

# Obstetric Division designated a Center of Excellence by SOAP



SOCIETY FOR OBSTETRIC ANESTHESIA AND PERINATOLOGY

## CENTER of EXCELLENCE

The Obstetric Anesthesiology Division was designated as a Center of Excellence (COE) by the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology (SOAP). A Center of Excellence designation is for institutions and programs that demonstrate excellence in obstetric anesthesia care and sets a benchmark of superior care that adheres to evidence-based practices and national and international guidelines for maternal care.

According to “Centers of Excellence for Anesthesia Care of Obstetric Patients” published in *Anesthesia & Analgesia*, maternal mortality is the sixth most common cause of death among women ages 20-34 years old in the United States. SOAP’s determination that provision of optimal hospital care during labor and delivery is essential to reducing maternal morbidity and mortality eventually led to the creation of the designation.

On SOAP’s COE application, the criteria

for the designation cover personnel and staffing; equipment, protocols, and policies; cesarean delivery management; labor analgesia; recommendations and guidelines implementation; and quality assurance and patient follow-up.

“This designation shows the department’s dedication to quality patient care,” said Anesthesiology Department Chair Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD. He said it is important for the Obstetric Division to keep up with the criteria set by SOAP.

Obstetric Anesthesiology Division Chief Jeanette Bauchat, MD, MS, said being designated a COE was a team effort between the obstetric anesthesiologists and their multidisciplinary partners on labor and delivery. She said the division looked at where they were meeting criteria and where they could improve. “Faculty and CRNAs took on a multitude of systems improvement and quality initiatives to ensure a solid application for COE,” she said.

She said the designation reflects the Obstetric Anesthesiology Division’s commitment to staying current on knowledge, skills and best practices and bringing them to VUMC. “Best practices sometimes get reported then lost in the literature. This designation is a good way to bridge that gap. It pushes institutions to implement best practices.”

Bauchat said being designated a COE is important because it shows patients that an institution is providing the highest quality of obstetric care. This quality care includes expertise of the anesthesia faculty, implementations of evidence-based practices within the Obstetric Anesthesiology Division and working within the multidisciplinary team on labor and delivery to design safe practices and quality initiatives.

This designation needs to be renewed every four years. “There are ongoing, continued and ever-changing practices and national guidelines, and we intend to be at the leading edge of those on Vanderbilt’s labor and delivery unit,” Bauchat said.

# Weinger's patient safety achievements recognized

Matthew B. Weinger, MD, was recently named the recipient of the 2020 A. R. Lauer Safety Award by the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES). This award recognizes a person for outstanding contributions to human factors aspects in the broad area of safety.

“I am truly honored to be recognized by the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society for this award,” Weinger said.

Weinger earned this award through a 30-year effort to improve clinical practices to reduce medical errors by applying HFE theory and methods to

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[anesthesiology.communications@vumc.org](mailto:anesthesiology.communications@vumc.org)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD  
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology

The weather is changing but the precautions Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the Department of Anesthesiology are taking in light of the COVID-19 pandemic have not changed

and are here to stay. I am proud to say that VUMC has become a leader in our response to the pandemic.

To exemplify the strength of the VUMC brand in Middle Tennessee, VUMC is actually expanding. Leaders announced the purchase of Tennova Healthcare-Shelbyville and Tennova Healthcare-Harton hospitals from subsidiaries of Community Health Systems Inc. VUMC will also acquire minority ownership in CHS's Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville hospital.

A congratulations to the Obstetric Anesthesiology

Division. The division was designated as a Center of Excellence by the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology. This designation shows the department's dedication to quality patient care.

COVID-19 has changed the way we do many things, including annual meetings. The American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting was held virtually this year. That did not stop our department from participating in over 60 activities. Our very own Matt Weinger, MD, presented the Ellison C. Pierce Jr., MD, Patient Safety Memorial Lecture.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, our focus needs to be on safety and self-care. We need to keep wearing masks, practicing social distancing, washing hands and complying with other suggested safety guidelines.

Safety and self-care go hand in hand, so we should not feel pressured to work when sick. Working when sick puts not only you but also your colleagues at risk. We are a big, robust and caring department, and we want people to feel comfortable taking care of themselves. We are in this for long haul, so make sure you take care of yourself and others.

**WEINGER**

*continued from front page*

healthcare. His work includes methods and practices to enhance patient monitoring and medication delivery, to understand clinician performance and the factors that can affect it like fatigue and burnout, to improve clinician training through medical simulation training and assessment, and to apply human-centered design to develop better work processes, alarms, and clinical decision support systems.

"Dr. Weinger was selected from a very competitive group of applicants who are all doing incredible work in many industries to make the world safer," stated Valerie Gawron, PhD, of the MITRE Corporation, who served as Chair of the award committee.

Weinger took his expertise on patient safety to the American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting. He presented the 2020 Ellison C. Pierce Jr., MD, Patient Safety Memorial Lecture on Saturday, Oct. 3. His lecture was entitled "Is Safety Becoming the Poor Stepchild of Quality?" In his lecture, he explained the importance of safety and quality, with a key aspect being understanding how excessive zeal to achieve quality goals can negatively

affect clinician and patient safety. The lecture concluded with a discussion about how anesthesiologists can play a role in the future of safety and quality. "We were the first specialty to embrace patient safety," he said during his lecture. "We are still leaders in patient safety."

Department of Anesthesiology Chair Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD, said Weinger and his team of experts have developed over the course of a couple decades into one of a few "go to" resources in the country for patient safety

designs, especially in the high-risk, high-acuity procedural environment. "Matt appreciates that engineered and humanistic systems to enhance patient safety work best together. Moreover, as a scientist, Matt is unafraid to follow the empiric conclusions driven by his data, and then challenge intuitions and dogma that turn out to be appealing but wrong. For all these reasons, the anesthesia patient safety community is rightly proud to see Matt receive this award," he said.



Matt Weinger, MD, presenting the Ellison C. Pierce Jr., MD, Patient Safety Memorial Lecture on Saturday, Oct. 3, during the virtual 2020 American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting. His lecture was entitled "Is Safety Becoming the Poor Stepchild of Quality?"

# Annual Meeting Recap: American Society of Anesthesiologists

“We are here to save lives,” said American Society of Anesthesiologists President Mary Dale Peterson, MD, MSHCA, FACHE, FASA, during the opening session of the society’s annual meeting, which due to the COVID-19 pandemic was held virtually. The annual meeting covered numerous topics, but patient safety, COVID-19, the opioid crisis and the importance of anesthesiologists in healthcare were the focus of many presentations. The takeaway point at the end of several lectures was that no one should be harmed by anesthesia care.

Our very own Matthew Weinger, MD, presented the Ellison C. Pierce Jr., MD, Patient Safety Memorial Lecture. His presentation was titled “Is Safety Becoming the Poor Stepchild of Quality?” He stated anesthesiologists have the unique ability to improve patient safety in perioperative care. He explained that focusing on safety is vital because saving lives is important and inspiring to physicians, boosting morale. Weinger’s lecture also discussed the ability to develop technology and processes to improve patient safety that are human-centered design based on the needs of the patient. “We were the first specialty to embrace patient safety,” he said, and “we are still leaders in patient safety.” But he emphasized that anesthesiologists must take a broader view of their role in perioperative care to further advance both safety and quality. “Think about how you can be a patient safety hero!”

COVID-19 has presented new safety concerns, and not just with patients. Weinger presented another lecture on patient safety

during the session “Ten Safety Issues We’ve Learned From COVID.” His lecture was titled “Staff Safety and Burnout Risk,” which focused on the new duties and expectations associated with COVID-19, along with new stressors such as personal safety concerns, inadequate resources for new needs, degraded autonomy and mastery, and a degraded sense of community.

The Emery A. Rovenstine Lecture focused on many topics, including COVID-19 and how it affects healthcare. Joanne Conway, MD, opened the lecture by discussing virtual care and telehealth medicine in the age of COVID-19. She emphasized the fact that healthcare has become more accessible and affordable with telehealth medicine and that it is here to stay. Not only is telemedicine sticking around but another COVID-19 safety measure is here to stay—remote work. Remote work has been an excellent tool for safety, but it also has other positive benefits such as increased productivity and work satisfaction as long as there is still team connection.

The lecture then turned to the discussion of gender equality and equity within healthcare and the specialty. Statistics Conway delivered include: only 14 percent of hospital CEOs are women, only 22 percent of healthcare company directors are women, and America is not projected to reach gender equality and equity in healthcare leadership until 2050. She emphasized that having more diverse leadership leads to making better decisions. “Anesthesiologists should set an example,” she said. “Step up and fix this in our specialty now.”

For the final topic, Conway circled back to patient safety, revisiting the idea of anesthesiologists taking a broader role in patient safety, much like Weinger did with his lecture. “It is time for us to swim outside our lane and take leadership roles outside our specialty,” she said, stating that it is important to focus on patient safety even outside the operating room.

Due to the conference being online, presentations and lectures were conducted virtually. “I think it allowed the best prepared presenters to really take advantage of technology to maximize the value of their time by driving up the information flow,” said VUMC Anesthesiology Department Chair Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD.

Attendees had access to a virtual lobby where they could access sessions and lectures by category. Prior to the event, participants could preview the mechanics of the meeting and build an itinerary. Attendees could ask questions of the presenters via chat format with live sessions or via a comment section with pre-recorded sessions. After the meeting, attendees could access more than 135 hours of recorded content.

While the annual meeting was different from previous meetings in terms of how it was attended, the purpose of the meeting remained the same—to learn and network with fellow physicians, scientists, researchers, and thought leaders in anesthesiology. The next ASA annual meeting is scheduled for Oct. 9 through Oct. 13, in San Diego, CA.

## Academic Excellence in Action

*Our department contributed over 60 activities at the virtual 2020 ASA Annual Meeting:*

33 Medically Challenging Cases  
8 Oral Presentations  
6 Problem-Based Learning Discussions  
5 Special Meetings/Featured Lectures/Sessions  
4 Quality Improvement Projects

2 Subspecialty Panels  
2 eAbstracts  
1 60 Minute Panel  
1 Resident and Fellow Session  
1 Snap-Talk

# Solving operational problems with eStar solutions

## Get eStar

Before June, VUMC had a big problem with big beds: they don't fit in all of the hospital's operating rooms. Scheduling mishaps were discovered the hard way, right at the operating room door, causing delays and headaches for patients and clinicians. However, as of Wednesday, June 24, VUMC solved that problem through a collaboration between the eStar OpTime/Anesthesia team and our perioperative services leadership. They developed a system that alerts schedulers to the bed and operating room mismatch and does not allow patients in a bariatric bed or above a weight threshold to be scheduled in an incompatible operating room.

On Wednesday, May 13, the eStar OpTime/Anesthesia team received a request from Dora Haney-Snider BSN, RN, CNOR, interim manager of

Perioperative Services, after an incident that resulted in a procedure starting late. A critically ill, morbidly obese patient was scheduled for urgent surgery. When the anesthesia team arrived, they discovered that the patient was on a bariatric bed, which couldn't physically be brought into the scheduled OR. The case had to be moved to a different OR, resulting in a delayed start.

"Historically," Haney-Snider said, "the communication related to the use of bariatric beds has been lacking. This is an issue, due to the fact that many of our operating suites within the VOR have a single panel door that is not wide enough to accommodate the width of the bariatric beds. This issue requires the patient to be transferred to a stretcher that may not accommodate the patient's weight, causing a patient safety issue, in order to transport the patient into the room."

Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, medical director of Perioperative Informatics, said the eStar OpTime/Anesthesia

team worked to create a workflow-friendly solution for the end user. "The initial request was to add an icon to the eORBoard," he said. "The solution would have required the scheduler to look at the eORBoard, see the icon, and realize that they were putting the case into a room that wouldn't support it."

Jo Ann Howell, principal application analyst for the eStar OpTime/Anesthesia team, collaborated with our clinical leadership to develop this system. Staff were in communication during the analyzing phase, planning phase, testing phase, demo phase and approval phase. Even after the system went live, the communication did not stop there. Howell said the eStar team will provide support as needed and follow up to ensure everything is working as desired. "This hard stop alert has essentially fixed this issue," Wanderer said, "and is a nice example of our operational team working with HealthIT in designing practical solutions that allow our clinician teams to reliably execute on efficient clinical care."

# Aliquots: Land of plenty (of opioids)

*Originally published in the VUMC Reporter on Aug. 24, 2020*

*By Paul Govern*

Adult surgical patients in the U.S. and Canada who receive opioid prescriptions for post-surgical pain management tend to be given more pills than they need. On average, 61 percent of opioids prescribed to these patients are leftover at the time of postoperative assessment, according to a meta-analysis reported in *Systematic Reviews* by Lori Schirle, PhD, CRNA, Stephen Bruehl, PhD, and colleagues. The analysis draws on 44 observational studies published from 2000 to 2018.

The type of surgical procedure and level of invasiveness had



statistically significant effects, with minimally invasive surgeries resulting in a greater proportion of opioids leftover.

The authors note that previous studies have shown that opioid prescribing varies widely across providers and the more

pills patients receive, the more they tend to consume, raising the risk of addiction.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, opioids were involved in more than 46,000 deaths in the U.S. in 2018.

Joining the study were Amanda Stone, PhD, Matthew Morris, PhD, Sarah Osmundson, MD, MS, Philip Walker, MLIS, MSHI, and Mary Dietrich, PhD, MS. The study was supported by the National Institutes of Health (grants TR002371, DA037891).

# VUMC expected to grow with new healthcare purchases

Originally published in the VUMC Reporter on Sept. 30, 2020

By John Howser

Leaders of Vanderbilt University Medical Center announced plans to purchase Tennova Healthcare-Shelbyville and Tennova Healthcare-Harton hospitals from subsidiaries of Community Health Systems Inc. (CHS). At the same time, VUMC will acquire minority ownership in CHS's Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville hospital.

A definitive agreement has been signed by VUMC for the acquisition of the Shelbyville and Tullahoma (Harton) hospitals and their related businesses, including physician clinic operations and outpatient services.

VUMC has also signed an agreement with Tennova's existing minority partner, GHS Holdings, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Clarksville Volunteer Health, Inc. (CVH), a Clarksville non-profit, to acquire its 20 percent minority interest in Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville and related physician practices.

The partnership between Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville and VUMC is expected to create new opportunities to expand local medical resources for Clarksville, Montgomery County, and the surrounding region. Already, Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville and VUMC collaborate on oncology and neonatal intensive care in the community. Oncologists and a multidisciplinary team from Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center provide care at the Gateway-Vanderbilt Cancer Treatment Center. And Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville's Level 2B newborn intensive care unit is serviced by neonatologists from Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt who provide care for pre-term babies.

Through the acquisition of the hospitals in Shelbyville and Tullahoma and the partnership with Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville, VUMC significantly increases its presence across Middle Tennessee with facilities and services now located in Bedford, Coffee, Davidson, Montgomery, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson counties. Currently under construction in Sumner



*Jeff Balsler, MD, PhD, President and CEO of VUMC and Dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine*

County (Hendersonville) is a 31,000-square-foot facility that will offer adult outpatient specialty care, along with limited pediatric specialty care. In December 2019 VUMC opened the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital Vanderbilt Surgery and Clinics in Rutherford County.

In a 2019 transaction with subsidiaries of CHS, VUMC acquired Tennova Healthcare-Lebanon, a 274-bed hospital in Lebanon, Tennessee, now called Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital.

"We are continuing to strengthen our presence across Middle Tennessee so that we can fulfill the Medical Center's mission to advance the health and well-being of the region we serve. As we have in other counties, we are making a significant commitment to the citizens of these communities and look forward to working together toward this important goal with our new colleagues at these hospitals and clinics," said Jeff Balsler, MD, PhD, President and CEO of VUMC and Dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

The purchase of the Shelbyville and Tullahoma facilities and the minority ownership agreement with Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville are subject to regulatory review and are expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2020. Terms of the transactions will remain confidential.

In the interim, patients of the Shelbyville and Tullahoma hospitals will experience no interruption in care while leaders with

VUMC and CHS work closely together to ensure a smooth transition of ownership.

"Serving the citizens of Shelbyville and Tullahoma through these hospitals and strengthening our relationship with Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville is an exciting next step for our health system. Each facility plays a vital role in their community and we are delighted to join with the physicians, nurses and staff at each hospital in their important work," said C. Wright Pinson, MBA, MD, Deputy CEO and Chief Health System Officer for VUMC.

It is the commitment of VUMC to hire substantially all employees of Tennova Healthcare-Shelbyville and Tennova Healthcare-Harton who are in good standing when transfer of the hospitals' ownership is complete. Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville and its employees and medical staff will remain a part of the Tennova network of hospitals.

"Clarksville Volunteer Health looks forward to the expansion of Vanderbilt's role in the Clarksville-Montgomery County area," said William H. Wyatt, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CVH. "Ensuring our residents have access to high quality health care is critical to the mission of CVH, and we are excited about the opportunity to grow Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville's partnership with a world-class academic health system and ensure the citizens of our community enjoy continued and enhanced opportunities to receive first-rate care."

Tennova Healthcare-Shelbyville is a 60-bed, Joint Commission-accredited hospital that employs approximately 275 physicians, nurses and staff and offers a range of inpatient and outpatient medical and surgical services, along with urgent care services. The hospital is certified by the American Heart Association. After 60 years of service to the citizens of Bedford County in its original facility, a new hospital was constructed in 2008. In 2019, nearly 1,000 patients were admitted to the hospital and approximately 1,600 inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures were performed.

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# Department of Anesthesiology offers COVID-19 pandemic wellness resources

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

People Finder | For Patients and Visitors

Department of  
**Anesthesiology**

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## Wellness Resources: Take What You Need

Home Connection Calm Services Gratitude Laughter Music Activity Nutrition Sleep Contact

The Department of Anesthesiology Faculty-Staff Wellness Support Team has gathered resources to support the well-being of our department during the COVID-19 pandemic. We invite you to “Take What You Need” from the resource directory.

**Connection** – Peer support  
**Calm** – Mindfulness, relaxation, and breathing exercises  
**Services** – Childcare, shopping, lodging, counseling  
**Gratitude** – Increase awareness of good things in your life and around VUMC  
**Laughter** – Humor, memes, parodies, jokes  
**Music** – Experience virtual concerts and curated playlists  
**Activity** – Take advantage of online fitness videos  
**Nutrition** – Adapt, save money, and boost the nutritional value of your meals  
**Sleep** – Tips for better sleep and rest

By Yvonne Poindexter

When news of the COVID-19 pandemic broke in March, leaders in the Department of Anesthesiology pivoted quickly to ensure that faculty and staff had the resources they would need to face the pandemic’s unprecedented challenges. A Faculty and Staff Support Team, led by Amanda L. Stone, PhD, was established and charged with curating a list of resources on topics from dealing with the extreme stress faced by frontline clinicians to dealing with practical issues, such as finding child care and, for staff, figuring out how to “work from home.”

The many resources are featured on the department’s “Take What You Need” website. With a link featured on the department’s home page, the site is designed to help faculty and staff adapt to and manage the many ways in which life has changed since “lockdown” entered our everyday lexicon. Site visitors can choose resources from nine broad categories:

**Connection** – Peer support  
**Calm** – Mindfulness, relaxation, and breathing exercises  
**Services** – Childcare, shopping, lodging, counseling  
**Gratitude** – Increase awareness of good things in your life and around VUMC  
**Laughter** – Humor, memes, parodies, jokes  
**Music** – Experience virtual concerts and curated playlists  
**Activity** – Take advantage of online fitness videos  
**Nutrition** – Adapt, save money, and boost the nutritional value of your meals  
**Sleep** – Tips for better sleep and rest

Now eight months into the pandemic, the Support Team continues to update the site as needed.

Scan QR code below to access the Take What You Need webpage.



# Freundlich, senior author on study examining bleeding vs clotting

Originally published in the VUMC Reporter on Jul. 20, 2020

By Craig Boerner

Post-surgical bleeding is associated with more deaths than blood clots from surgery, according to a Vanderbilt University Medical Center study published in the journal *Anesthesia & Analgesia*.

Researchers used nearly 15 years of data on millions of patients from the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program database, and some very advanced computer techniques, to do a direct comparison of bleeding versus clotting after surgery for patients in the U.S.

"We wanted to do a head-to-head comparison of those two in a large surgical population and look at the tradeoff in terms of mortality. We found, in every single year, a consistent signal for bleeding," said senior author Robert Freundlich, MD, assistant professor of Anesthesiology and Biomedical Informatics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

"Bleeding had very, very high attributable mortality, mean-

ing death that you could say statistically was related to the occurrence of bleeding. Whereas, in every single year, we didn't see that same signal for blood clots," he said.

The American College of Surgeons tracks bleeding for the first 72 hours after surgery in their database whereas blood clots are tracked for up to 30 days after surgery. Most bleeding related to the surgery itself is generally early, in the first three days, whereas blood clots, even if they are related to the surgery itself, can take weeks or up to a month to occur.

"Clinically, we often think of bleeding and blood clots as competing interests, so a lot of the things that we do to decrease bleeding can increase the risk of blood clots," Freundlich said. "And, conversely, a lot of the things that we do to treat blood clots can increase the risk of bleeding."

Adjustments were made for patients' baseline risk of dying after surgery, what procedure they were having and for other complications which may have happened after surgery.

Freundlich and first author Melissa Bellomy, MD, clinical

fellow, Division of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, noted that clotting has been studied very intensely in recent years, with a number of large national groups putting out recommendations for how best to treat and prevent blood clots after surgery.

"I think people are doing a really good job of addressing blood clots after surgery, making sure that even when blood clots do happen they aren't bad enough to lead to a patient dying," Freundlich said. "And I would like to think that current medical therapy is probably working well, which is what we see in the database. Really just very, very undetectable mortality."

But bleeding remains a very concerning complication after surgery, based on what he and colleagues found in the database.

"The mortality attributable to bleeding in the time period around surgery was significantly higher than from blood clots in every year that we studied," Bellomy said. "This raises the important questions of why bleeding is associated with more death and how can we best treat patients to prevent death associated with bleeding."



Robert Freundlich, MD, is a senior author on a study published in *Anesthesia & Analgesia*.

Treatments depend on the source of the bleeding but can include going back and re-exploring or revising the initial surgery, giving blood products to help prevent bleeding, and pharmacologic therapies used to try to prevent bleeding after surgery.

"What is most important is having a team of expert providers who know when they need to be very aggressive in treating these post-operative complications, particularly with bleeding," Freundlich said.

## Expansion

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Located in Tullahoma and employing approximately 450 physicians, nurses and staff, Tennova Healthcare-Harton is a 135-bed Joint Commission-accredited hospital offering a full range of inpatient and outpatient surgical and specialty

services including a sleep center, cardiac rehabilitation and physical rehabilitation.

The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission and features an accredited Chest Pain Center. In 2017, the hospital celebrated 50 years of service to its community. In its most recent year, Tennova Healthcare-Harton admitted nearly 3,500 patients and performed nearly 4,800 inpatient and outpatient procedures.

Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville is a 270-bed facility that features a comprehensive range of inpatient and outpatient, medical and surgical services. Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville has been designated as an Accredited Chest Pain Center, a Blue Distinction Center for Maternity Care, a Wound Care Center of Distinction and earned the Gold Seal of Approval from The Joint Commission. The hospital also has a freestanding Emergency Room located a short distance from the hospital.

# Department Spotlight: Celebrating Departmental Accomplishments

**Sarah Anderson** and **Lexi Tittor** received the Department Staff Credo Award during the Oct. 7 staff meeting.

**Matthew Barajas, MD**, was recently awarded a starter grant by the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists. The grant is titled "Altered Efficacy of Ischemic Post Conditioning after Cardiac Arrest in a Diabetic Rat Model."

**Josh Billings, MD**, and **David McIlroy, MB.BS., MD, MClInEpi, FANZCA**, have been invited to participate in the 2021 Mid-career Leadership Development Program.

**Christina Boncyk, MD**, received a FAER Mentored Research Training Grant for her project "The Impact of Increased Prescribing on ICU Survivors."

Congratulations to **Leslie Fowler, MEd**, on the publication of "Development

and Implementation of a Nonclinical Professional Development Rotation" in *A&A Practice*.

Congratulations to **Brad Koss**, who assumed the role of CRNA Manager of Education.

**James Lozada, DO**, and **David Chestnut, MD**, were invited to serve on VUMC's Racial Equity Task Force.

**Allison Owen, PhD**, has been selected to be a part of the Immunological Mechanisms of Disease Training Program.

**Crystal Parrish** has been promoted to Team Lead for APPs on the Acute Pain & Perioperative Services team.

**Naeem Patil, MBBS, PhD**, received the Vanderbilt Faculty Scholars Award for his grant "Targeting mitochondrial

*quality control to improve host immunity during sepsis."*

Congratulations to **Laura Payne**, who assumed the role of Service Specialist in the Pediatric Anesthesiology Division.

Congratulations to **Mary Peters** who assumed the role of CRNA Manager for the Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology Division.

**Kimberly Rengel, MD**, received a seed grant from the Center for Musculoskeletal Research, VUMC, for her study assessing skeletal muscle weakness in critically ill patients.

**Gale Rowe** has been named the new coordinator for the Vanderbilt University Hospital SRNAs.

## NEW DEPARTMENT MEMBERS



**Hawa Abubakar, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (2020)

**MD**, King's College London GKT School of Medicine, London, UK (2010)

**FUN FACT:**

I speak Swahili fluently.



**Clayton Adams, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Pediatric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Pediatric Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL (2019)

**MD**, Emory University, Atlanta, GA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

Won state XC and track titles in high school.



**Matthew Barajas, MD**  
Instructor  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, Columbia University, New York, NY (2019)

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Columbia University, New York, NY (2018)

**MD**, Columbia University, New York, NY (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I am an avid rock climber. I would love to have a chicken coop.



**Hannah Bechtold, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA (2019)

**MD**, University of California, Los Angeles, CA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I've climbed Mount Fuji in Japan.



**Emilee Borgmeier, MD**  
Fellow  
Perioperative Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Perioperative Echocardiography, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (2020)

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (2019)

**MD**, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I love scones and running to earn them.



**Meghan Breed, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Emergency Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**MD**, George Washington School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Washington D.C. (2017)

**FUN FACT:**

I have two redbone coonhounds named Pete and Charley.





**Kaitlyn Brennan, DO, MPH**  
Fellow  
Obstetric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN (2019)

**DO,** Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Erie, PA (2015)

**MPH,** The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, Hanover, NH (2009)

**FUN FACT:**

I am a fan of all things farm related, including raising chickens and growing lots of veggies.



**Lucille Brunker, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**MD,** University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I continue to be a Utah Jazz NBA fan even though I moved to Nashville from Utah four years ago.



Picture Unavailable

**Pamela Butler**  
Associate Business Intelligence Analyst

**EDUCATION:**

**BS,** Business Administration/ Finance Concentration, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN (1990)

**FUN FACT:**

I owned a knitting store in Nashville (Green Hills) for 14 years.



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**Christopher Carver**  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**MS,** Nurse Anesthesia, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2018)

**BS,** Nursing, University of Akron, Akron, OH (2009)

**FUN FACT:**

I am a former professional tag player.



**Nicole Cavanaugh**  
Administrative Assistant  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**BS,** Health and Human Performance, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN (2009)

**FUN FACT:**

I love animals, the beach, and my favorite color is purple.



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**Ling Chan**  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**MS,** Nurse Anesthesia, Wolford College, Naples, FL (2019)

**BSN,** Charleston Southern University, Charleston, SC (2002)

**FUN FACT:**

Although I am Chinese and born overseas, I love to cook and eat Italian food!!



**Jared Cummings, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

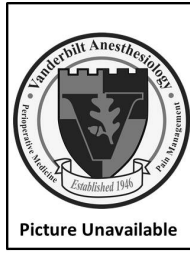
**Fellowship,** Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2019)

**MD,** Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I have my private pilot license. I am a sailor. I love SCUBA diving, travel, and cooking.



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**Jonathan Day, MD**  
Fellow  
Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship,** Regional Anesthesiology and Acute Pain Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL (2012)

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (2011)

**MD,** Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD (2005)

**FUN FACT:**

I speak Spanish and Portuguese.



**Austin DeBeaux, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA (2020)

**MD,** University of Texas Health, Houston, TX (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I love to cook Cajun dishes.



**Daniella DiNizo, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**MD,** University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I'm in the process of obtaining my Italian citizenship!



**Rebecca Donald, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Pain Medicine & Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship,** Interventional Pain, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Duke University Hospital Durham, NC (2019)

**MD,** University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

One of the best experiences of my life was spending a year studying art history in France.



**Charles Doyle, MD**  
Fellow  
Regional and Acute Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (2020)

**MD,** University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I've played ice hockey (in Florida) since I was four years old.



**Elizabeth Emhardt, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Indiana University,  
Indianapolis, IN (2020)  
**MD**, Indiana University,  
Indianapolis, IN (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I am the oldest of four and  
my siblings are my favorite  
people.



**Benjamin Fedeles, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
University of Maryland  
Medical Center, Baltimore,  
MD (2020)  
**MD**, University of South  
Florida, Tampa, FL (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I am an avid gardener,  
hunter, and I love to cook.



**Bianca Flores, PhD**  
Research Fellow  
Research

**EDUCATION:**

**PhD**, Neuroscience, Vanderbilt  
University, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**BS**, Neuroscience, University of  
Rochester, Rochester, NY (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I have two dogs.



**Alexander George, MD**  
Instructor  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Vanderbilt University Medical  
Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**MD**, Tulane University, New  
Orleans, LA (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I am SCUBA certified.



**Andrew Gessouroun, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care  
Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Vanderbilt University Medical  
Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**MD**, University of Oklahoma,  
Kansas City, OK (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I taught 4th and 5th grades  
with Teach for America.



**Julio Gonzalez-Sotomayor, MD**  
Associate Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Pain Medicine,  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine, Baltimore,  
MD (2000)

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Pontificia Universidad Catolica  
de Chile, Santiago, Chile (1993)  
**MD**, Universidad de  
Concepcion, Concepcion,  
Chile (1990)

**FUN FACT:**

I am interested in Global  
Health and have participated  
in medical mission trips  
to Ethiopia. I am fluent in  
Spanish, English and French.  
My hobbies include hiking,  
bicycling, scuba diving, and  
traveling around the world.



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**Sengdao Ha**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**MS**, Nurse Anesthesia,  
Middle Tennessee School of  
Anesthesia, Madison, TN  
(2010)  
**BSN**, Cumberland University,  
Lebanon, TN (2006)

**FUN FACT:**

I have a twin sister who is  
also a CRNA.



**Saad Hashmi, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Anesthesiology  
Critical Care Medicine,  
Medical College of Wisconsin,  
Milwaukee, WI (2016)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Medical College of Wisconsin,  
Milwaukee, WI (2015)  
**MD**, Aga Khan University,  
Karachi, Pakistan (2006)

**FUN FACT:**

Once upon a time, I was a  
participant in a nationwide  
video gaming competition.  
When I came in second  
place, it pushed me into  
taking up medicine as a  
career.



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**Kristina Heering**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**MS**, Middle Tennessee School  
of Anesthesia, Madison, TN  
(2016)  
**BS**, Nursing, Belmont  
University, Nashville, TN  
(2011)

**FUN FACT:**

I am married to my high  
school sweetheart and we  
have two beautiful girls.  
My favorite hobbies are  
watercolor, weaving, baking,  
kayaking, and camping.



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**Karl Hillenbrand, MD**  
Fellow  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
University of Virginia,  
Charlottesville, VA (2020)  
**MD**, Virginia Commonwealth  
University, Richmond, VA  
(2012)

**FUN FACT:**

I lived in Italy for three  
years and my son had visited  
25 countries by the age of  
three.



**Michael Hof, MD, PhD**  
Associate Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology &  
Neuroanesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**PhD**, Ludwig Maximilian  
University, Munich, Germany  
(1996)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology,  
Board-Chamber of Physicians,  
Düsseldorf, Germany (1995)  
**MD**, Philipps University of  
Marburg, Germany (1990)

**FUN FACT:**

I have practiced medicine in  
many different places around  
the world.



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**Jordan Hollinshead**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**DNP**, Nurse Anesthesia,  
Medical University of South  
Carolina, Charleston, SC (2020)  
**BS**, Nursing, Charleston  
Southern University, North  
Charleston, SC (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I played golf in college.



**Sandra Holtzclaw**  
Associate Program Manager  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**FUN FACT:**

I enjoy writing and performing skits and plays. I am a great cook and enjoy baking.



**Christopher Huber, MD**  
Fellow  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC (2020)  
**MD,** University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I am a diehard University of Louisville fan.



**Zachary Jeanes, MD, PhD**  
Fellow  
Pediatric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC (2020)  
**MD,** Texas A&M University, Bryan, TX (2016)  
**PhD,** Pharmacology, University of Texas, Austin, TX (2012)

**FUN FACT:**

I'm a pretty decent baker.



**Megan Kemp, MD**  
Fellow  
Pediatric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Augusta University, Augusta, GA (2020)  
**MD,** University of Queensland, New Orleans, LA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I love the ocean, swimming, and scuba diving. Summer is my absolute favorite season.



**Shaun Kuoni, MD**  
Fellow  
Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**MD,** McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I'm a coffee connoisseur, and I love to try new beans while brewing espresso at home.



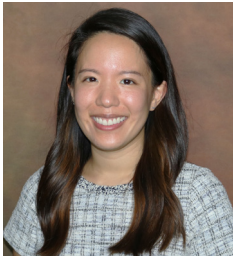
**Seung Yup Lee, PhD**  
Research Fellow  
Research

**EDUCATION:**

**PhD,** Industrial and Systems Engineering, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI (2018)  
**MS,** Industrial and Systems Engineering, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I am married to my childhood girlfriend who I first met when we were 9 years old.



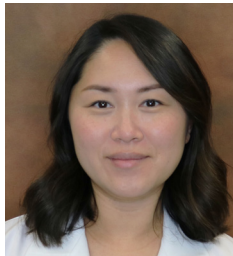
**Katherine Loh, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Pediatric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship,** Pediatric Anesthesiology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA (2020)  
**Residency,** Anesthesiology, New York Presbyterian, Weill Cornell, New York, NY (2019)  
**MD,** Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I love coffee.



**Dianne Lou, MD, PhD**  
Instructor  
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**MD,** University of Texas, Galveston, TX (2016)  
**PhD,** Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Texas, Austin, TX (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I was in ESL classes until the third grade.



**Benjamin MacDougall, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Pain Medicine & Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship,** Pain Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA (2020)  
**Residency,** Anesthesiology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA (2019)  
**MD,** Yale University, New Haven, CT (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I am from Canada and I'm a big hockey fan! I am excited to start watching and playing again in Nashville.



**Kevin Manz, PhD**  
Research Fellow  
Research

**EDUCATION:**

**PhD,** Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (2019)  
**BA,** Psychology, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahwah, NJ (2013)

**FUN FACT:**

I surfed competitively in high school.



**Kyle Marose, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship,** Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA (2020)  
**Residency,** Anesthesiology, New York University, New York, NY (2019)  
**MD,** Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

Although not for a lack of trying, I have never beat my wife in a round of golf.



**Brittany McCann, MD**  
Fellow  
Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency,** Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA (2020)  
**MD,** Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I ran the Disney marathon in 2016.



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**Samantha McClenahan, PhD**  
Research Fellow  
Research

**EDUCATION:**

**PhD**, Pharmacology & Toxicology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock AR (2019)  
**BA**, Environmental Studies, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY (2013)

**FUN FACT:**

I love spending time with my two boys, Odin and Abel.  
I enjoy playing softball and gardening.



**Marc McLawhorn, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Neuroanesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Neuroanesthesiology, Duke University, Durham, NC (2017)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC (2016)  
**MD**, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC (2012)

**FUN FACT:**

I serve on a Critical Care Air Transport Team for USAF.



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**Julia Mitchell**  
Research Nurse Specialist III

**EDUCATION:**

**RN**, University of Massachusetts, Graduate School of Nursing, Worcester, MA (2013)  
**MS**, Medical Sciences/Biochemistry, Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA



**Joseph Netteville, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Baptist Hospital, Memphis, TN (1986)  
**MD**, University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences, Memphis, TN (1985)

**FUN FACT:**

I have been on over 20 medical mission trips to Guatemala, Africa, and Haiti.



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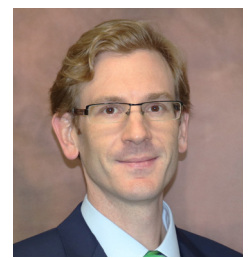
**Michelle Orr**  
Associate Program Manager  
Administration

**EDUCATION:**

**BS**, Business, Welch College, Nashville, TN (1987)

**FUN FACT:**

People who know me well think I should open up my own bakery.



**Andrew Pisansky, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Pain Medicine and Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Pain Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA (2020)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA (2019)  
**MD**, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I have driven through the highest mountain pass in the Himalayan Mountains.



**Lauren Poe, DO**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Pain Medicine and Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Interventional Pain, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, WA (2020)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2019)  
**DO**, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Worth, TX (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I'm a third degree black belt.



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**Leila Price**  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**

**MS**, Nurse Anesthesia, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC (2020)  
**BS**, Nursing, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC (2014)

**FUN FACT:**

I love to visit aquariums and learning about sea life.



**Brandon Pruett, MD**  
Fellow  
Regional and Acute Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus, OH (2020)  
**MD**, University of Mississippi Medical School, Jackson, MS (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

I play guitar.



**David Roberts, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Pediatric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Pediatric Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2019)  
**MD**, Mayo Medical School, Rochester, MN (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I once had a pet mockingbird.



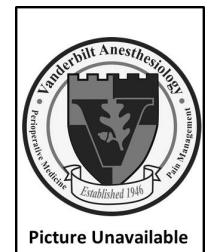
**Kaylyn Sachse, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**

**Fellowship**, Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX (2019)  
**MD**, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX (2015)

**FUN FACT:**

I have an adorable miniature labradoodle puppy.



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**Sarah Schroeder, MD**  
Fellow  
Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**

**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI (2020)  
**MD**, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI (2016)

**FUN FACT:**

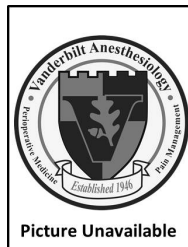
I have six brothers and sisters.



**Danial Shams, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**  
**Fellowship**, Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL (2019)  
**MD**, University of Texas Medical School, Houston, TX (2015)

**FUN FACT:**  
I'm a Texas-raised Packers fan.



**Benjamin Seiler**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**  
**MSN**, Anesthesia, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, TN (2019)  
**BSN**, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, WI (2006)

**FUN FACT:**  
After playing Division 3 football in college, I played a season in Finland for the Helsinki Wolverines.



**Michael Taylor, MD**  
Fellow  
Obstetric Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL (2020)  
**MD**, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI (2016)

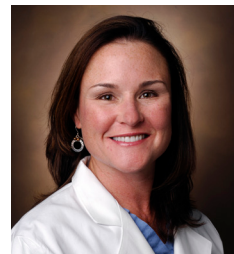
**FUN FACT:**  
I love to cook.



**Amanda Toye, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**  
**Fellowship**, Interventional Pain Medicine, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC (2012)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX (2011)  
**MD**, Oklahoma University College of Medicine, Oklahoma City, OK (2007)

**FUN FACT:**  
I enjoy gardening and I also play the harp.



**Jennifer Vest**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**  
**MS**, Nurse Anesthesia, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (1998)  
**BS**, Nursing, Harding University, Searcy, AR (1993)

**FUN FACT:**  
I just purchased a new Boxer puppy. His name is Brooks.



**David Vinsant**  
Business Intelligence Analyst  
Vanderbilt Anesthesiology  
& Perioperative Informatics  
Research

**EDUCATION:**  
**BS**, Business Informatics, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY (2017)

**FUN FACT:**  
I have run a relay race from Chattanooga, TN to Nashville, TN.



**Katherine Williams, DO**  
Fellow  
Pain Medicine

**EDUCATION:**  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**DO**, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, New York, NY (2012)

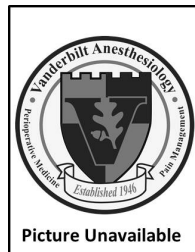
**FUN FACT:**  
I can snowblade.



**David Willis, MD, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Clinical  
Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Adult  
Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**  
**Fellowship**, Perioperative Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (2009)  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (2008)  
**PhD**, Molecular Cell Biology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (2004)  
**MD**, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (2004)

**FUN FACT:**  
I was snowed in at my in-laws' house on my honeymoon.



**Jenna Wineka**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**  
**MSN**, Anesthesia, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC (2012)  
**BSN**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC (2008)

**FUN FACT:**  
I love to bake.



**Austin Woolard, MD**  
Fellow  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN (2020)  
**MD**, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN (2016)

**FUN FACT:**  
I played Division 1 soccer at Vanderbilt.



**Eyob Yinesu, MD**  
Fellow  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

**EDUCATION:**  
**Residency**, Anesthesiology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH (2018)  
**MD**, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (2001)

**FUN FACT:**  
I am hardworking, reliable, always seeking knowledge, team player, and easy to work with.



**Stefanie Zeeman**  
Certified Registered Nurse  
Anesthetist

**EDUCATION:**  
**MSN**, Anesthesia, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC (2017)  
**BSN**, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC (2011)

**FUN FACT:**  
I'm half Dutch.

## Recent Publications

- Abrams B, **Kertai MD**, Weitzel N. Contribution of Cardiothoracic and Abdominal Transplant Anesthesiologists: Leading the Way for the Full Spectrum of Patients in Midst of COVID-19 Pandemic. *Semin Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth*. 2020 Sep;24(3):199-201. doi: 10.1177/1089253220946176. PMID: 32721203.
- Alvis BD**, Polcz M, **Miles M**, Wright D, Shwetar M, **Leisy P**, Forbes R, Fissell R, Whitfield J, **Eagle S**, Brophy C, Hocking K. Non-invasive venous waveform analysis (NIVA) for volume assessment in patients undergoing hemodialysis: an observational study. *BMC Nephrol*. 2020 May 24;21(1):194. doi: 10.1186/s12882-020-01845-2. PMID: 32448178; PMCID: PMC7245891.
- Aretz C, Kharade SV, Chronister K, Trigueros RR, Rodriguez EM, Piermarini PM, **Denton JS**, Hopkins CR. Further SAR on the (phenylsulfonyl)piperazine scaffold as inhibitors of the *Aedes aegypti* Kir1 (AeKir) channel and larvicides. *ChemMedChem*. 2020 Sep 14. doi: 10.1002/cmdc.202000598. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32926544.
- Balzer C, Cleveland WJ, Jinka TR, **Riess ML**. Video Laryngoscopic Oral Intubation in Rats - A Simple and Effective Method. *Am J Physiol Lung Cell Mol Physiol*. 2020 Apr 1. doi: 10.1152/ajplung.00498.2019. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 32233786.
- Beckman JA, **McEvoy MD**. Screening Asymptomatic Kidney Transplant Candidates-Primum Non Nocere. *JAMA Intern Med*. 2020 Aug 10. doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2020.2674. Online ahead of print. PMID: 32777003.
- Bellomy ML, Engoren MC, Martin BJ, Shi Y, Shotwell MS, **Hughes CG**, **Freundlich RE**. The Attributable Mortality of Postoperative Bleeding Exceeds the Attributable Mortality of Postoperative Venous Thromboembolism. *Anesth Analg*. 2020 Jul 14. doi: 10.1213/ANE.0000000000004989. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 32675637.
- Bi Y, Li C, Zhang Y, Wang Y, Chen S, Yue Q, Hoover RS, Wang XH, **Delpire E**, Eaton DC, Zhuang J, Cai H. Stimulatory Role of SPAK Signaling in the Regulation of Large Conductance  $Ca^{2+}$ -Activated Potassium (BK) Channel Protein Expression in Kidney. *Front Physiol*. 2020 Jul 2;11:638. doi: 10.3389/fphys.2020.00638. PMID: 32714200; PMCID: PMC7343913.
- Bloos SM, McNaughton CD, Coco JR, Novak LL, Adams JA, Bodenheimer RE, **Ehrenfeld JM**, Heard JR, Paris RA, Simpson CL, Scully DM, Fabbri D. Feasibility Assessment of a Pre-Hospital Automated Sensing Clinical Documentation System. *AMIA Annu Symp Proc*. 2020 Mar 4;2019:248-257. PMID: 32308817; PMCID: PMC7153144.
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**We provide uncompromising quality in clinical care, research and education. We are:**

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