2024 William H. Pearce, MD Research Symposium

Congratulations to these trainees (and their mentors) who received this year’s research awards. All abstracts and recorded talks by awardees are on the website—CHECK IT OUT!

Jessie Ho (Hasan Alam): Allen B. Kanavel Surgical Scholar Award
Sarbjeet Niraula (Karen Ho): Fellows Competition, First Place
Taylor Hallman (Arun Gosain), Veronica Villanueva (Steve Schwulst), Li Yin (Bowen Wang): Fellows competition, Research with Distinction
Calvin Chao (Bin Jiang): Resident Competition, First Place, Basic Science Research
Eric Pillado (Dawn Coleman): Resident Competition, First Place, Clinical Research
Raheem Bell (Ankit Bharat), Joe Sanchez (Anne Stey), Charesa Smith (Mehul Raval): Research with Distinction, Senior Residents
Joanna Buchheit (Akhil Chawla), Kelley Chan (Dave Bentrem), Meredith Taylor (Satish Nadig): Research with Distinction, Junior Residents
Zaiba Dawood (Hasan Alam): First Place, Student Competition
Megan Alagna (Karen Ho), Hyebin Han (Steve Schwulst), Bilal Naved (Jenny Zhang): Research with Distinction, Student Competition

Jes Sanders (mentors: James Mathew and Joe Leventhal) was selected to give the 2024 Rising Stars of SQI Lecture in March entitled, “Leveraging Antigen-Specific Regulatory T Cells as Adoptive Cell Therapy in Organ Transplantation.” Read about it here!

Saieesh Rao (mentor: Anne Stey) was awarded an NIH F32 entitled “Long-term outcomes and cost implications of inequitable access to acute inpatient rehabilitation.”
Paola Barrios Martinez (mentor: Daniela Ladner), Dan Liesman (mentor: Aimen Shaaban), and Lara Lopes (mentor: Ashley Vavra) were each awarded funding from the Steven J. Stryker, MD, Gastrointestinal Surgery Research and Education Endowment.

Ryan Jacobs (mentor: Dave Odell) was recognized in the American Association of Thoracic Surgeons “Mentor for a Day” Program. He was also a finalist in the Paul C. Samson Resident Prize Competition of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association.

Check out the FULL ONLINE EDITION of SURGE-N for all the latest trainee research news!
### First- and second-author publications from DOS residents and fellows from January to May 2024!

- **Cristin Coquillard** and **Jenny Bai** (senior author: **Jason Ko**) published a [review](#) of anterolateral thigh flap anatomy, preoperative planning, and operative technique and 4 patient cases in Hand Clinics.
- **Jessie Ho** and **Emily Cerier** (senior author: **Amy Halverson**) published “Residents need a dynamic approach to leadership education: A qualitative study” in *Journal of Surgical Education*. They found that “Major transition periods between residency levels were identified as critical times for leadership training as they allow for self-reflection, motivating residents to participate in a leadership curriculum. Employing level appropriate and immediately applicable content during this time would encourage curriculum attendance and prepare residents for new roles.”
- **Ryan Jacobs** (senior author: **Vinayak Rohan**) published “Surgical treatment of medically refractory encapsulating peritoneal sclerosis in a patient after kidney transplant.”
- **Lauren Janczewski** (senior author: **Anne Stey**) published “Barriers and facilitators to end-of-life care delivery in ICUs: A qualitative study” in *Critical Care Medicine*, concluding that “Standardized work system communication tasks may improve end-of life discussion processes between clinicians and families.” Lauren was also first author (senior author: **Karyn Goodman**) on “Updates on the Version 9 American Joint Committee on Cancer Staging System for Anal Cancer” in *Annals of Surgical Oncology*.

---

- **Michela Carter** and **Suhail Zeineddin** (senior author: **Fizan Abdullah**) published “Step cadence as a novel objective postoperative recovery metric in children who undergo laparoscopic appendectomy” in *Surgery*.
- **Paige Hackenberger** (senior author: **Mike Shapiro**) published “Duramesh registry study: short-term outcomes using mesh suture for abdominal wall closure” in *Frontiers in Surgery* and found “wide diversity of surgical disciplines and scenarios in which mesh suture has been used to date. The early adoption of mesh suture into practice highlights that consequences of suture pull-through influence operative decision making.”
- **Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy**
  - **Steven Papastefan**, **Dan Liesman**, and **Kate Ott** (senior author: **Amir Alhajjat**) published “Needle fetal thoracoscopy: a technique to assist with ultrasound-guided placement of challenging thoracoamniotic shunts.”
Eric Pillado (senior authors: Yue-Yung Hu and Dawn Coleman) published “Reported pain at work is a risk factor for vascular surgery trainee burnout” in Journal of Vascular Surgery. “Programs should consider mitigating this occupational hazard by offering ergonomic education and adjuncts, such as posture awareness and microbreaks during surgery, early and throughout training.”

Dom Vitello (senior author: Dave Bentrem) published “Establishing the clinical relevance of grade A post-hepatectomy liver failure.”

Maggie Reilly (mentor: Dawn Coleman) presented “Trainee perception of virtual support, interviews and meetings on vascular surgery culture and community” at the VESS meeting in January and “Perceptions of attending characteristics among vascular surgery trainees” at the SCVS meeting in March.

Riley Boyd and Sandeep Bharadwaj (senior author: Chris Mehta) published “Surgical management of calcific valvular and coronary disease in a patient with alkaptonuria: a case report.”

Audra Reiter (senior author: Tim Lautz) performed a retrospective cohort study of children with metastatic Ewing sarcoma treated from 2007 to 2020 at 19 institutions in the Pediatric Surgical Oncology Research Collaborative and found that “patients with Ewing sarcoma who had isolated pulmonary metastases at diagnosis had improved survival if they achieved rapid complete response after induction chemotherapy and received whole lung irradiation, despite having no significant differences in rates of pulmonary relapse.”

Cassie Valukas, Joe Sanchez, and Dom Vitello (mentor: Ezra Teitelbaum) presented “The path not taken: Influence of referral type and sociodemographic factors on completion of bariatric surgery” at the Presidential Grand Rounds at the ASMBS Annual Meeting in June. Cassie also presented “Multimodal Endoscopic Treatment of Sleeve Gastrectomy Leak” at SAGES in April.

Do you have trainee research news to share? Email Karen Ho (Director of Resident Research) at kho1@nm.org!