

# DAILY NOTED | NOVEMBER 2023

## News from the Department of Surgery

### NEWS



#### Colquitt Regional Partners With Emory University for Surgical Residencies

Colquitt Regional Medical Center and the School of Medicine were recently highlighted in a news report by WALB for their partnership to establish a rural surgical residency rotation. As part of the program, Colquitt will host one resident a month over a period of 12 months, which will also help address medical needs in rural areas while providing residents with experience in spaces outside of the Atlanta metro area.

Colquitt Regional is located in Moultrie, near the Florida border, approximately three hours south of Atlanta.

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#### IVYY Project Selected for Kaiser Permanente 2023 Grant Award

The Interrupting Violence in Youth and Young Adults Project (IVYY) at Grady has been selected as a winner for the Kaiser Permanente Center for Gun Violence Research & Education (KP Center for GVRE) 2023 Summer Grant Award. The grant will provide \$100,000 to IVYY, a hospital-based violence intervention program whose mission focuses on patients ages 14 - 34 who are victims of violence or assault.



#### New Textbook Released with Editor Mani Daneshmand

*Transplantation and Mechanical Support for End-Stage Heart and Lung Disease* was published in September 2023, with Mani Daneshmand, MD, as an editor. The two-volume set took four years to complete. It is the most comprehensive and contemporary textbook available that addresses the medical and surgical treatment options for patients with end-stage heart and lung disease. All facets of these complex and resource-intensive therapies are covered by leading experts, including the basics of transplant immunology, databases, regulatory and ethical aspects of transplantation, and conventional and new modalities of donor organ harvest.



#### Emory Faculty Members Show Support at Grady White Coat Gala

On Saturday, October 14, 2023, the White Coat Grady Gala was held at Georgia Aquarium, where guests gathered to support Grady's mission to ensure access to care for everyone in our community. Several Emory faculty members were in attendance, and the event was an inspiring evening celebrating resilient patients, dedicated healthcare providers, and the life-saving impact Grady makes every day.

### NEW FACULTY



#### Marwan Kazimi, MD Assistant Professor, Transplant Surgery, Department of Surgery

Marwan Kazimi has joined Emory's faculty as the new surgical director for the Liver Transplant Program in the Emory Transplant Center within the Transplant Division in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Kazimi completed his MD at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, his general surgery residency at Tufts-New England Medical Center, and an abdominal transplant surgery fellowship at Indiana University Medical Center/Clarian Health. His primary clinical focus is abdominal organ transplant and hepatobiliary surgery, with a particular interest in living donor liver transplant, evaluation and use of extended criteria liver allografts, and multidisciplinary care of HCC.

His articles have been published in a number of leading journals including *Pediatrics*, *Cardiology*, and *Transplantation*.



#### Seth Concors, MD Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery

Seth Concors received his MD from New York University School of Medicine. His postgraduate medical training includes a general surgery residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship in complex general surgical oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center.

His primary clinical focus is GI surgical oncology, particularly hepatobiliary and peritoneal surface malignancies. His articles have been published in leading journals including the *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, *The American Journal of Surgery*, and *Transplantation*. He will serve as a surgical oncology surgeon for the Division of Surgical Oncology within the Department of Surgery based primarily at the Emory Clinic.



#### Suniah Ayub, MD Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery

Suniah S. Ayub received her MD degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine. Her postgraduate medical training includes a general surgery residency at the University of Florida and a fellowship in breast surgical oncology at Northwestern University.

Her articles have been published in a number of leading journals, including *Journal of Vascular Surgery*, *Journal of Pediatric Surgery*, and *Journal of the National Medical Association*. She will serve as a breast surgeon for the Division of Surgical Oncology within the Department of Surgery with an active inpatient and outpatient practice, based primarily at Emory Saint Josephs Hospital and Emory Johns Creek Hospital.



#### Courtney Devin, MD Assistant Professor, Colorectal Surgery, Department of Surgery

Courtney Devin received her BA in Biology from Brown University and served in the Peace Corps for two years prior to obtaining her MS from Georgetown University and MD from Tulane University School of Medicine. She completed her general surgery residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital and her colorectal surgery fellowship at Emory. She serves on the awards committee for American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons and the Resident and Fellow Education committee for Society of Surgery for the Alimentary Tract.

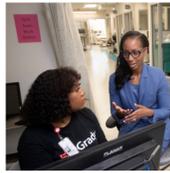
Dr. Devin's clinical focus involves malignant and benign diseases of the colon, rectum, and anus, including colon, rectal and anal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, diverticular disease, rectal prolapse, pelvic floor disorders, and anorectal disorders, with an interest in minimally invasive robotic approaches to colon and rectal surgery.



#### Anee Jackson, MD Assistant Professor, General Surgery, Department of Surgery

Anee Sophia Jackson received her MD from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Her postgraduate medical training includes a general surgery residency at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and an endocrine surgery fellowship at the University of Michigan. Dr. Jackson will serve as a general surgeon with expertise in thyroid and endocrine surgery for the Division of GI and General Surgery with an active inpatient and outpatient practice, based primarily at Emory University Hospital Midtown.

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION



#### Randi Smith Wins \$2 Million Grant to Support Violence Prevention Intervention Efforts at Grady

Randi Smith, MD, MPH, was named the recipient of a \$2 million Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant Award under the Office of Justice Programs Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI). This award is in recognition of Dr. Smith's work spearheading the Interrupting Violence in Youth and Young Adults (IVYY) program, a hospital-based violence intervention program at Grady Memorial Hospital.

The award is part of a DOJ initiative to support public safety and community justice activities and to "curb violence, serve victims and youth, and achieve fair outcomes through evidence-based criminal and juvenile justice strategies."

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#### Emma Crichton Wins 2nd Place in Claude Organ Jr. Resident Research Competition

General surgery chief resident Emma Crichton, MD, won a second place award in the Claude Organ Jr. Resident Research Competition at the 33rd Annual Society of Black Academic Surgeons (SBAS) Meeting for her work in transplant immunology. The meeting was held on September 28-30 and hosted by the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. Claude H. Organ, Jr., MD, FACS (1926-2005) was a renowned academic surgeon and founded SBAS with other black academic surgeons in 1987.



#### Randi Smith Named Recipient of 2023 Emory at Grady Community Impact Award

This award recognizes faculty whose work has elevated the community at the level of the school, hospital system, or the city and counties that Grady serves. Dr. Smith has been honored for her significant work and impact on the community, including her work in violence prevention. She will be recognized and presented with an award at the Emory at Grady Faculty Recognitions Ceremony in January 2024.



#### Elissa Falconer Matches into Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at University of Louisville

PGY-5 resident Elissa Falconer, MD, was matched into the Colon & Rectal Surgery Fellowship at the University of Louisville. The fellowship is a one-year ACGME-approved program that provides fellows experience in complex tertiary referral re-operative surgery, endoscopy, laparoscopy, anorectal surgery, and physiology. There is also an opportunity for basic science research in addition to the clinical year.



#### Craig Coopersmith Recognized as Contributor to Article Published in Annals of Surgery

An article titled "Transforming the Future of Surgeon-Scientists" was published online in *Annals of Surgery* earlier this month, with Craig Coopersmith, MD, MCCM, contributing alongside 23 other faculty and doctors across the country. This work byproduct is a blue ribbon taskforce of the American Surgical Association on the future of the surgeon scientist from the top 20 research departments of surgery in the country. Dr. Coopersmith's contribution on behalf of the Emory Department of Surgery came at the invitation of Department Chair Dr. John Sweeney.