

Duly Noted | November 2022

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

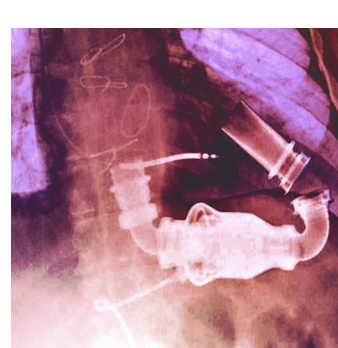
NEWS



Emory University Surgery Ranked Among World's Best Health Sciences Programs

Emory University has been recognized in U.S. News & World Report's 2022-23 rankings of Best Global Universities for having some of the world's best health sciences programs. Six programs within the Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC) were ranked within the top 25 worldwide, including Surgery at #23.

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Emory Heart Team Implants 500th Lifesaving Left Ventricular Assist Device

On July 29, a team from Emory's Heart and Vascular Center completed its 500th continuous flow, durable left ventricular assist device (LVAD) implantation. In 2022 alone, surgeons from Emory's advanced heart failure team implanted almost 60 devices by August, a number that continued to climb steadily. Emory Healthcare is the #1 LVAD implanting center in the United States, and this milestone further affirms our status as a national leader in the life-saving procedure.

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APPOINTMENTS



Maria Russell appointed Wadley R. Glenn Chair of Surgery for Academic Programs & SSO Vice Chair of Programs Directors Committee

We are delighted to announce that Maria C. Russell, MD, has been appointed as the first Wadley R. Glenn Chair of Surgery for Academic Programs, a level of distinction that recognizes the substantial contributions she has made to Emory University Hospital Midtown as a scholar and educator. The contributions she has made directly impact Emory University's mission to create, preserve, teach, and apply knowledge in the service of humanity. She has also been named Vice Chair of the Program Directors Committee of the Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO), with automatic ascension to the Chair position in 2 years.



Ravi Thadhani appointed Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

Ravi I. Thadhani, MD, MPH, will be Emory's next executive vice president for health affairs, stepping into his new role officially on January 1, 2023. Dr. Thadhani will also serve as executive director of Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC) and vice chair of the Emory Healthcare Board of Directors. As EVPHA, Dr. Thadhani will oversee the WHSC, which comprises the schools of medicine, public health, and nursing; Winship Cancer Institute; Emory National Primate Research Center; Emory Global Health Institute; Goizueta Institute @ Emory Brain Health; Emory Global Diabetes Research Center; and Emory Healthcare.

In his role as EVPHA and vice chair of the Emory Healthcare Board of Directors, Dr. Thadhani will provide oversight for Emory Healthcare's CEO and leadership team, ensuring the delivery of high-quality, patient-centered care focused on supporting the health and well-being of communities across Georgia.

NEW FACULTY



Ellen Caparosa, MD Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Colorectal Surgery

Dr. Caparosa received her MD degree from University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in Pittsburgh, PA. Her postgraduate medical training included a general surgery residency and a colorectal surgery fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As a board certified surgeon, Dr. Caparosa specializes in the surgical management of colon and rectal malignancies as well as inflammatory bowel disease, hereditary colorectal cancer, and anorectal disorders. She is primarily located at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital and Emory University Hospital Midtown.

[SOM PROFILE](#)



Kanika Kalra, MD Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Kanika Kalra completed her Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree at the Lady Hardinge Medical School in 2011. She went on to complete a Cardiothoracic Research Fellowship, General Surgery Residency, and a Cardiothoracic Fellowship all here at Emory University. Prior to joining our faculty, Dr. Kalra held a medical officer position at Delhi High Court Medical and Health Center.

[SOM PROFILE](#)



Omar Lattouf, MD, PhD Professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Dr. Lattouf received his Master's degree and PhD in anatomy from Emory University, and his MD degree from Emory University School of Medicine. Prior to returning to Emory, he held a position at Mount Sinai Morningside Hospital. His primary clinical focus is on total coronary arterial revascularization and repair of valvular heart disease. He will serve as the Medical Director of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Program and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Tanner Health System and also as the Director of Online Medical Education for the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine.

[SOM PROFILE](#)



Nidhi Khanna, MD Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal & General Surgery

Nidhi Khanna received her DO degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her postgraduate medical training includes a General Surgery Residency at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine. Prior to joining Emory, Dr. Khanna held a position at Southern Regional Medical Center. Her primary clinical focus is minimally invasive and robotic surgery. She will serve as a General Surgeon in the clinical care of patients in the inpatient and outpatient settings developing a robust robotic surgery program for the Division of GI and General Surgery, based primarily at Emory Hillandale Hospital.

[SOM PROFILE](#)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Congratulations to our 2022 ACS Winners!

We are proud to share that Emory Surgery won 3 out of 5 American College of Surgeons awards at the annual conference in October. Congratulations to **Raul Badell** (Jacobson Promising Investigator Award), **Brendan Lovasik** (Resident Award for Exemplary Teaching), and **Laura Johnson** (Outstanding Mentor of the Year).

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Callie Medin and Emilie Warren receive ASCO Merit Awards

Dr. Medin and Dr. Warren will have the opportunity to present their abstracts at the 2023 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) GI Conference in January. Dr. Caroline Medin's study, titled "*Neoadjuvant Chemoradiation Does Not Improve Outcomes for Patients Undergoing Resection for Upper Rectal Cancer: A US Rectal Cancer Consortium Analysis*," is a retrospective cohort analysis that found that, among patients with non-metastatic upper rectal cancer who underwent surgical resection, neoadjuvant chemoradiation (NCRT) was not associated with improved survival or recurrence but was associated with a nearly threefold higher diverting loop ileostomy rate.

Dr. Emilie Warren's project, "*A transanal minimally invasive surgical approach is associated with improved oncologic outcomes over conventional transanal excision for early-stage rectal cancer: An analysis of the US Rectal Cancer Consortium*," found that for early-stage rectal cancers that undergo local excision, an MIS approach (TEM or TAMIS) was associated with a decreased rate of recurrence and improved recurrence-free survival, without any difference in perioperative complication rates.



Faculty Recognition Week 2022 Honorees

The week of October 10, 2022 has been declared Faculty Recognitions Week in the Emory School of Medicine, recognizing faculty accomplishments and excellence in patient care, research, and education. Over 450 faculty members in the School of Medicine were recognized at the 9th Annual Celebration of Faculty Eminence Ceremony and Reception - including 18 from the Department of Surgery. Congratulations on an extraordinary year!

Olamide Alabi,
2022 Dean's Teaching Award
M. Andrew Davis,
Excellence in Patient Care
Chris Dente,
Excellence in Patient Care
Stephanie Drew,
Regional, National, and International Award
Theresa Gillespie,
Emory 1% Award
Carla Haack,
Emory Clinic Site-Based Award

Juvonda Hodge,
Excellence in Patient Care
William Jordan,
Regional, National, and International Award
Brent Keeling,
Regional, National, and International Award
Chris Larsen,
Lifetime Service and Leadership Award
Albert Losken,
Regional, National, and International Award
Christopher Ramos,
Excellence in Patient Care

Steven Roser,
Mentoring Award
Matthew Santore,
Excellence in Patient Care
Fawwaz Shaw,
Excellence in Patient Care
Randi Smith,
Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Peter Thompson,
Hidden Gems Award
David Vega,
Regional, National, and International Award



Emory Department of Surgery Staff Awards

The Department of Surgery Staff Awards recognize those who demonstrate exemplary performance and contributions to Emory and their team. Thank you for your nominations, and congratulations to **Venetta Green** for winning the Unsung Hero Award and **Cyndi Painter**, who won the Outstanding Service Award! We are grateful for your dedication and contributions to our team.

PUBLICATIONS



HSR Center Newsletter

The Health Services Research Center Newsletter features updates, announcements, reports, and spotlights of faculty participants; research grant opportunities; upcoming lectures, webinars, and other events; mentorship activities; strategic initiatives; and other news. The newsletter strives to keep its audience informed of the components within the center's purview that fuel its mission of advancing healthcare access, quality of healthcare delivery, and health outcomes of patients and populations.

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This email was sent by the Department of Surgery
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Department of Surgery