership Charter High School for their Women's Career Day. The purpose of the fair was to help students learn about the vast opportunities in the health field. Students and staff couldn't wait to head to the gym to see the fun activities and learn more. We would like to thank those who joined us for this wonderful opportunity and their engagement with the students - Nursing, Psychiatry, Respiratory Therapy, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, Information Tech (IT), Basic Sciences, Family Medicine, Surgery, OB/L&D, Physical Therapy, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, and the First Generation and Low Income Medical Student Association.

We SALUTE our Military Veterans

President and CEO Dr. Dennis McKenna (Top Left)

Katherine Mitchell, MPAS

Massachusetts Army National Guard x 6 years
Battalion Physician Assistant, 101st Engineers

Weston D. Christensen, MD

LT, MC, USNR

Zach Landau, DO, LT, MC, USN

Regimental Surgeon
Marine Corps Security
Force Regimental

Warren Hayashi, MD

90th Tactical Response Force
F.E. Warren Air Force Base

Kevin Collins, MD, Maj

Chief of Aerospace Medicine
Critical Care Air Transport Physician
109th Airlift Wing
New York Air National Guard

Brett Wood, DO

Special Operations Surgical Team Subject
Matter Expert



Summer Clinical Immersion Program

Editors Note: Our ED Fosters innovation!

The Office of Translational Research, Innovation, and Technology Transfer (formerly the Biomedical Acceleration and Commercialization Center (BACC)) at Albany Medical College partners annually with regional colleges and universities coordinating a summer Clinical Immersion Program (CIP). CIP is designed to bring undergraduate biomedical engineering students between their third and fourth years into a clinical setting to observe needs and areas for innovation. From these identified needs, students then select a project to focus on during their senior capstone design class, developing an innovative solution to a real-world challenge. Throughout the innovation and prototyping process, students remain connected and engaged with AMC clinicians as they develop a potential solution.

In summer of 2022, nine biomedical engineering students participated in CIP, with eight students from Union College and one student from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. They rounded in nine departments over the course of the summer, including AMC Emergency Department in both adult and pediatric emergency rooms. Students spent nine days in the Emergency Department, rounding in groups of two or three students. Of the over 250 potential projects identified by students during CIP 2022, 26% of the ideas came from the adult and pediatric emergency department experiences. Examples of projects identified in the ED and selected by students to develop over the 2022-2023 academic year include ‘Wire and Tube Management System for Intravenous Poles in the Hospital’ (clinical mentor: Dr. Neil Gildener-Leapman), ‘Non-Invasive, Acute Treatment of Supraventricular Tachycardia in Pediatric Patients’ (clinical mentors: Drs. Michael Dailey and Jess Randall), and ‘Breakthru Breath: A New Intraoral Mask for Patient Ventilation’ (clinical mentor: Dr. Michael Dailey). Clinical mentors provided much needed context and feedback to the students as they worked on their projects and by the end of the capstone course each team developed an innovative prototype.

Michael Dailey, MD, has been a mentor to student groups since 2020 when Union and AMC first piloted the idea of painting clinical mentors with the student groups. He states, “It is a pleasure to work with the next generation of biomedical engineers as they search for new ways to approach problems. Their fresh perspective and enthusiasm are infectious. I cannot say enough about what a great opportunity it is to mentor these students.”

The Emergency Department continues to support the goals of the Clinical Immersion Program, with planning for CIP 2023 already underway. CIP, through support of many departments like the ED, is training our next generation of biomedical engineers in skills of clinical observation, critical thinking, and innovation as a way to improve provider safety and comfort, as well as patient experience and outcomes.

Stephanie Dosiek, PhD
DIRECTOR; Office of Translational Research, Innovation, and Technology Transfer (OTR)

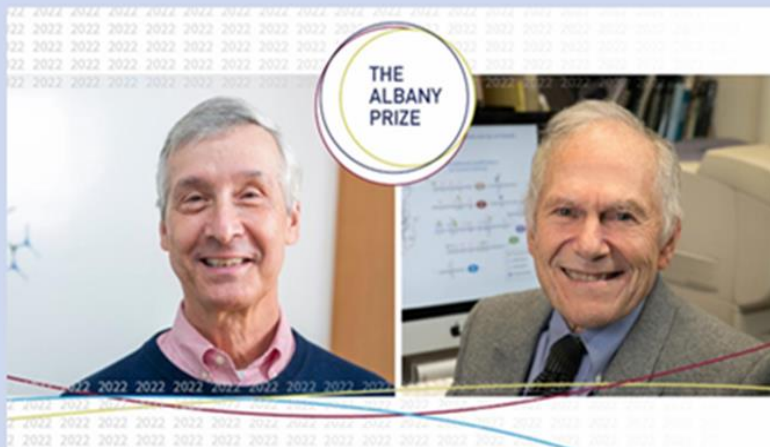


On June 13th, 2022 the BACC kicked off its sixth annual Clinical Immersion Program, welcoming eight rising senior biomedical engineering students from Union College and one recent biomedical engineering graduate from Rensselaer (RPI). We are thrilled to welcome the current cohort of CIP participants to Albany Med and cannot wait to see what innovative solutions they develop!

We were honored to host hospital administrators and physicians from Ukraine who visited the region this week through the International Center of the Capital Region and the Open World Exchange Program. The delegates learned about our emergency medicine protocols, resources, and training and made connections with several physicians with ties to Ukraine.



2022 Albany Prize Awarded for Pivotal Discoveries in Gene Regulation



The 21st Albany Prize, recognizing extraordinary and sustained contributions to improving health care and promoting innovative biomedical research, was awarded at a special ceremony to

C. David Allis, PhD of The Rockefeller University and **Michael Grunstein, PhD** of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. [Read more.](#)