



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER



The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Department of Surgery

Year in Review | FY2023



“The Department of Surgery has a vibrant energy that welcomes everyone. This atmosphere fosters grand ideas, innovations and a dedication to patient care that is truly admirable. It is a privilege to be a Buckeye surgeon.”

– Timothy Pawlik, MD, PhD, MPH

Letter from the Chair

It’s an exciting time to be a Buckeye surgeon with The Ohio State University Department of Surgery! Our team has much to celebrate and even more to look forward to. As a department, we strive to apply our collective values — which include Excellence, Integrity, Innovation, Education, Quality and Diversity — to all of our work. Throughout this Year-in-Review brochure, we hope you’ll see how this led to incredible new ideas in patient care, research and education in FY2023.

We’re tremendously proud of our awards and recognition, placing us among the top surgery departments in the country:

- **No. 8 ranking for National Institutes of Health (NIH) research funding**
- **No. 6 ranking for our General Surgery residency program**
- **Becker’s Top 100 Great Hospitals**
- **Forbes America’s Best Large Employers**
- **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services five-star quality rating**

What’s next for the Ohio State Department of Surgery? To start, we get closer every day to opening our new 26-story inpatient hospital. And in the meantime, we’ve recently added even more Outpatient Care locations across central Ohio, including the new James Outpatient Care location. The \$357 million project includes outpatient operating rooms, interventional radiology rooms, an extended recovery unit, a diagnostic imaging center, a genitourinary (GU) clinic, and central Ohio’s first proton therapy treatment facility in partnership with Nationwide Children’s Hospital. When you’re a Buckeye surgeon, you can rest assured that you have access to state-of-the-art facilities, the latest technology and breakthrough therapies to provide your patients with compassionate, high-quality care.

It’s an honor to lead this wonderful department and to be among an elite team of Buckeye surgeons. We hope that by reading this report, you’ll get a sense of all the exciting work happening currently and what’s still to come for the Ohio State Department of Surgery.

Thank You and Go Buckeyes!

Timothy M. Pawlik, MD, PhD, MPH
 Chair, Department of Surgery
 The Urban F. Meyer III and Shelley M. Meyer Chair for Cancer Research
 Surgeon in Chief

To learn more about Ohio State and the Department of Surgery, visit wexnermedical.osu.edu/departments/surgery.



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To learn more about the Department of Surgery, visit go.osu.edu/surgery-year-in-review-2023.

* Castle Connolly 2023 Top Doctor

** Castle Connolly 2023 Exceptional Woman in Medicine

*** Castle Connolly 2023 Top Black Doctor

^ Castle Connolly 2023 Top AAPI Doctor

^^ Castle Connolly 2023 Top Hispanic and Latino Doctor

Prepare for the future today

Success in the future starts with planning today. At Ohio State, we rely on our strategic plans to guide our decisions. Our mission, vision and values act as our guiding light when making plans for the future.

The Department of Surgery's comprehensive strategic plan is the result of collaboration, engagement and ideas from faculty, staff and leaders across the medical center and university. It includes six key goal areas: talent and culture, research, education, health care delivery, healthy communities and financial stewardship.

Department of Surgery – Mission

We provide exceptional, patient-centered care, lead innovative surgical research and train the next generation of surgeon leaders and scientists.

Department of Surgery – Vision

We'll improve the care of patients by building innovative clinical surgical programs and advancing translational scientific knowledge.

Department of Surgery – Values

Excellence, Integrity, Innovation, Education, Quality and Diversity

Department of Surgery – Structure

The Ohio State Department of Surgery comprises:

Nine surgical specialty divisions:

- Cardiac Surgery
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- General and Gastrointestinal Surgery
- Pediatric Surgery
- Surgical Oncology
- Thoracic Surgery
- Transplantation Surgery
- Trauma, Critical Care and Burn
- Vascular Diseases and Surgery

11 multidisciplinary centers:

- Burn Center
- Center for Bariatric Surgery
- Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Center for Research, Education and Advancement of Transdisciplinary Exploration (CREATE)
- Collaboration for Organ Perfusion, Protection, Engineering and Regeneration (COPPER Laboratory)
- Comprehensive Esophageal Health Center
- Comprehensive Hernia Center
- Comprehensive Transplant Center
- Comprehensive Wound Center
- Organ Repair and Assessment Center
- Trauma Center



The Department of Surgery's goals

Talent and Culture

Through recruitment and training, create a high-performing culture that values accountability, inclusion and collaboration. Continue to improve the faculty experience for all, with an additional focus on cultivating women leaders in surgery.

Research

Become a top 5 National Institutes of Health-funded surgery department and national leader in health sciences research by supporting collaboration and developing the resources needed to pursue grants, publication opportunities and national awareness.

Education

Serve as a surgical resource with an expanded scope of influence by reducing disparities of care for disadvantaged populations and working to become a surgical destination of choice locally, regionally, nationally and globally.

Resource stewardship

Focus on both cost savings and exterior funding, using metrics to track progress, establish accountability and identify areas for improvement.



The newest Buckeyes in the Department of Surgery

The Ohio State University Department of Surgery is proud to recruit and retain the nation's best surgeons and medical visionaries. Here are the faculty members who have recently joined our team:



Kukbin Choi, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiac Surgery



N. Arjun Jeganathan, MD, FACS, FASCRS
clinical associate professor of Surgery, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery



Sara Rasmussen, MD, PhD
clinical associate professor of Surgery, Division of Pediatric Surgery



Susan Tsai, MD, MHS
clinical professor of Surgery and director, Division of Surgical Oncology



Julia Coleman, MD, MPH
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn



Jennifer Knight Davis, MD
clinical professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn



Patrick Sweigert, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery



Loren Wold, PhD, FAHA, FAPS
professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiac Surgery



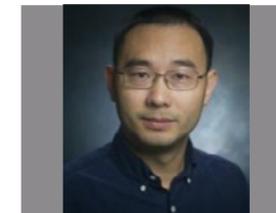
Cory Criss, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Pediatric Surgery



K. Benjamin Lee, MD, MBA
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery



Xiaoyi Teng, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery



Lufang Zhou, PhD
professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiac Surgery



Matthew Gorr, PhD
assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Cardiac Surgery



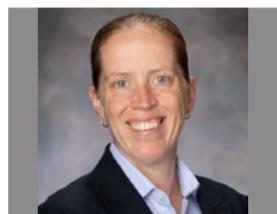
John Loftus, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn



Tracie Terrana, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn



Anahita Jalilvand, MD, PhD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn



Sara Mansfield, MD
clinical assistant professor of Surgery, Division of Pediatric Surgery

Become part of the surgical team at Ohio State, one of the largest and most diverse academic medical centers in the country. We are continually looking for the best and brightest. See available opportunities at wexnermedical.osu.edu/recruitment.

Awards and recognition

Division of Cardiac Surgery

Sergio Carrillo, MD – named surgical director of the Adult Congenital Heart Program at Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Nahush Mokadam, MD – Elected to the Council of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association

Bryan Whitson, MD, PhD – transplant feature editor for the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*

Loren Wold, PhD – named editor-in-chief of *The FASEB Journal*

Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Lisa Cunningham, MD – accepted into the Ohio State Faculty Leadership Institute 2023-24 cohort

Alan Harzman, MD – named treasurer of the Association for Surgical Education

Emily Huang, MD – inducted into the American College of Surgeons’ Academy of Master Surgeon Educators

Matthew Kalady, MD – appointed medical director of newly created Colorectal Cancer Center and named the John L. Marakas Nationwide Insurance Enterprise Foundation Chair in Cancer Research

Amber Traugott, MD – chair, Endoscopy Consultant Committee for the American Board of Surgery Certifying Exam

Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Cortney Collins, MD – 2023 Gerald B. Healy, MD, Mentorship Traveling Fellowship

Sabrena Noria, MD, PhD – Perioperative medical director, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Ben Poulouse, MD, MPH – American College of Surgeons/American Surgical Association Health Policy Scholarship

Division of Pediatric Surgery

Gail Besner, MD – inducted into the American College of Surgeons’ Academy of Master Surgeon Educators

Cory Criss, MD – Pediatric Device Consortia (P50) Grant from the Food and Drug Administration

Benedict Nwomeh, MD – 2022 Nationwide Children’s Hospital Partners in Care, Partners in Hope, Family Advisory Council, Award of Excellence in Family Centered Care

Dana Schwartz, MD – Golden Apple Teaching Award from Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Rajan Thakkar, MD – Maximizing Investigators’ Research Award (MIRA) NIH R35

Division of Surgical Oncology

Joal Beane, MD – American College of Surgeons’ Franklin H. Martin, MD, FACS, Faculty Research Fellowship

Jordan Cloyd, MD – Visiting Grand Rounds Professorship, Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract’s Visiting Grand Rounds Professorship

Samilia Obeng-Gyasi, MD, MPH – accepted to American Society of Clinical Oncology Leadership Development Program

Timothy Pawlik, MD, PhD – The Ohio State University College of Medicine Women in Medicine and Science Ally Award

Division of Thoracic Surgery

Three-star rating for all composites from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (division award)

Desmond D’Souza, MD – instructor, Society of Thoracic Surgeons 2023 Boot Camp

Peter Kneuert, MD – Thomas E. Williams, Jr., MD, PhD, Award for Excellence in Teaching



Division of Transplantation Surgery

Musab Alebrahim, MD – director of Organ Recovery and Organ Perfusion

Sylvester Black, MD, PhD, FACS – vice chair, Surgeon Scientist Committee of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons

Austin Schenk, MD, PhD – named quality and patient safety officer for the Comprehensive Transplant Center

Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn

Nicole Bernal, MD – American Burn Association’s Verification Committee and Quality & Burn Registry Committee – Data Definitions and Integrity Committee Leader

Julia Coleman, MD – the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma’s Fellow Oriens Award

Jennifer Knight Davis, MD – The Ohio State University Hospital associate perioperative medical director for Intra/Post-op

Carrie Valdez, MD – associate editor of Media Relations, *Trauma Surgery & Acute Care Open* journal

Division of Vascular Surgery

Mounir Haurani, MD – Vascular 5-2 Fellowship program director

Michael Go, MD – Full oral presenter at the Scientific Forum at the American College of Surgeons’ Clinical Congress 2023

Xiaoyi Teng, MD – Vascular 0-5 Integrated Residency program director Integrated Residency program director

Bryan Tillman, MD, PhD – 2023 Research Innovation Career Development Award from The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Department of Surgery FY 2023

Education by the Numbers



No. 6 general surgery residency program in the nation on Doximity's 2023-2024 Residency Navigator

- 3** ACGME-Accredited surgical residencies
- 6** Fellowship specialties
- 2** Assistant professorships

General Surgery Residents: 50

Cardiothoracic Surgery Residents: 4

Vascular Surgery Residents: 4

46% Male, **52%** Female, **2%** Non-binary

20% Underrepresented minorities in medicine

20 Members of the AOA National Medical Honor Society or graduated from a top 25 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Medical School

30% Currently hold advanced degrees

100% Went on to do a fellowship

25 Fellows



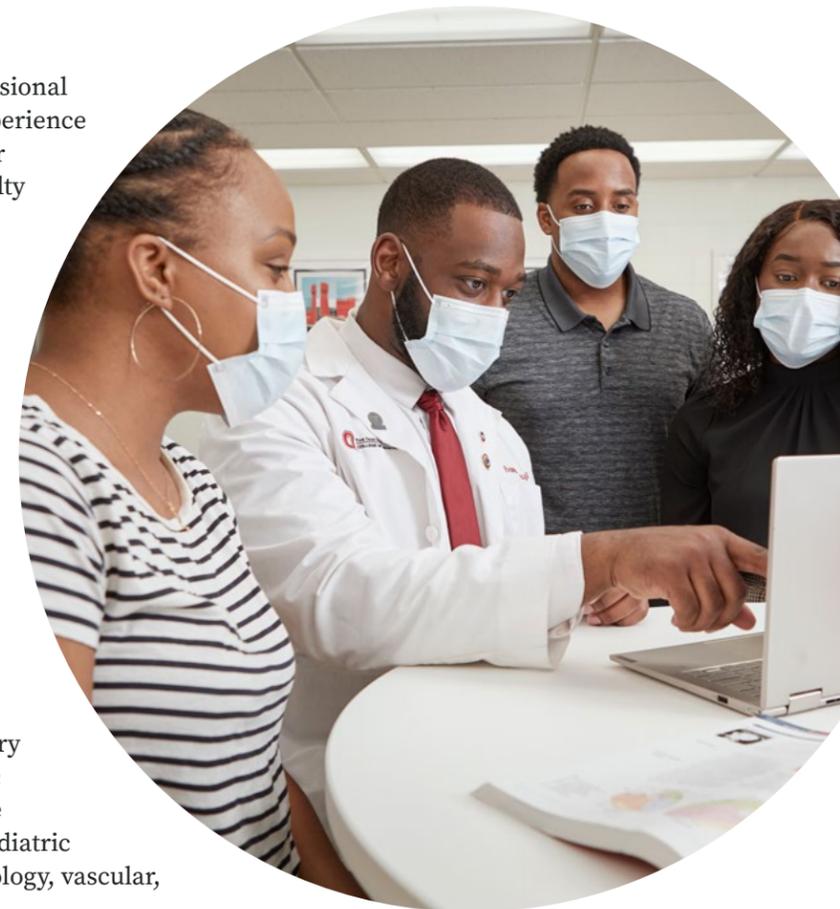
To learn more, visit medicine.osu.edu/surgeryed.

Training the next generation of Buckeye surgeons

At The Ohio State University, we help our Department of Surgery residents and fellows achieve their personal and professional goals. Each learner can tailor their training by selecting from a wide range of opportunities that will further their skill set and help in their journey to becoming a successful surgeon.

Residency Programs

Ohio State training focuses on three areas of professional growth — ongoing education, hands-on clinical experience and research. This unique framework is used in our general surgery residency, as well as our subspecialty residencies of colorectal surgery, pediatric surgery, cardiothoracic surgery and vascular surgery. By having access to our world-class facilities and the latest technology and set training time at the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center University Hospital, OSUCCC – James, Ross Heart Hospital, East Hospital and Nationwide Children's Hospital, the residency experience at Ohio State is truly one of a kind.



Fellowships

Subspecialty surgical fellowships at Ohio State include advanced therapeutic endoscopy and gastrointestinal surgery, cardiothoracic, colorectal, critical care, abdominal transplant, pediatric surgery (Residency Review Committee approved), pediatric surgical critical care (Residency Review Committee approved), pediatric minimally invasive surgery pediatric bariatric surgery, pediatric colorectal surgery, oncology, vascular, minimally invasive surgery and bariatrics.



To learn more about our subspecialty surgical fellowships, visit medicine.osu.edu/departments/surgery/education/fellowships.

Professional Development and Research Training Program

When it comes to research and academic leadership, we use an immersive curriculum that offers important flexibility so our residents can personalize their education. We believe tomorrow’s surgeon-scientists and leaders in academic medicine have to have this kind of in-depth research experience before they start their careers.

During the training program, each resident is given protected time and support to complete three distinct phases:

- **Preparation for research** – Trainees select their mentor, apply to graduate school, submit fellowship and funding applications, and select courses that fulfill advanced degree curricular requirements.
- **Research training** – Residents conduct mentored research, participate in research-in-progress presentations, attend quarterly meetings, submit abstracts to and present research results at national meetings, network with members of the research and professional community, receive feedback, periodically self-assess their progress toward individualized training goals and continue to participate in core departmental activities.

Extended development – This includes participation in departmental or institutional committees, taking on leadership responsibilities for committee work or special projects, continuing publication and research presentations, applying to surgery subspecialty fellowships or other specialty training and serving as a resource for new surgery residents.

Every resident is required to dedicate at least one year to the program – many choose to do two. In addition to research-specific skills, additional benefits gained include skills related to time-management, journal review, leadership, communication, career development, collaboration and self-advocacy.



Global Surgery Rotations

As increased travel, migration and transnational cooperation shrinks the world into one global community, the Ohio State Department of Surgery aims to foster the training and development of students, residents and faculty who are prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities of the modern era. During PGY4, our residents have a unique opportunity to participate in one-month international elective rotations in either a high-income country or a low- and middle-income country setting. By offering this opportunity, we hope to help develop our students, residents and faculty into global citizens and to become a global leader in promoting safe surgical care in underserved communities at home and abroad, through partnerships in education, training, research and innovation.

To learn more, visit wexnermedical.osu.edu/departments/surgery/education/residency/global-surgery.



The Operative Coaching Project

The training format allows dedicated observation of a resident during surgery in the operating room (OR) by an experienced surgeon or “coach,” who then provides procedure-specific suggestions, as well as constructive comments related to the resident’s performance, such as OR management skill, small procedural changes and potentially negative habits that can be corrected before becoming ingrained. Following a coaching session, the attending surgeon, coach and resident each fill out the Surgical Entrustable Professional Activities (SEPA) evaluation form to assess the resident’s operative performance and entrustment of independent practice. PGY4 residents have one to two coaching sessions a year, while PGY5 chief residents complete six coaching sessions. Residents can also request coaching sessions of procedures they are interested in, ensuring that their experience matches their goals.



To learn more, visit medicine.osu.edu/departments/surgery/education/residency/or-coaching-project.

Residency Wellness Program

Long duty hours and stress are inherent during residency years. Our Residency Wellness Program provides a department-sponsored way to plan fun events that build comradery and give residents a chance to recharge. One such activity, Resident Appreciation Day, is held annually at Cedar Point, the famed amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio. Residents are given a full 24 hours off from any clinical duties and travel together on a charter bus. Another significant wellness event held annually is a post-American Board of Surgery In-Training Examination (ABSITE) group outing to Scene 75 in Columbus, the largest indoor entertainment center in the country with go-carts, laser tag, batting cages, arcade games and food. Additional wellness activities include a Halloween pumpkin carving contest, as well as a Resident Thanksgiving for anyone without a place to go for the holiday. These are just a few examples of all the ways we support our residents’ well-being throughout their training.



Department of Surgery FY 2023

Research by the Numbers



No. 8 for National Institutes of Health funding in the country according to Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research

\$20 million Total funding

106 Active grants

\$17 million Total NIH funding

57 Participating investors

30 Total number of FY2023 NIH-funded DP2, K08, K12, P30, R00, R01, R03, R21, T32 and U01 grants

386 Publications

230 Clinical trials



To learn more, visit medicine.osu.edu/departments/surgery/research.

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center is home to leading-edge research advances at the frontier of surgical sciences. Our research is rooted in engaging with our surrounding community while collaborating to ultimately address public needs. It serves as a platform for the academic development of students, fellows and faculty while providing an opportunity to develop solutions for some of medicine's most pressing challenges.



State-of-the-art facilities and support

Ohio State's developing innovation district, Carmenton, is a cutting-edge community where researchers connect and collaborate. It brings the private, public and academic communities together to understand problems and create solutions. Other research facilities include:

- **Pelotonia Research Center** provides 305,000 square feet where students, academic researchers, city leaders, Fortune 500 businesses and new start-ups — just steps away from each other — have the potential to share promising new ideas and accelerate discovery. Two floors are dedicated to The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, including its new Pelotonia Institute for Immuno-Oncology.
- **Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Center**, opening in 2024, will provide 220,000 square feet of collaborative space and innovative technology for learning across the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Optometry, Public Health and Veterinary Medicine.
- **Biomedical Research Tower (BRT)** is currently the largest research facility on The Ohio State University campus and is a critical hub for internationally recognized research programs in cancer, cancer genetics, cardiovascular and lung disease, and high-field imaging. Several Department of Surgery research laboratories are located in the BRT.

In addition to the cutting-edge research space at Ohio State, the university also hosts 15 different colleges, including seven in health sciences and the College of Agriculture. This provides us with the necessary resources — inventive minds, expertise, experience and state-of-the-art facilities — to find novel solutions to complex problems.

NIH-funded investigators (Federal FY22)

Just some of our department's active studies from the previous year include:

Ruth Ackah, MD – F32 for Embryologic Origins of Aortopathy: Biomechanical Characterization of Aortic Aneurysms in the NOTCH1 Mutant Model

Sylvester Black, MD, PhD – R01 for Preservation of DCD Allograft Integrity for Liver Transplantation

Ginny Bumgardner MD, PhD – R01 for Investigating a Novel Cellular Therapy to Prevent and Treat Acute Antibody Mediated Kidney Transplant Rejection | TL1 for NRSA Training Core | T32 for Advanced Research Training in Immunology for Surgery Trainees (ARTIST)

William Carson, MD – T32 for Tumor Immunology | K12 for OSU K12 Training Grant in Oncology

Courtney Collins, MD, MS – R03 for Frailty, Strength, and Mobility in Older Hernia Patients: A Novel Abdominal Wall Physical Therapy Program

Mona El Refaey, PhD – R00 for Defining New Pathways for Cardiac Automaticity

Daniel Gallego Perez – DP2 for Novel nanoscale approaches to whole tissue reprogramming

Jing Light Han, MD – F32 for The Molecular and Spatial Interactions Between Antibody Suppressor CD8+ T cells and B Cells That Regulate Alloantibody Production After Transplant

Raphael Pollock, MD, PhD – P30 Cancer Center Support and Grants to Facilitate the Development of Standardized Electronic Treatment Plan Builds for NCI-Supported Clinical Trials Applicable Across Clinical Research Sites

Bryan Whitson, MD, PhD – R01 for Preservation and Rescue of the Lung Donor Allograft for Transplantation

Jon Wisler, MD – K08 for Analyzing the Mechanism of Exosome-Mediated DNA Methyltransferase Activity During Sepsis

Lufang Zhou, PhD – R01s for Synergistically Target Mitochondria for Heart Failure Treatment; Delineate the pathophysiological effect of cardiomyocyte-specific mitochondrial stress; Combine mitochondrial gene therapy and synthetic lethal chemotherapy to treat triple-negative breast cancer; and Delineate the pathophysiological effect of cardiomyocyte-specific mitochondrial stress

Hua Zhu, PhD – R01s for Preservation of Limbal Stem Cell Function in Corneal Injury, Inhibiting Cell Death for Protecting Cardiac Injury, Inhibiting Neovascularization for Corneal Wound Healing

The Ohio State Department of Surgery is dedicated to mentoring and supporting our surgical-scientists toward obtaining their K and R awards. In addition, both our residency and fellowship tracks allow for extensive research to support and cultivate our trainees' areas of interest.

Other key research highlights

Our team never ceases to stop seeking new discoveries. That's why we continue to invest resources and effort into the research process. We encourage all of our faculty members to continue to explore and find new ways to improve patient care. The following are other major research projects happening in the Department of Surgery:

Priya Dedhia, MD, PhD – Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Career Development Award: "Metastatic Progression in Medullary Thyroid Cancer+" in the amount of \$1,150,000 over four years

Nahush Mokadam, MD – Accelerator Award/Third Frontier: "Devices and Methods for Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion" for \$145,000

Matthew Kalady, MD – Ohio State College of Medicine Patient Care Innovation Award: "Barriers to Colorectal & Anal Cancer Prevention" in the amount of \$257,450

Zhentao Zhang, PhD – American Heart Association Career Development Award: "Gata4 regulates cardiac fibrosis via inhibiting myofibroblasts senescence" in the amount of \$231,000

Center for Research Education and Advancement of Transdisciplinary Exploration (CREATE)

CREATE is a transdisciplinary intellectual laboratory, where experts in their fields are brought together to connect, endeavor and innovate. Barriers to success are removed and siloed thinking is disrupted such that the brightest minds and ideas are amplified to transform ideas into awe-inspiring solutions.

Led by Sylvester Black, MD, PhD, CREATE strives to accelerate health care innovation to improve patient outcomes by forming transdisciplinary teams to pioneer new technologies and devices, advance training methodologies and forge partnerships with private industry to streamline product development by providing cost-effective and expedited expert consultation.

Project teams include physicians; advanced practice providers; pharmacists; nurses; physical therapists; occupational therapists; respiratory therapists; dietitians; faculty from the colleges of Engineering, Design and Nursing; Department of Computer Science and Engineering faculty; graduate and undergraduate students from multiple colleges within Ohio State; and corporate partners.



Learn more about CREATE at medicine.osu.edu/create.



The Collaboration for Organ Perfusion, Protection, Engineering & Regeneration (COPPER) Laboratory

The COPPER Laboratory is a multidisciplinary team consisting of investigators in thoracic and abdominal transplantation, led by co-directors Sylvester Black, MD, PhD, and Bryan Whitson, MD, PhD. Their collaborators include scholars in biochemical engineering, biomedical engineering, mechanical engineering, molecular biology, pharmacology and physiology. The COPPER Laboratory is dedicated to the development of extended ex-vivo donor organ perfusion that will serve as a platform for organ assessment, repair and modification to further improve transplant outcomes and donor organ utilization.



Learn more about the COPPER Laboratory at medicine.osu.edu/copperlab.



Department of Surgery FY 2023

Clinical Care by the Numbers



The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

24.7K+ Employees

1,824 Attending physicians

1,031 Residents and fellows

5,455 Nursing staff

\$4.89B Revenue

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James)

1 of 56 NCI Comprehensive Cancer Centers (designated since 1976)

Third-largest cancer hospital in the country

5.2K+ Faculty and staff and 250+ volunteers

1.7K+ Cancer researchers

Department of Surgery

90+ Clinical faculty

80+ APPs

624,220 wRVUs

14,761 OR cases



To learn more, visit go.osu.edu/surgery-divisions.

Improving patient health and changing lives

As Buckeye surgeons, we strive to help each of our patients achieve optimal physical and mental well-being and quality of life. We do this by tailoring our treatment approach, clearly communicating next steps, and involving the patient and their family in every aspect of their care. While treatment and recovery may be challenging, our aim is to understand each patient's situation and help them to feel cared for and respected.

Surgery Divisions FY2023 by the Numbers

Cardiac Surgery

1,009 OR cases

68,168 wRVUs

Colon and Rectal Surgery

1,721 OR cases

49,566 wRVUs

General and GI Surgery

3,032 OR cases

86,436 wRVUs

Pediatric Surgery

3,822 OR cases

99,003 wRVUs

Surgical Oncology

2,640 OR cases

121,230 wRVUs

Thoracic Surgery

1,152 OR cases

32,572 wRVUs

Transplant Surgery

935 OR cases

67,554 wRVUs

Trauma, Critical Care and Burn

2,719 OR cases

115,533 wRVUs

Vascular

1,553 OR cases

64,379 wRVUs



Division of Thoracic Surgery gains top rating from Society of Thoracic Surgeons

The Division of Thoracic Surgery — staffed by Director Robert Merritt, MD, Desmond D’Souza, MD, and Peter Kneuert, MD — has earned a distinguished three-star rating for all composites from The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS). Specifically, the three surgical areas rated by the STS are lobectomy for lung cancer, lung cancer resection and esophagectomy. The three-star rating, which denotes the highest category of quality, places Ohio State among the elite for general thoracic surgery in the United States and Canada. This remarkable achievement reflects the team’s commitment to quality improvement and excellent patient care.



Ohio State Robotic Surgery Program celebrates 30,000 robotic surgeries

The Ohio State Robotic Surgery Program celebrated its 30,000th robotic surgery this year, a major milestone for the program. This multispecialty program has been led by more than 70 surgeons, training over 168 surgical residents and fellows per year. The introduction of the robotic surgical platform into the operating room environment adds many layers of complexity to the surgical procedure and requires advanced-level care coordination. This complex clinical effort is also supported by the robotic surgery team, administrative staff, dedicated surgical and CSS teams, supply chain and many more. By providing more robotic surgery options to our patients, we can potentially enable them to experience less pain, a quicker recovery time and less time in the hospital.



Groundbreaking work in organ transplantation

In January 2023, the Ohio State Comprehensive Transplant Center (CTC) celebrated 12,000 organ transplants, ranking among the top 7% for all-time volume in the United States. Notably from 2016 to 2023, the abdominal transplant program (kidney, liver, pancreas) grew in volume by 96%, while the cardiothoracic transplant program (heart and lung) grew in volume by 63%. To date, Ohio State’s CTC consistently ranks among the top 20 transplant centers by volume in the United States with excellent outcomes. Several in-house teams have contributed to this rapid growth, including our **Organ Recovery Team**, **Histocompatibility Lab** and **Human Tissue Biorepository**.

In addition, our **Organ Assessment and Repair Center**, established in 2015, utilizes advanced medical technology called ex vivo organ perfusion to rehabilitate and repair damage to some donor kidneys, livers, hearts and lungs. Our latest trial, OrganOx liver perfusion, celebrated its one-year anniversary in September with remarkable results — a 25% increase in the number of livers transplanted at Ohio State — further proving organ perfusion is vital to expanding the donor organ pool.

Ohio State surgeons perform first thyroid radiofrequency ablation (RFA) in central Ohio

Barbra Miller, MD, and John Phay, MD, created The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center’s thyroid radiofrequency ablation (RFA) program and began performing procedures in February 2023, the first in central Ohio. The minimally invasive procedure shrinks the size of thyroid nodules and lymph nodes by using radio waves to create heat that reduces the size of the area of concern. Thyroid RFA is performed in the clinic, obviates the need for general anesthesia and protects normal thyroid tissue, leading to less need for thyroid hormone supplementation than surgery. Dr. Miller says, “While thyroid RFA has been performed in some countries for many years and has a similar safety profile to surgery, it is still relatively new in the United States. It’s a wonderful option for patients. RFA gives us yet another way to customize treatment for patients with thyroid disorders.”





Division of Cardiac Surgery

The Ohio State Heart and Vascular Center brings together a team of highly skilled surgeons, advanced technology and exemplary facilities to deliver high-quality surgical heart care. We've earned a procedure rating of "high performing" for aortic valve surgery from *U.S. News & World Report*. We specialize in treating the most complex cardiac surgery patients, and can provide less-invasive therapies, coronary artery bypass surgery, complex reoperations, heart valve surgery, aortic surgery, endovascular and transcatheter procedures, heart and lung transplantation, mechanical circulatory support and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO).

Primary Programs

- **Coronary Revascularization** – Coronary revascularization at Ohio State includes both Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) and the use of total arterial anaortic off-pump coronary artery bypass graft (OPCABG). In some patients, we also perform robotic-assisted CABG.
- **Minimally Invasive and Valve Surgery** – Our surgeons offer minimally invasive valve repair and replacement through keyhole incisions, as well as transcatheter valve replacement (TAVR), along with the full gamut of valve preserving and reconstructive options.
- **Thoracic Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support** – Our programs perform high-volume heart and lung transplant and are supported by robust technology such as ex-vivo lung perfusion, left ventricular assist devices (LVAD), extracorporeal life support (ECLS or ECMO) and total artificial heart.
- **Adult Congenital Heart Surgery** – Surgeons from both The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Nationwide Children's Hospital collaborate closely to deliver care to patients with Adult Congenital Heart Surgery.
- **Aortic Center** – We perform the full gamut of thoracic aortic surgery, including valve sparing root replacement, Ross procedures, arch reconstructions and thoracoabdominal aortic reconstructions.
- **Advanced Heart Failure** – We offer a wide spectrum of surgical care for advanced heart failure, including temporary circulatory support (ECMO), durable circulatory support (LVAD) and heart transplantation.
- **Advanced Lung Failure** – We have one of the busiest lung transplant programs in the nation, and offer advanced care, including COVID-19-related lung transplants and ECMO as a bridge to transplantation when needed.

Referral Information

The Division of Cardiac Surgery specializes in the full range of cardiac surgical procedures. These include the signature programs above as well as:

- Arrhythmia surgery
- Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Structural heart disease
- Heart and lung failure



To refer, please call the Division of Cardiac Surgery at 614-293-5502.

You may also fill out the one-page medical center referral form at wexnermedical.osu.edu/referralform and fax your referral to 614-293-1456.

Faculty



Nahush Mokadam, MD*
 Director, Division of Cardiac Surgery
 Program Director,
 Cardiothoracic Surgery
 Integrated Residency Program

Clinical Faculty

Adult Cardiac Surgery

Jovan (John) Bozinovski, MD
 Kukbin Choi, MD
 Asvin Ganapathi, MD
 Matthew Henn, MD
 Bryan Whitson, MD, PhD
 Tom Williams, MD
 (nonclinical faculty)

Pediatric and Congenital Cardiac Surgery

Sergio Carrillo Melendez, MD
 Mark Galantowicz, MD*
 Patrick McConnell, MD
 Toshiharu Shinoka, MD, PhD

Research Faculty

Matthew Gorr, PhD
 Mona El-Rafeaey, PhD, MS
 Loren Wold, PhD
 Lufang Zhou, PhD
 Hua Zhu, PhD
 Vice Chair, Basic and
 Translational Research
 Zentao Zhang, PhD



Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery

The Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery at Ohio State is recognized for our patient care related to diseases and cancer of the colon and rectum. We have earned a procedure rating of “high performing” for Colon Cancer Surgery by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Every surgeon within the division is dedicated to practicing within their specific area of expertise. This intense dedication has yielded a high volume of cases and increased our experience levels with even the most unusual and complex surgical cases within our specialties.

Primary Programs

- **Colorectal Cancer** – We’re internationally recognized specialists in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of colorectal cancers. We work together across several medical disciplines to develop individualized treatment plans that target each patient’s biologically unique malignancy. The division also includes specialists with expertise in the diagnosis and management of genetic-based hereditary colorectal cancer syndromes and is a national referral center for these patients. In 2023, Ohio State opened a multidisciplinary Colorectal Cancer Center.
- **Inflammatory Bowel Disease** – We have a world-class multidisciplinary inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) treatment center, with one of the highest volumes in the region. Our surgeons are part of the multidisciplinary team for IBD, creating individualized surgical treatment plans for each patient to ensure the best outcomes possible.

- **Pelvic Floor Disorders Clinic** – This multidisciplinary clinic is located at our Outpatient Care New Albany location and provides comprehensive testing and evaluation and a range of treatment options for men and women diagnosed with a variety of pelvic floor disorders.
- **Minimally Invasive Surgery** – Our program offers robotic and laparoscopic surgery for colorectal diseases, including complex procedures such as colectomy, low anterior resection and creation of ileal J pouches. We also offer minimally invasive transanal techniques that allow resection of benign and early-stage malignant rectal lesions that can’t be managed colonoscopically. These techniques offer patients the advantages of a shorter hospital stay, less blood loss, reduced pain and quicker recovery.
- **Colonoscopy** – Our surgeons are committed to delivering the best care possible for our patients by performing colonoscopies for pre- and post-operative patients in one of our endoscopy suites, allowing for continuity of care.
- **Anal Cancer Screening Program** – This is the first formal program in Ohio and one of a few in the country. Our goal is to improve the prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of anal cancer, which has increased at an alarming rate, particularly among the often underserved population of HIV-positive gay men.
- **Colorectal Transitional Care** – In partnership with Nationwide Children’s Hospital, the Center for Colorectal Transitional Care is a collaborative effort that helps children born with colorectal malformations and other congenital conditions have a smooth transition of care once they reach adulthood.

Referral Information

The Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery offers comprehensive surgical programs for the treatment of a wide range of colon and rectal conditions, such as:

- Colon and rectal cancer, including primary, recurrent and metastatic cancers
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Pelvic floor disorders
- Anorectal disease
- Benign colorectal disease

To refer, please call the Division of Colon and Rectal



Surgery at 614-293-3230 or fill out the one-page medical center referral form available at wexnermedical.osu.edu/referralform and fax your referral to 614-293-1456.

Faculty



Matthew Kalady, MD*
Director, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Clinical Faculty

Mark Arnold, MD*

Lisa Cunningham, MD

Alessandra Gasior, DO

Alan Harzman, MD*

Emily Huang, MD, MEd*

Syed Husain, MBBS

N. Arjun Jeganathan, MD

Amber Traugott, MD* **



Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Ohio State has been recognized as “high performing” in Gastroenterology and GI Surgery by *U.S. News & World Report*. Our Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery is a pioneer in minimally invasive surgery with a high volume of foregut surgery, bariatric surgery, advanced therapeutic endoscopy, gallbladder surgery, and hernia repair and complex abdominal wall reconstruction. Our surgeons are consistently recognized as innovators in their disciplines whose commitment to surgical excellence and novel techniques such as complex robotics and endoluminal procedures keeps us at the forefront of our field.

Primary Programs

- **Comprehensive Weight Management and Metabolic Bariatric Surgery Program** – The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center is a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence, performing more than 500 primary and revisional operations annually, which now includes robotic bariatric surgery. Telehealth appointments are available.
- **Center for Abdominal Core Health** – The center is advancing patient care through programs such as complex abdominal wall reconstruction, monthly complex hernia conferences, a robotic hernia program and a comprehensive abdominal core surgery rehabilitation protocol. Telehealth and next-day appointments available.
- **Comprehensive Esophageal Health** – Now open at Ohio State Outpatient Care New Albany, the Ohio State Comprehensive Esophageal Health Center can provide your patients access to the latest innovative treatment techniques and technology, all delivered by a collaborative team of gastroenterologists, GI surgeons, dietitians, physical therapists, counselors and other specialists. Telehealth and next-day appointments available.

Referral Information

The surgeons in the Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery accept referrals for all patients with general surgical needs including:

- Bariatric surgery
- Esophageal/foregut disease
- Gallbladder surgery
- Hernia repair
- Gastrointestinal surgery
- Endoscopy, including endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)



To refer, please call the Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery at 614-293-3230 or Bariatric Surgery at 614-366-6675, or fill out the one-page medical center referral form available at wexnermedical.osu.edu/referralform and fax your referral to 614-293-1456.

Faculty



Benjamin Poulou, MD, MPH*
Director, Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery

Clinical Faculty

- Stacy Brethauer, MD, MBA
- Courtney Collins, MD, MS
- Kelly Haisley, MD
- Michael Meara, MD, MBA*
- Vimal Narula, MD
- Bradley Needleman, MD*
- Sabrina Noria, MD, PhD
- Kyle Perry, MD, MBA
- David Renton, MD
- Patrick Sweigert, MD

Research Faculty

- Daniel Gallego-Perez, PhD
- Kristin Stanford, PhD



Division of Pediatric Surgery

The mission of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at Nationwide Children’s Hospital is to develop, promote and provide equitable, innovative, evidence-based, comprehensive pediatric surgical care. The Division of Pediatric Surgery is one of the largest and most diverse divisions of its kind, maintaining active clinical programs in general pediatric surgery, minimally invasive surgery, robotic surgery, surgical oncology, surgical endocrinology, trauma, burns, chest wall deformities, bariatric surgery, inflammatory bowel disease, hepatobiliary surgery, neuromodulation, colorectal surgery, transplantation and fetal surgery.

Each member of the division brings individual strengths and talents and is recognized for expertise in clinical care, research and education. Our program trains the next generation of pediatric surgeons through our highly desired training programs in pediatric surgery, surgical critical care, minimally invasive surgery, bariatric surgery and pediatric surgical research.

Primary Programs

- **Pediatric Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery** – Our surgeons offer a wide variety of pediatric surgical procedures performed through tiny incisions to treat both common and complex pediatric conditions in children of all ages, including newborns. In addition, we have the busiest robotic surgery program of any children’s hospital in the United States. We’re the only center offering robotic bariatric weight loss procedures to adolescents.
- **Pediatric Oncology and Endocrinology** – Our surgeons work side-by-side with our pediatric oncologists and endocrinologists to offer the most comprehensive oncology and endocrinology procedures available.
- **Pediatric Trauma and Burn** – We’re one of the few children’s hospitals in the country verified as both a Level I Trauma Program by the American College of Surgeons and a Burn Center by the American Burn Association.
- **Pediatric Transplantation and Fetal Surgery** – Our surgeons offer all aspects of solid organ transplantation. In addition, we’re one of only a few centers in the world to offer total pancreatectomy with islet auto transplantation (TPIAT) for patients with chronic abdominal pain due to intractable pancreatitis. Our Fetal Surgery program offers comprehensive care to patients even before birth.

Referral Information

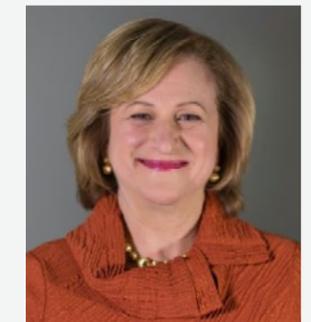
The surgeons in the Division of Pediatric Surgery accept referrals for patients with an extensive range of conditions, some of which include:

- Bariatric surgery
- Burns
- Chest wall deformity correction
- Congenital anomalies of the trachea, esophagus, diaphragm, intestines
- Fetal surgery
- Gallbladder disease
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease
- Hernias (inguinal, umbilical, hiatal)
- Intestinal diseases (intestinal dysmotility, intestinal failure, inflammatory bowel disease, Hirschsprung disease, anorectal malformations)
- Pediatric cancers
- Pediatric thyroid and parathyroid conditions
- Pigmented lesions
- Trauma
- Wounds



To refer, call the Division of Pediatric Surgery at 614-722-3900.

Faculty



Gail Besner, MD* **
Director, Division of Pediatric Surgery

Clinical Faculty

- Jennifer Aldrink, MD* **
- Steven Bruch, MD*
- Cory Criss, MD
- Karen Diefenbach, MD
- Renata Fabia, MD, PhD* **
- James Geiger, MD*
- Jonathan Groner, MD*
- Ihab Halaweish, MD
- Marcus Jarboe, MD
- Brian Kenney, MD, MPH*
- Sara Mansfield, MD
- Marc Michalsky, MD*
- Peter Minneci, MD, MHSC
- Jaimie Nathan, MD*
- Benedict Nwomeh, MD, MPH* ***
- Oluyinka Olutoye, MD***
- Matthew Ralls, MD
- Sara Rasmussen, MD
- Dana Schwartz, MD
- Rajan Thakkar, MD*
- Kyle Van Arendonk, MD
- Richard Wood, MD

Research Faculty

- Christopher Breuer, MD
- David Brigstock, PhD



Division of Surgical Oncology

The Division of Surgical Oncology provides excellence in clinical cancer care; educates medical students, residents and fellows; and conducts internationally recognized clinical and basic research. Our surgical specialists and subspecialists offer the most current research-based surgical treatment techniques — from complex open surgery to minimally invasive robotic procedures — to provide individualized care in conjunction with multidisciplinary teams of cancer experts as part of The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC – James).

The OSUCCC – James is a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated comprehensive cancer center that’s been ranked among America’s Best Hospitals for cancer care for 25 years by *U.S. News & World Report*. In 2020, the OSUCCC – James received the NCI’s highest rating, “Exceptional,” for the third consecutive five-year review period and earned an estimated \$33 million NCI support grant.

Primary Programs

- **Breast** – At the Stefanie Spielman Comprehensive Breast Center, patients can access a full continuum of care — prevention, screening, treatment, survivorship — in one location with state-of-the-art technology. Our surgeons evaluate patients at high risk for cancer and provide specialized breast cancer treatment. We’re also nationally recognized for our research in many fields, including health equity, clinical trials and novel approaches to care.
- **Endocrine** – Our endocrine surgical specialists — who focus on diseases of the thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal glands, as well as on neuroendocrine tumors — can perform complex minimally invasive and robot-assisted procedures. Our Comprehensive Adrenal Program offers treatment and clinical trials for a range of adrenal disorders, and the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center’s thyroid cancer group has been well-funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for many years.
- **Gastrointestinal** – Internationally recognized experts in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of esophageal, hepatobiliary, pancreatic, stomach and colorectal malignancies, our surgeons have extensive experience in complex minimally invasive abdominal operations. Our team develops individualized treatment plans that target each patient’s unique cancer, including regional therapies for metastatic cancer. We also focus on methods to improve patient outcomes through innovation, including telehealth for cross-institutional collaboration.
- **Melanoma/Sarcoma** – Patients with these cancers benefit from surgical expertise spanning the full spectrum of skin and soft tissue malignancies. At the Skin and Melanoma Center, patients with melanoma, Merkel cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma or other skin tumors have individualized treatment options, including intralesional therapies, robotic resection and clinical trials. At our Soft Tissue Sarcoma Center, surgeon-scientists are advancing standards of care for patients with primary and recurrent tumors.

Referral Information

Surgical oncology physicians at Ohio State are trained in general surgery, have been certified by the American Board of Surgery, have additional training in surgical oncology and are active members of the Society of Surgical Oncology. Special areas of expertise include gastrointestinal cancer, hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancer, breast cancer, melanoma, thyroid cancer, head and neck cancer, and soft tissue sarcoma.



To refer, please call the Division of Surgical Oncology via the James Line at 1-800-293-5066, or fill out the one-page medical center referral form available at go.osu.edu/patientreferral and fax your referral to 614-293-9449.

Faculty



Susan Tsai, MD, MHS, FACS
Director, Division of Surgical Oncology

Clinical Faculty

- Doreen Agnese, MD* **
- Joal Beane, MD*
- William Carson, MD*
- Jordan Cloyd, MD
- Carlo Contreras, MD^^
- Priya Dedhia, MD^
- Mary Dillhoff, MD
- Valerie Grignol, MD* **
- Barbra Miller, MD, BS* **
- Samilia Obeng-Gyasi, MD, MPH* **
- Bridget Oppong, MD, MPH* ** **
- Timothy Pawlik, MD, PhD, MPH*
- John Phay, MD
- Raphael Pollock, MD*
- Stephen Povoski, MD*

Research Faculty

- Andrew Gunderson, PhD
- Zhiwei Hu, MD, PhD



Division of Thoracic Surgery

Dedicated to providing multidisciplinary care for malignant and benign diseases of the chest, Ohio State's Division of Thoracic Surgery earned a distinguished three-star rating from The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), which denotes the highest category of quality. The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center has also earned a procedure rating of "high performing" for lung cancer surgery from *U.S. News & World Report*. Also recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the nation's best hospitals in pulmonology, Ohio State has the resources, expertise and innovative clinical programs to better the lives of people living with lung conditions.

Primary Programs

- **Robotic Surgery** – Among the highest volume thoracic robotic surgery programs in the United States with more than 474 robotic surgical procedures performed in FY2023.
- **Minimally Invasive Thymectomy for Myasthenia Gravis** – A multidisciplinary program formed with the Department of Neurology.
- **Minimally Invasive Esophagectomy** – A combined program of minimally invasive surgery, GI medicine and oncology, with more than 358 procedures completed from 2014 to 2023.
- **Lung Volume Reduction Surgery** – With 22 cases performed in FY2023, the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center is one of the leading hospitals in central Ohio offering the procedure.
- **Thoracic Surgery** – Our surgeons collaborate with the lung and gastrointestinal disease sites at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute and share many clinical trials with medical oncology, as well as with radiation oncology through Cancer and Leukemia Group B, Radiation Therapy Oncology Group and American College of Surgeons Oncology Group.

Referral Information

The surgeons in the Division of Thoracic Surgery accept referrals for patients with an extensive range of conditions, including:

- Achalasia
- Barrett's esophagus
- Carcinoid tumor
- Esophageal cancer
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease (heartburn)
- Hiatal hernia
- Lung cancer
- Myasthenia gravis
- Thymoma

To refer, please call the



Division of Thoracic Surgery at 614-293-9059.

You may also fill out the one-page medical center referral form at wexnermedical.osu.edu/referralform and fax your referral to 614-293-1456.

Faculty



Robert Merritt, MD* ***
 Director, Division of Thoracic Surgery
 James Medical Director of Inpatient Services

Clinical Faculty

Desmond D'Souza, MD
 Peter Kneuert, MD*



Division of Transplantation Surgery

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center recently celebrated 12,000 solid organ transplants since its first transplant, a kidney, 56 years ago. To put this milestone into perspective, out of the 250 active transplant centers in the United States, our Comprehensive Transplant Center is among the top 7% for all-time volume, ranking No. 17. Our physicians hold leadership positions in national transplant organizations, including the United Network for Organ Sharing and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, working to advance the science, practice and policy of organ transplantation.

Primary Programs

- **Kidney Transplant Program** – As one of the largest programs in the country, the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center utilizes living donor exchange and chains to aggressively transplant many patients who might otherwise be ineligible due to incompatibility with their donor.
- **Living Donor Liver Program** – The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center has expanded liver transplant donor and recipient criteria and is one of only two locations in Ohio able to perform adult living liver donor transplants.
- **Liver Cancer** – One of only 56 comprehensive cancer centers in the nation, as designated by the National Cancer Institute, the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center offers treatment for hepatocellular carcinoma and prepares these patients for liver transplantation.
- **Outreach Clinics** – Our clinics in Lima and Cincinnati, part of the Healthy State Alliance with Mercy Health, extend patient access to transplant care outside of central Ohio.

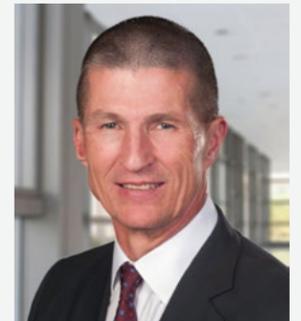
Referral Information

The Division of Transplantation Surgery coordinates patient care with a team of specially trained transplant experts, including transplant physicians and surgeons, organ recovery specialists, transplant coordinators, advanced practice providers, social workers, psychologists, dietitians and transplant pharmacists. As an academic medical center, we are able to access the latest treatments and clinical trials of new immunosuppressive drugs and antirejection therapies.



For more information or to refer a patient for a transplant consultation, visit wexnermedical.osu.edu/trxreferral or call 614-293-4100.

Faculty



Kenneth Washburn, MD
 Director, Division of Transplantation Surgery
 Executive Director, Comprehensive Transplant Center

Clinical Faculty

Musab Alebrahim, MD

Sylvester Black, MD, PhD ***

Ginny Bumgardner, MD, PhD, FACS

Ashley Limkemann, MD, MPH*

Amer Rajab, MD, PhD

Austin Schenk, MD, PhD*

Navdeep Singh, MBBS



Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn

Formed in 2006, the Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn provides surgical care for multiple trauma, burns, urgent and emergent general surgery conditions and surgical critical care. The clinical, translational and basic science research efforts of our clinical scientists and dedicated basic science researchers investigate sepsis, trauma and surgical emergencies.

Primary Programs

- **Level I Trauma Center at University Hospital** – This designation, awarded by the American College of Surgeons, recognizes our role as a regional resource to care for the most critically ill and injured patients.
- **Level III Trauma Center at Ohio State University Hospital East** – The same experienced clinical team that serves the University Hospital Level I Trauma Center provides critical access, stabilization of patients and definitive trauma care to patients with serious traumatic injuries.
- **Acute Care Surgery** – Urgent and emergent general surgical care is available at both University Hospital and East Hospital for a wide variety of surgical disease states, including necrotizing soft tissue infections, gastrointestinal bleeding, bowel perforation, enterocutaneous fistulae, appendicitis, acute pancreatitis, cholecystitis and complications after cardiovascular or cancer surgery. This program currently supports two American Association for the Surgery of Trauma-accredited fellowships for advanced training.
- **Adult Burn Center** – The only adult burn center in central Ohio verified by the American College of Surgeons and the American Burn Association, with an inpatient burn rehabilitation program ranked among the best in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- **Surgical Critical Care** – Our team employs advanced lifesaving technologies to treat more than 5,000 critically ill and injured patients each year across four ICU locations. The service supports six American Council for Graduate Medical Education-accredited critical care fellows in partnership with the Department of Anesthesiology.

Referral Information

For referral to Ohio State's Comprehensive Burn Center, please call 614-293-2876.

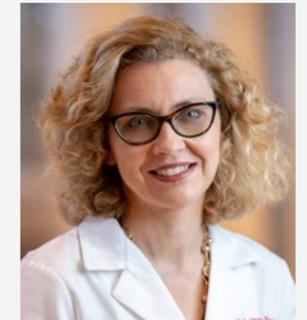
We offer both inpatient and outpatient services including:

- Third-degree burns
- Burns to face, hands, feet, genitalia, perineum and joints
- Electrical burns and lightning strikes
- Chemical burns
- Burns in patients with comorbid conditions



Our surgeons address the full scope of surgical critical care, trauma, burns and emergency general surgery with a special focus on complex surgical patients and those with comorbid conditions. To have a patient transferred to our care, call the Transfer Center at 614-293-4444 or 800-824-8236.

Faculty



Carrie Sims, MD, PhD
Director, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burn

Clinical Faculty

- Nicole Bernal, MD* ** ***
- Julia Coleman, MD, MPH
- Daniel Eiferman, MBA, MD*
- Jennifer Knight-Davis, MD
- Anahita Jalilvand, MD, PhD
- John Loftus, MD
- Sara Scarlet, MD, MPH
- Tracie Terrana, MD
- Brett Tracy, MD
- Carrie Valdez, MD
- Wendy Wahl, MD
- Jonathan Wisler, MD
- Andrew Young, MD



Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery

The Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery specializes in the comprehensive care of diseases of the arteries, veins and lymphatic system. Each year, our division has more than 8,800 outpatient visits and performs more than 1,800 endovascular cases and major open vascular surgeries. We specialize in complete care for any vascular condition, from a patient's initial visit to diagnostic testing, interventional or minimally invasive endovascular treatments (such as stenting and angioplasty), open surgical treatments (such as bypass surgery) and, most importantly, ongoing, lifelong post-treatment care. We've earned a procedure rating of "high performing" for abdominal aortic aneurysm repair from *U.S. News & World Report*.

Primary Programs

- **Aortic Center** – Combines the expertise of highly skilled physicians, including vascular surgeons, cardiac surgeons and cardiologists, to provide a tailored approach to each patient's care. This includes conventional surgery and new, minimally invasive procedures. In addition to scheduled aortic procedures, the Aortic Center also provides treatment for emergent and life-threatening aneurysms. The center participates in four national aortic clinical trials, which include small and large aortic aneurysms, preventive treatment for endoleaks, and complex aortic dissections.
- **Community Outreach** – Clinics are located in three locations within Columbus (Upper Arlington, Dublin and New Albany) as well as two well-established clinics in Marysville and Bellefontaine.
- **Limb Preservation Program** – Part of the Comprehensive Wound Center, offering a multidisciplinary approach and advanced techniques to treat patients with limb-threatening conditions.
- **Ohio State Total Vein Care** – Outpatient treatment from board-certified vascular surgeons with more than 30 years' experience in the treatment of venous disease.
- **Vascular Ultrasound** – Expanded inpatient and outpatient services with new same-day reporting with VascuPro™ vascular lab reporting software.

Referral Information

The physicians in the Ohio State Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery accept referrals for patients and offer an extensive range of advanced procedures for patients with a variety of issues, including:

- Complex aortic dissections
- Emergent and life-threatening abdominal and thoracic aneurysms
- Arterial diseases
- Venous diseases
- Carotid artery blockage
- Risk of amputation due to vascular diseases, such as peripheral arterial disease and diabetes
- Creation or repair of arteriovenous fistula for dialysis
- Mesenteric ischemia
- Thoracic outlet syndrome
- Popliteal entrapment syndrome
- Pec minor syndrome
- Connective tissue disorders
- Peripheral or mesenteric aneurysms
- Complex vascular reconstruction
- Arterial pseudoaneurysms



To refer, please call the Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery at 614-293-8536 or fill out the one-page medical center referral form available at wexnermedical.osu.edu/referralform and fax your referral to 614-293-1456.

Faculty



Kristine Orion, MD*
Acting Director, Division of Vascular Diseases and Surgery

Clinical Faculty

K. Benjamin Lee, MD, MBA
Michael Go, MD, FACS*
Mounir Haurani, MD, FACS
Kate Peng, MD
Xiaoyi Teng, MD
Bryan Tillman, MD, PhD*

The power of philanthropy

We are truly grateful for the incredible generosity of our corporate and individual donors who supported our annual philanthropic drive, which was an overwhelming success. Their enthusiasm and passion inspire us, and we will strive to use their donations to enhance patient care, pursue groundbreaking research and educate the next class of Buckeye surgeons.



Dr. Timothy Pawlik (left) and Bob Berry (right)



New professorship to support pancreatic cancer research

When Bob Berry was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, he was in his prime with a successful floral and home décor business in Medina, Ohio, that he had built with his wife, Teri. After initially being told that his tumor was unresectable, Bob and Teri reached out to their personal contacts and did their own research, which led them to Timothy Pawlik, MD, PhD, MPH, at the OSUCCC – James, an internationally recognized expert in alimentary tract surgery, particularly for hepatic, pancreatic and biliary disease.

“We hit it off immediately,” Dr. Pawlik says. “We talked honestly from the get-go, and I explained why the procedure would be difficult, but I also told them that I was convinced it could be done. Bob decided to trust me, and the surgery was a success.”

In the three years since, this surgeon/patient duo have formed a lasting connection that’s led to new development opportunities for the Ohio State Department of Surgery. Bob and Teri hosted their third fundraiser benefiting the department at their Medina-based Berry’s Blooms, where they cultivate and sell flowers, in 2023.

Funds generated by the Berrys and their efforts have led to the new Berry’s Blooms Endowed Professorship in Pancreatic Cancer. The focus of this Designated Professorship is on health services research to assess and improve the delivery of high-value cancer care.

Reflecting on this newest endowment, Dr. Pawlik says, “All this started with one patient and his family putting their trust in our surgical team and The James. The care, compassion and trust that Bob and Teri experienced here at Ohio State evolved into a partnership, and their generosity has fueled this new gift that will have immense impact for years to come — helping both patients and faculty studying pancreatic cancer.”



Our mission is to deliver high-quality patient care, contribute to innovations in medicine through basic and translational research and clinical outcome studies, and educate medical students and postgraduate trainees to ensure an adequate supply of surgeons for the future. Your generous gift can help make all of that happen. To support the Department of Surgery, visit medicine.osu.edu/departments/surgery/giving.

Columbus unexpected

It's likely that Columbus has more than you ever expected.
Why make your home in Columbus?



“A youthful, entrepreneurial energy has fueled a lot of changes in Ohio’s capital, a fashion design hub (you read that right) brimming with creative restaurants, craft breweries, distilleries and small-batch coffee roasters.” – Chicago Tribune



“Columbus is one of the fastest-growing cities in the Midwest, and I believe that this will be a smart place to spend five to seven years in training as it continues to expand and develop with the wide array of resources it provides.”

– incoming Ohio State Department of Surgery resident

It's affordable

A dollar goes further here. The cost of living is 8% below the national average, and our average rent and home prices will leave you pleasantly surprised. As of 2022, the median monthly rent was \$1,049 for one bedroom, and the median home price was \$383,883. Columbus' housing expenses are 20% lower than the national average. You don't have to live far from the city's center to get a great deal, either — our commutes are actually shorter than the U.S. average.

It's smart

Home to an expanding number of startup businesses in addition to five Fortune 500 and 16 Fortune 1000 companies, Columbus harbors a spirit of innovation that attracts the best and brightest. We also produce the best and brightest at our top-ranked public and private schools. Learn more by searching Ohio's School Report Cards.

It's thriving

One of the fastest-growing cities in the country, Columbus is the 14th largest city in the U.S. and the second largest in the Midwest behind Chicago. We're home to an impressive list of employers and celebrated for our job creation. Oh, and we know how to have fun: Our arts and entertainment options will keep your calendar fully booked while acclaimed food scene will satisfy your cravings from sushi to schnitzel. If you're into sports, we've got professional hockey and soccer teams as well as a college football program you may have heard about.

It's welcoming

Columbus is a city that invites and embraces cultural and economic diversity. There are 134 nations represented here, and our residents speak 109 different languages. We also have a reputation for being accepting, welcoming and LGBTQ+ friendly.

For more information about Columbus, please visit wexnermedical.osu.edu/cols.

“If there's one thing we know about the Midwest now, it's to stop expecting certain things from the Midwest, and certainly not Ohio's capital city, which has a nearly Sun Belt-esque buoyancy about it these days, as it welcomes all-comers, from all over the world, into the ever-growing fold.” – Food & Wine

Our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion



Courtney Collins, MD
Vice Chair, Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion

The Department of Surgery is committed to providing our patients with the best possible care. To accomplish this, we must cultivate an environment where faculty, staff and patients feel like they belong. This can only be achieved by prioritizing programs that integrate diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) into medical education, clinical care, research and community engagement. While there are many ways to define DEI, at its core: Diversity represents our differences that make us unique, including race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, language, (dis)ability, age, religious commitment, political perspective, veteran status and more. However, our focus is less about “quantifying” these differences and more about promoting efforts aimed at understanding, accepting and valuing these differences. Equity relates to creating fair access, opportunity and advancement for everyone in the department — establishing a level playing field. Inclusion is the extent to which people in our department feel valued and respected for their uniqueness.

Action with intention

Led by our DEI vice chair, Courtney Collins, MD, and a committee of faculty, residents and staff, our goal is to integrate DEI into the fabric of the department. Our emphasis is on being purposeful with our actions when incorporating DEI into community outreach, medical education, clinical care and research, the four pillars of patient care.

Examples of our efforts include:

- **Disparity M&M:** Annual cases are presented during the Department of Surgery M&M conference dedicated to discussing poor outcomes in surgical patients that are a direct result of a social determinant of health. This forum is designed to provide a venue for educating faculty, residents and ancillary staff on the importance of social determinants in the outcomes of surgical patients treated at The Ohio State University. By providing an opportunity to analyze and discuss how nonclinical obstacles can negatively impact surgical outcomes, we aim for cases to provide insight into opportunities for change.
- **Integrating DEI topics into the DOS Grand Rounds agenda:** The department continues its commitment to purposefully inviting Grand Round speakers from diverse backgrounds and lecture topics related to DEI-related topics.
- **Recognition of cultural/historic/religious events:** Throughout the year, cultural, historic and religious events are recognized through email blasts (e.g., Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Ramadan, LGBTQIA, etc.).
- **Improving the onboarding experience of staff and faculty:** The DOS department administrator meets weekly with HR to improve the onboarding experience of new staff in the DOS. Additionally, the department has created career development pathways for administrative staff.
- **Evaluation of our process associated with selection of residents and fellows:** The residency selection process was reviewed, and we are now in the process of creating a rubric to integrate the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) “Holistic Principles in Resident Selection” to allow a more equitable assessment of candidates.
- **Website:** The DOS DEI website was created and will be curated yearly to reflect the ongoing initiatives that the department undertakes.

Ultimately, our vision is to prioritize initiatives focused on advancing cultural competency with cultural humility to create an environment that fosters our ability to care for our patients and each other.

To learn more about diversity, equity and inclusion in the Department of Surgery, visit medicine.osu.edu/dosdei.



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- Transplantation Surgery: 614-293-4100**
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* Referral information for pediatric surgery can be accessed at nationwidechildrens.org/request-an-appointment.

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