

Spring 5-2021

## Department of Surgery Newsletter, May 2021

New York Medical College

Follow this and additional works at: [https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc\\_news\\_surgery](https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc_news_surgery)

---

### Recommended Citation

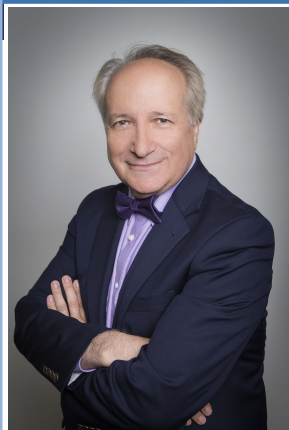
New York Medical College. (2021). Department of Surgery Newsletter, May 2021. Retrieved from [https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc\\_news\\_surgery/1](https://touro scholar.touro.edu/nymc_news_surgery/1)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the NYMC Publications at Touro Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Department of Surgery Newsletter by an authorized administrator of Touro Scholar. For more information, please contact Timothy J Valente [touro.scholar@touro.edu](mailto:touro.scholar@touro.edu).





May 2021



## *Covid-19 Pandemic Changed the World, But We Will Get Back in the Saddle Again.*

Rifat Latifi, MD, FACS, FICS, FKCS

During late 2019 and early 2020, Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) began, and by March 2020, the WHO declared it a pandemic. Initially, none of us thought that this would change our entire world, but it did, far beyond anyone's worse imagination. Our lives have changed both collectively and individually, throughout high, middle, and low-income countries around the world. In some parts of the world, and in certain populations, however, the pandemic has had devastating effects such as in native nations on the reservation, elderly populations in nursing homes, as well as in Blacks and Hispanics. Many countries and cities became, and some still continue to be, the hot zones and epicenters of COVID-19.

The Westchester Medical Center and New York Medical College were the epicenter of the pandemic for several months; everyone rose to the occasion of assisting battling the unknown disease. In the Department of Surgery, our surgeons, nurses, physician assistants, residents, respiratory therapists, and all entire medical personnel in the hospital became COVID-doctors, nurses, physician assistants, or residents. Every member of our department played a crucial role during these trying times. There were many unknowns, many gravely ill patients, the newly inaugurated Ambulatory Care Pavilion was converted into ICUs, everyone was proning the intubated patients, and the operating room never stopped doing emergency surgery with staff putting their own lives on the line. The Trauma and Critical Care team invented and published a new way to safely perform tracheostomies, perform chest tubes, and ensure the safe transfer of patients; we wrote our feelings in an editorial on COVID-19, and we wrote about the importance of telemedicine as new way of practicing medicine. Each of us within the department contributed our ideas and expertise. Within the paper I wrote on the American Surgeon, I described the hospital setting during the onset of COVID-19 by stating the following:

*"The number of deaths and infected people by Corona-19 virus in 2020 around the world is alarming and numbing at the same time. It is almost difficult to remember when the world was normal, although it just started few months ago. Our world and everything around have changed, our surgical practice has changed, our life has changed, but Intensive Care Units (ICU) in Westchester Medical center in Valhalla, NY continue to care for the sickest of the sickest. But this time, there is a different disease with different prognosis. Every critical care specialist, every surgery resident and surgical critical care fellow, are COVID-19 doctors. As I round in the ICU, I imagine myself in one of those beds that I could have been few weeks ago. Now, fully recovered from COVID-19, coming back to work is a real treat. Yet, I still have more- questions than answers."*

### **In This Issue:**

1. [Letter from the Chairman](#)
2. [New Faculty & Staff](#)
3. [Publications \(2020-2021\)](#)
4. [New Programs & Dept. Division Highlights](#)
5. [Books & Book Chapters \(2020-2021\) & Featured Studies](#)
6. [Grand Rounds](#)
7. [National & International Conferences & Grants](#)
8. [Global Surgery: The Stoller Experience](#)
9. [Research Innovations](#)
10. [Shomer Shabbas Observance](#)
11. [Del Guercio Day 2021](#)

### **Editorial Board**

Rifat Latifi, Editor-in-Chief  
David Spielvogel, Chief of  
Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Igor Laskowski, Chief of Vascular  
Surgery  
Roberto Bergamaschi, Chief of Colorectal  
Surgery  
Maria Castaldi, Chief of Breast Surgery  
Thomas Difo, Chief of Intra-Abdominal  
Transplant Surgery  
Ashotush Kaul, Chief of Minimally  
Invasive Surgery  
Peter Rhee, Chief of Trauma & Acute  
Care Surgery  
Dylan Stewart, Chief of Pediatric Surgery  
Francis Winski, Chief of Burn Surgery  
Tracey L. Weigel, Chief of Thoracic  
Surgery

### **Managing Editors:**

Arlinda Mulosmanaj, Academic  
Administrative Assistant, Department of  
Surgery  
amulosma@nymc.edu | 914-594-2050

In this paper, I get a bit more personal: “As I make rounds in the ICU, I wonder if the patients on ventilators have the same hallucinations I had when I suffered from COVID-19 in late March? Do they have body aches that in my case felt like I strained the muscles of my back? Are their skin and fingertips sensitive to touch like mine were? Do they have a headache right behind their right orbit, as I did? Are they afraid of dying? Do they have the fear that I had, that if they close their eyes, they won’t be able to breathe? And the odd features of the disease: my body temperature remained normal, but why do some patients have such high fevers?”

On the personal level of realization, the COVID-19 disease, as tragic as it has been, has brought about the implementation of beneficial medical practices that were not utilized prior to the pandemic. We describe the significance of this once resisted, now heavily utilized, medical practice the preface of our telemedicine book by conveying:

“The new world order caused by the COVID-19 virus, associated with severe acute respiratory syndrome, multiple organ failure, and very high mortality, has brought about one major change. Suddenly, the medical community, and those who finance the healthcare sector, realized that telemedicine and telepresence are applicable, desirable, acceptable, and much sought after by our patients and we can manage just about every disease and condition. Although, by and large, telemedicine and telehealth have faced challenges and perhaps some resistance, despite their great potential, it has become evident that they can provide rapid, safe, and high-quality care remotely during this pandemic, the largest one since 1918. Perhaps one benefit of suffering through the COVID-19 pandemic will be the establishment of a new virtual medical world order, and that telemedicine has taken its deserving place in healthcare: prime time and center stage. Let’s call this period the rebirth of telemedicine.” Now, months after this book has been published, I am still hoping that this will not just be a transition period, but instead that telemedicine will be with us forever.

Over a year later, as of late April 2021, almost 150 million cases of COVID-19 have been recorded, and 3 million people have died worldwide. In the USA alone, there have been more than 32 million affected individuals, and 600,000 people have died. This pandemic has devastated our hearts and minds as we were all individually affected in one way or another, and for months we were helpless to respond. As practitioners and researchers, we each have our own stories, and some have even fallen ill due to the virus. Returning back to a new normal, whether the operating room, the hospital, or the office, after working from home for a few weeks while recuperating from COVID-19 has been such a treat. Our daily schedule is fuller than ever with virtual meetings using Zoom or Webex, as well as normal face-to-face meetings with social distancing ever present in our minds. Yes, the world has changed rapidly and significantly, but we will prevail; we will get back on our feet and get back to normalcy; we will soon be able to travel to see friends and family; we will be able go to on missions around the world again, fully vaccinated, and practicing extreme caution. Life goes on, and as the cowboys say, will get back on the saddle, again.

For more information, you can always visit our website at  
[www.westchestermmedicalcenter.com/surgery](http://www.westchestermmedicalcenter.com/surgery).

Enjoy and thank you for reading!

Warm Regards,

**Rifat Latifi, MD, FACS, FICS, FKCS**

Professor and Chairman of Surgery

New York Medical College, School of Medicine

Director, Department of Surgery

Chief of General Surgery

Westchester Medical Center

Valhalla. New York

# Welcoming our New Faculty & Staff

## New Surgeons



Helen Perakis, MD  
Plastic & Reconstructive  
Surgery



Ryan Bendl, DO  
Colorectal Surgery



Logan Carr, MD  
Plastic & Reconstruction  
Surgery



Joshua Klein, MD  
Trauma & Acute  
Care Surgery



Matthew Bronstein, MD  
Trauma & Acute Care  
Surgery



Ryan Malcom, MD  
Trauma & Acute Care  
Surgery



Ilya Shnaydman, MD  
Trauma & Acute Care  
Surgery

## New Allied Health Staff



Michelle Piacente  
Physician Assistant



Michelle Cifelli  
Physician Assistant

## New Practice Staff



Oddett Foreman  
Fellowship Coordinator



Lori Mercado  
Resident Coordinator



Veronica White  
Program Coordinator



Marc Musicus  
Prevention/EMS  
Coordinator

## New Administrative Staff



Arlinda Mulosmanaj  
Administrative Assistant



Sabrina Arciuolo  
Administrative Assistant



## New Categorical Residents



*Than-Thahn Nguyen, MD*



*Kira Murphy, MD*



*Nicole Lin, MD*



*Kamil Hanna, MD*

## New Preliminary Residents



*Neel Jingar, MD*



*Benjamin Rajan, DO*



*Ida Azizkhanian,  
MD (Soap)*



*Ogaga N. Urhie, MD  
(Soap)*



*Ayman A. Farag, MD*



*George Naoum, MD*



*Michael Winter, MD*

## New Surgical Critical Care Fellows



*Michelle Bravo, MD*



*Ryan Lindborg, MD*



*Bardiya Zangbar, MD*



*Douglas James, MD*

## New Advanced GI/MIS Fellows



*Christine Tat, MD*



*Monica Cabello, MD*

## New Burn Fellow



*Mian Hashim Hanif, MD*

## 2020

1. McGuirk M, Gachabayov M, Gogna S, et al. Robotic duodenal (D3) resection with Roux-en-Y duodenojejunostomy reconstruction for large GIST tumor: Step by step with video [published online ahead of print, 2020 Dec 18]. *Surg Oncol.* 2020;36:130. doi:10.1016/j.suronc.2020.12.006
2. Gogna S, Samson D, Choi J, et al. The Role of Nutritional Access in Malnourished Elderly Undergoing Major Surgery for Acute Abdomen: A Propensity Score-Matched Analysis [published online ahead of print, 2020 Dec 19]. *Am Surg.* 2020;3134820973719. doi:10.1177/0003134820973719
3. Castaldi M, Smiley A, Butler J, et al. Breast Cancer Screening in Inner City and County Populations: A Tale of Two Centers [published online ahead of print, 2020 Dec 9]. *Am Surg.* 2020;3134820954845. doi:10.1177/0003134820954845
4. Asmar S, Zeeshan M, Khurram M, et al. Delta Shock Index Predicts Outcomes in Pediatric Trauma Patients Regardless of Age [published online ahead of print, 2020 Dec 5]. *J Surg Res.* 2020;259:182-191. doi:10.1016/j.jss.2020.10.026
5. Latifi R. Telehealth and the Future of Surgery. *J Am Coll Surg.* 2020;231(6):702-703. doi:10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2020.09.009
6. McGuirk M, Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, et al. Timing and Type of Bacteria in Surgical Site Infections Following Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jun 10]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1376.
7. McGuirk M, Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, et al. Use of Direct Peritoneal Resuscitation for Intra-Abdominal Catastrophes: A Technical Note [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 27]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1374.
8. Kajmolli A, McGuirk M, Gachabayov M, et al. Evolution of the Circular Stapler in Rectal Cancer Surgery [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 27]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1380.
9. Gachabayov M, Orujova L, Latifi LA, et al. Use of Biologic Mesh for the Treatment and Prevention of Parastomal Hernias [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 25]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1370.
10. Gachabayov M, Angelos G, George G, et al. A Multicenter Prospective Non-Randomized Study Comparing Ferguson Hemorrhoidectomy and Transanal Hemorrhoidal Dearterialization for Prolapsed, Nonincarcerated, Reducible Hemorrhoids: A Study Protocol [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 25]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1381.
11. Passarelli R, Elyaguov J, Fox C, et al. Combined intra- and extra-peritoneal bladder perforation following rectal impalement injury. *Urol Case Rep.* 2020;34:101489. Published 2020 Nov 7. doi:10.1016/j.eucr.2020.101489
12. Lascano D, Stringel G, Stewart D. Weekend Admission is Associated with Increased Length of Stay for Children Undergoing Cholecystectomy. *JACS* 231 (4), S216-S217. doi:10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2020.07.781
13. Lascano D, Cohen D, Veillette G. Pre-operative Esophageal Varices Associated with Increased Likelihood of Transplant after Elective Surgery. *JACS* 231 (4), E222-223. doi:10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2020.08.593
14. Gachabayov M, Bendl R, Latifi R, et al. Right Colon Resection: Evolution and Surgical Technique [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 20]. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;37:sti37/1377.
15. Roberts S, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, et al. Protocol for a systematic review assessing surgery versus primary endocrine therapy in operable breast cancer. Prep for pandemic. *Int J of Surg Protoc.* 2020;24:36-38. doi:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isjp.2020.10.003.
16. Martinek L, Škrovina M, Bergamaschi R. Right hemicolectomy -from laparoscopic facilitated technique to robotic intracorporeal anastomosis. *Pravostranná hemikolektomie - o d laparoskopické asistence po robotickou intraabdominální anastomózu.* *Rozhl Chir.* 2020;99(3):110-115. doi:10.33699/PIS.2020.99.3.110-115
17. Okumura K, Azim A, Lee I, et al. The Impact Of "Six-Month Rule" On Liver Transplant Outcome in Patients with Alcohol Related Liver Disease. *Transplantation.* 2020, Sep; 104(S3): S493. doi:10.1097/01.tp.0000701156.93313.7a
18. Safaya A, Babu S, Laskowski IA. Endovascular repair of giant bilateral iliac artery aneurysm. *J Vasc Surg Cases Innov Tech.* 2020;6(4):493-494. Published 2020 Sep 2. doi:10.1016/j.jvscit.2020.08.005
19. Gachabayov M, Yamaguchi T, Kim SH, et al. Does the learning curve in robotic rectal cancer surgery impact circumferential resection margin involvement and reoperation rates? A risk-adjusted cumulative sum analysis [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 9]. *Minerva Chir.* 2020;10.23736/S0026-4733.20.08491-6.
20. Elzanie AS, Park KE, Irgebay Z, et al. "Zygoma Fractures are Associated with Increased Morbidity and Mortality in the Pediatric Population" [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 4]. *J Craniofac Surg.* 2020;10.1097/SCS.0000000000006948.
21. Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, et al. Impact of chemotherapy on primary colon cancer [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 3]. *Tech Coloproctol.* 2020;10.1007/s10151-20-02365-9. doi:10.1007/s10151-020-02365-9
22. Castaldi M, Latifi R. Breast Cancer Care in a COVID-19 Pandemic Epicenter [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 1]. *Am Surg.* 2020;3134820952338.
23. Rhee P. Authors' Reply: Open tracheostomy for COVID-19-positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization and reduce risk of exposure. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;89(5):e156- e157. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002913
24. Gogna S, Latifi R, Choi J, et al. Predictors of 30- and 90-Day Readmissions after Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Biological Mesh: A Longitudinal Study of 232 Patients. *World J Surg.* 2020;44(11):3720-3728.
25. Ferrando SJ, Klepacz L, Lynch S, et al. Psychiatric emergencies during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in the suburban New York City area [published online ahead of print, 2020 Oct 28]. *J Psychiatr Res.* 2020;S0022-3956(20)31032-3. doi:10.1016/j.jpsychires.2020.10.029

- G ĖGogna S, Goldberg M, Samson D, Gachabayov M, et al. Medullary Thyroid Cancer in Patients Older than 45- Epidemiologic Trends and Predictors of Survival. *Cancers* (Basel). 2020;12(11):E3124. Published 2020 Oct 26. doi:10.3390/cancers12113124
- G ĖGachabayov M, Latifi R. Methodological Biases May Render a Clinical Study Underpowered [published online ahead of print, 2020 Oct 14]. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;10.1097/TA.0000000000002990. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002990
- G ĖChoi J, Smiley A, Latifi R, Gogna S, Prabhakaran K, Con J, Anderson P, Policastro A, Beydoun M, Rhee P. Body Mass Index and Mortality in Blunt Trauma: The Right BMI can be Protective [published online ahead of print, 2020 Oct 13]. *Am J Surg*. 2020;S0002-9610(20)30628-0. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2020.10.017
- G ĖDhand A, Bodin R, Wolf DC...Diflo T, Nishida S...et al. Successful liver transplantation in a patient recovered from COVID-19 [published online ahead of print, 2020 Oct 10]. *Transpl Infect Dis*. 2020;e13492. doi:10.1111/tid.13492
- H ĖGachabayov M, Di Saverio S, Orangio G, Remzi FH, Bokey L, Bergamaschi R. Consensus statement on transanal total mesorectal excision: other thoughts [published online ahead of print, 2020 Oct 2]. *Colorectal Dis*. 2020;10.1111/codi.15391. doi:10.1111/codi.15391
- H ĖRojas A, Gachabayov M, Quintero L, Felsenreich DM, Bergamaschi R. (2020). Robotic Transanal Palliation of Rectal Tumors in Frail Patients: How I Do It? Surgical Technique. *Indian Journal of Colo-Rectal Surgery*. 10.4103/ijcs.ijcs\_31\_20.
- H ĖLatifi R. Expansion of telemedicine may be the greatest benefit of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Bull Am Coll Surg*. 2020;105(6):53-57.
- H ĖCastaldi M, George G, Stoller C, Parsikia A, McNelis J. Independent Predictors of Venous Thromboembolism in Patients Undergoing Reconstructive Breast Cancer Surgery. *Plastic Surgery*. October 2020. doi:10.1177/2292550320967397
- H ĖPrabhakaran K, Gogna S, Lombardo G, Latifi R. Venous Thromboembolism in Geriatric Trauma Patients-Risk Factors and Associated Outcomes. *J Surg Res*. 2020;254:327-333. doi:10.1016/j.jss.2020.05.008
- H ĖHanna K, Khan M, Ditillo M, et al. Prospective evaluation of preoperative cognitive impairment and postoperative morbidity in geriatric patients undergoing emergency general surgery. *Am J Surg*. 2020;220(4):1064-1070. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2020.04.004
- H ĖGachabayov M, Tuech JJ, Tulina I, Coget J, Bridoux V, Bergamaschi R. Primary anastomosis and nonrestorative resection for perforated diverticulitis with peritonitis: meta-analysis of randomized trials. *Colorectal Dis*. 2020;22(10):1245-1257. doi:10.1111/codi.15016
- H ĖDiaconescu B, Uranues S, Fingerhut A...Latifi R...et al. The Bucharest ESTES consensus statement on peritonitis. *Eur J Trauma Emerg Surg*. 2020;46(5):1005-1023. doi:10.1007/s00068-020-01338-9
- H ĖBoussi L, Safaya A, Goyal A, Mateo R, Laskowski I, Babu S. "Inflammatory Bowel Disease-Not Just the Bowel's Bane": Peripheral Arterial and Venous Thrombosis in a Patient with Crohn Disease. *Vasc Endovascular Surg*. 2020;54(7):646-649. doi:10.1177/1538574420939360
39. Lansman SL. Commentary: Type A dissection repairs made in Japan [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 28]. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg*. 2020;S0022-5223(20)32677-5. doi:10.1016/j.jtcvs.2020.09.078
40. Castro R, Kai M, Ohira S, Spielvogel D, Gass A. Surgical repair of candida mycotic pseudoaneurysm with extensive vegetations of the ascending aorta and pulmonary artery after heart and kidney transplant [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 28]. *J Card Surg*. 2020;10.1111/jocs.15012. doi:10.1111/jocs.15012
41. Brar A, Gruessner A, Adey D...John D...et al. Association of Physical Function and Survival in Older-Adult Renal Transplant Recipients [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 22]. *Transplant Proc*. 2020;S0041-1345(20)30592-3. doi:10.1016/j.transproceed.2020.08.038
42. Khalid S, Stupalkowska W, Akingboye A, Gachabayov M, Bergamaschi R, Di Saverio S. Emergency laparoscopic Hartmann's procedure for perforated diverticulitis - a video vignette [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 17]. *Colorectal Dis*. 2020;10.1111/codi.15373.
43. Wu H, Ye Q, Razzano D...Weigel T...et al. Primary Lung Cribriform Adenocarcinoma With Squamoid Morules Harboring Somatic CTNNB1 Mutation in a Never-Smoked Healthy Adolescent [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 13]. *Pediatr Dev Pathol*. 2020;1093526620957219.
44. Baird CW, Chávez M, Sleeper LA...Nguyen K... et al. Reintervention rates after bioprosthetic pulmonary valve replacement in patients younger than 30 years of age: A multicenter analysis [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 10]. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg*. 2020;S0022-5223(20)32564-2. doi:10.1016/j.jtcvs.2020.06.157
45. Pandit V, Nelson P, Kempe K...Zeeshan M, Khan M,... et al. Racial and ethnic disparities in lower extremity amputation: Assessing the role of frailty in older adults [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 8]. *Surgery*. 2020;S0039-6060(20)30458-X. doi:10.1016/j.surg.2020.07.015
46. Felsenreich DM, Lee H, Gachabayov M, Kumar A, Bergamaschi R. Stercoraceous transmission of SARS-CoV-2 (Coronavirus) [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 7]. *Surg Technol Int*. 2020;37:sti37/1338.
47. Safaya A, Bhuta K, Rajdeo H. Considerations for Long-Term Dialysis Access in Patients with Left Ventricular Assist Devices [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 2]. *Ann Vasc Surg*. 2020;S0890-5096(20)30803-7. doi:10.1016/j.avsg.2020.08.120
48. Safaya A, Piscina A, Con J. Wandering Spleen with Splenic Torsion and Pancreatitis: Spleen Preserving Management [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 1]. *Am Surg*. 2020;3134820945288. doi:10.1177/0003134820945288
49. Likosky DS, Wu X, Fitzgerald DC...Goldberg JB...et al. Evaluating Changes in del Nido Cardioplegia Practices in Adult Cardiac Surgery. *J Extra Corpor Technol*. 2020;52(3):173-181. doi:10.1182/ject-2000014
50. Latifi R, Doarn CR. Perspective on COVID-19: Finally, Telemedicine at Center Stage. *Telem J E Health*.



51. Khan M, Prabhakaran K, Jehan F, Anderson P, Con J, Lombardo G, Rhee P, Latifi R. Early tracheostomy in patients with cervical spine injury reduces morbidity and improves resource utilization. *Am J Surg*. 2020;220(3):773-777. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2020.01.054
52. Gao X, Smiley A, Bidulescu A. Letter to the editor: snoring and incident cardiovascular disease in the Jackson heart study. *Sleep Breath*. 2020;24(3):1097-1098. doi:10.1007/s11325-020-02043-y
53. Gachabayov M, Kim SH, Jimenez-Rodriguez R...Bergamaschi R...et al. Impact of robotic learning curve on histopathology in rectal cancer: A pooled analysis. *Surg Oncol*. 2020;34:121-125. doi:10.1016/j.suronc.2020.04.011
54. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Meta-analysis of Postoperative Mortality and Morbidity after Total Abdominal Colectomy Versus Loop Ileostomy with Colonic Lavage for Fulminant Clostridium Difficile Colitis. *Dis Colon Rectum*. 2020;63(9):1317-1326.
55. Smiley A, Ramos W, Elliott L, Wolter S. Comparing the Trail Users with Trail Non-Users on Physical Activity, Sleep, Mood and Well-Being Index. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020;17(17):6225. Published 2020 Aug 27. doi:10.3390/ijerph17176225
56. Goldberg JB, Spevack DM, Ahsan S...Ohira S, Kai M, Spielvogel D, Lansman S, Malekan R...et al. Survival and Right Ventricular Function after Surgical Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2020;76(8):903-911. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2020.06.065
57. Prabhakaran K, Malcom R, Choi J, Chudner A...Latifi R, Rhee P... et al. Open tracheostomy for COVID-19-positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization and reduce risk of exposure. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;89(2):265-271. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002780
58. Prabhakaran K, Azim A, Khan M, Jehan F, Feeney J, Anderson P, Policastro A, Latifi R. Predicting the need for tracheostomy in trauma patients without severe head injury. *Am J Surg*. 2020;220(2):495-498. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2019.12.018
59. Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Authors' reply: A rule of thumb heuristic in the evaluation of diagnostic value. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;89(2):e22-e23. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002777
60. Felsenreich DM, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Quintero L, Da Eric Dong X. Robotic resection of hepatic echinococcal cysts: A video vignette. *Asian J Surg*. 2020;43(8):857. doi:10.1016/j.asjsur.2020.04.014
61. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Dong XD, Cianchi F, Bergamaschi R. Considerations on robotic colorectal surgery during a COVID-19 pandemic. *Minerva Chir*. 2020;75(4):213-215. doi:10.23736/S0026-4733.20.08348-0
62. Boskovski MT, Homsy J, Nathan M...Nguyen K...et al. De Novo Damaging Variants, Clinical Phenotypes, and Post-Operative Outcomes in Congenital Heart Disease. *Circ Genom Precis Med*. 2020;13(4):e002836. doi:10.1161/CIRCGEN.119.002836
63. Bergamaschi R, Gachabayov M, Orangio G, Remzi F. Evidence supporting the sunk cost fallacy of advocating for transanal total mesorectal excision. *Br J Surg*. 2020;107(9):e347. doi:10.1002/bjs.11718
64. Latifi R, Azevedo V, Boci A, Parsikia A, Latifi F, Merrell RC. Telemedicine Consultation as an Indicator of Local Telemedicine Champions' Contributions, Health Care System Needs or Both: Tales from Two Continents [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 17]. *Telemed J E Health*. 2020;10.1089/tmj.2019.0290. doi:10.1089/tmj.2019.0290
65. Gachabayov M, Kim SH, Jimenez-Rodriguez R...Bergamaschi R... et al. Impact of robotic learning curve on histopathology in rectal cancer: A pooled analysis. *Surg Oncol*. 2020;34:121-125. doi:10.1016/j.suronc.2020.04.011
66. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Meta-analysis of Postoperative Mortality and Morbidity after Total Abdominal Colectomy Versus Loop Ileostomy with Colonic Lavage for Fulminant Clostridium Difficile Colitis. *Dis Colon Rectum*. 2020;63(9):1317-1326.
67. Smiley A, Ramos W, Elliott L, Wolter S. Comparing the Trail Users with Trail Non-Users on Physical Activity, Sleep, Mood and Well-Being Index. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020;17(17):6225. Published 2020 Aug 27. doi:10.3390/ijerph17176225
68. Goldberg JB, Spevack DM, Ahsan S...Ohira S, Kai M, Spielvogel D, Lansman S, Malekan R...et al. Survival and Right Ventricular Function after Surgical Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2020;76(8):903-911. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2020.06.065
69. Prabhakaran K, Malcom R, Choi J, Chudner A...Latifi R, Rhee P... et al. Open tracheostomy for COVID-19-positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization and reduce risk of exposure. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;89(2):265-271. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002780
70. Prabhakaran K, Azim A, Khan M, Jehan F, Feeney J, Anderson P, Policastro A, Latifi R. Predicting the need for tracheostomy in trauma patients without severe head injury. *Am J Surg*. 2020;220(2):495-498. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2019.12.018
71. Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Authors' reply: A rule of thumb heuristic in the evaluation of diagnostic value. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;89(2):e22-e23. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002777
72. Felsenreich DM, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Quintero L, Da Eric Dong X. Robotic resection of hepatic echinococcal cysts: A video vignette. *Asian J Surg*. 2020;43(8):857. doi:10.1016/j.asjsur.2020.04.014
73. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Dong XD, Cianchi F, Bergamaschi R. Considerations on robotic colorectal surgery during a COVID-19 pandemic. *Minerva Chir*. 2020;75(4):213-215. doi:10.23736/S0026-4733.20.08348-0
74. Boskovski MT, Homsy J, Nathan M...Nguyen K...et al. De Novo Damaging Variants, Clinical Phenotypes, and Post-Operative Outcomes in Congenital Heart Disease. *Circ Genom Precis Med*. 2020;13(4):e002836. doi:10.1161/CIRCGEN.119.002836
75. Latifi R, Azevedo V, Boci A, Parsikia A, Latifi F, Merrell RC. Telemedicine Consultation as an Indicator of Local Telemedicine Champions' Contributions, Health Care System Needs or Both: Tales from Two Continents [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 17]. *Telemed J E Health*.

- 2020;10.1089/tmj.2019.0290. doi:10.1089/tmj.2019.0290
76. Gachabayov M, Kim SH, Jimenez-Rodriguez R...Bergamaschi R...et al. Impact of robotic learning curve on histopathology in rectal cancer: A pooled analysis. *Surg Oncol.* 2020;34:121-125. doi:10.1016/j.suronc.2020.04.011
77. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Meta-analysis of Postoperative Mortality and Morbidity after Total Abdominal Colectomy Versus Loop Ileostomy with Colonic Lavage for Fulminant Clostridium Difficile Colitis. *Dis Colon Rectum.* 2020;63(9):1317-1326.
78. Smiley A, Ramos W, Elliott L, Wolter S. Comparing the Trail Users with Trail Non-Users on Physical Activity, Sleep, Mood and Well-Being Index. *Int J Environ Res Public Health.* 2020;17(17):6225. Published 2020 Aug 27. doi:10.3390/ijerph17176225
79. Goldberg JB, Spevack DM, Ahsan S...Ohira S, Kai M, Spielvogel D, Lansman S, Malekan R...et al. Survival and Right Ventricular Function after Surgical Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2020;76(8):903-911. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2020.06.065
80. Prabhakaran K, Malcom R, Choi J, Chudner A...Latifi R, Rhee P... et al. Open tracheostomy for COVID-19-positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization and reduce risk of exposure. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;89(2):265-271. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002780
81. Prabhakaran K, Azim A, Khan M, Jehan F, Feeney J, Anderson P, Policastro A, Latifi R. Predicting the need for tracheostomy in trauma patients without severe head injury. *Am J Surg.* 2020;220(2):495-498. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2019.12.018
82. Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Authors' reply: A rule of thumb heuristic in the evaluation of diagnostic value. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;89(2):e22-e23. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002777
83. Felsenreich DM, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Quintero L, Da Eric Dong X. Robotic resection of hepatic echinococcal cysts: A video vignette. *Asian J Surg.* 2020;43(8):857. doi:10.1016/j.asjsur.2020.04.014
84. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Dong XD, Cianchi F, Bergamaschi R. Considerations on robotic colorectal surgery during a COVID-19 pandemic. *Minerva Chir.* 2020;75(4):213-215. doi:10.23736/S0026-4733.20.08348-0
85. Boskovski MT, Homsy J, Nathan M...Nguyen K...et al. De Novo Damaging Variants, Clinical Phenotypes, and Post-Operative Outcomes in Congenital Heart Disease. *Circ Genom Precis Med.* 2020;13(4):e002836. doi:10.1161/CIRCGEN.119.002836
86. Latifi R, Azevedo V, Boci A, Parsikia A, Latifi F, Merrell RC. Telemedicine Consultation as an Indicator of Local Telemedicine Champions' Contributions, Health Care System Needs or Both: Tales from Two Continents [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 17]. *Telemed J E Health.* 2020;10.1089/tmj.2019.0290. doi:10.1089/tmj.2019.0290
87. Goldberg JB, Spevack DM, Ahsan S...Ohira S, Kai M, Spielvogel D, Lansman S, Malekan R...et al. Survival and Right Ventricular Function after Surgical Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2020;76(8):903-911. doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2020.06.065
88. Prabhakaran K, Malcom R, Choi J, Chudner A...Latifi R, Rhee P... et al. Open tracheostomy for COVID-19-positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization and reduce risk of exposure. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;89(2):265-271. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002780
89. Prabhakaran K, Azim A, Khan M, Jehan F, Feeney J, Anderson P, Policastro A, Latifi R. Predicting the need for tracheostomy in trauma patients without severe head injury. *Am J Surg.* 2020;220(2):495-498. doi:10.1016/j.amjsurg.2019.12.018
90. Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Authors' reply: A rule of thumb heuristic in the evaluation of diagnostic value. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;89(2):e22-e23. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002777
91. Felsenreich DM, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Quintero L, Da Eric Dong X. Robotic resection of hepatic echinococcal cysts: A video vignette. *Asian J Surg.* 2020;43(8):857. doi:10.1016/j.asjsur.2020.04.014
92. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Dong XD, Cianchi F, Bergamaschi R. Considerations on robotic colorectal surgery during a COVID-19 pandemic. *Minerva Chir.* 2020;75(4):213-215. doi:10.23736/S0026-4733.20.08348-0
93. Boskovski MT, Homsy J, Nathan M...Nguyen K...et al. De Novo Damaging Variants, Clinical Phenotypes, and Post-Operative Outcomes in Congenital Heart Disease. *Circ Genom Precis Med.* 2020;13(4):e002836. doi:10.1161/CIRCGEN.119.002836
94. Latifi R, Azevedo V, Boci A, Parsikia A, Latifi F, Merrell RC. Telemedicine Consultation as an Indicator of Local Telemedicine Champions' Contributions, Health Care System Needs or Both: Tales from Two Continents [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 17]. *Telemed J E Health.* 2020;10.1089/tmj.2019.0290. doi:10.1089/tmj.2019.0290
95. Malik AH, Yandrapalli S, Zaid S...Goldberg JB, Lansman SL...et al. Impact of Frailty on Mortality, Readmissions, and Resource Utilization After TAVI. *Am J Cardiol.* 2020;127:120-127. doi:10.1016/j.amjcard.2020.03.047
96. Yandrapalli S, Cooper HA, Malekan R. Successful coronary artery bypass operation in a SARS-COV-2 infected patient with acute coronary syndrome [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 11]. *J Card Surg.* 2020;10.1111/jocs.14784. doi:10.1111/jocs.14784
97. Lee H, Jehan F, Gachabayov M, Alizadeh K, Bergamaschi R. Squamous cell carcinoma in untreated pilonidal cyst [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 10]. *Tech Coloproctol.* 2020;10.1007/s10151-020-02298-3. doi:10.1007/s10151-020-02298-3
98. Bergamaschi R, Gachabayov M, Orangio G, Remzi F. Comment on "Local Recurrence After taTME for Rectal Cancer" [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jul 8]. *Ann Surg.* 2020;10.1097/SLA.0000000000004094. doi:10.1097/SLA.0000000000004094
99. Okumura K, Yamanaga S, Tanaka K, et al. Is the Living Donor Kidney Profile Index Valuable in Japanese Patients?. *Transplant Proc.* 2020;52(6):1650-1654. doi:10.1016/j.transproceed.2020.01.145
100. Latifi R. Surgical Critical Care at the Epicenter of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Am Surg.* 2020;86(7):736-740. doi:10.1177/0003134820933246



101. Felsenreich DM, Quinterro LA, Koo DC, Gachabayov M, Matsumoto S, Dong XED. Robotic retrogastric cystogastrostomy for pancreatic pseudocyst - A video vignette. *J Hepatobiliary Pancreat Sci.* 2020;27(7):439-440. doi:10.1002/jhbp.729
102. Patel A, Rojas A, Samson D, Gachabayov M, Xu JL, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Postoperative opioid-free analgesia in elective bowel resection: Changes over time [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jun 30]. *J Perioper Pract.* 2020;1750458920936065. doi:10.1177/1750458920936065
103. Azevedo V, Latifi R, Parsikia A, Latifi F, Azevedo A. Cabo Verde Telemedicine Program: An Update Report and Analysis of 2,442 Teleconsultations [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jun 26]. *Telemed J E Health.* 2020;10.1089/tmj.2020.0001. doi:10.1089/tmj.2020.0001
104. Ohira S, Spielvogel D, Lansman SL, Kai M. Less Invasive Reoperative Ventricular Assist Device Insertion for Patients with Patent Bypass Grafts. *Ann Thorac Surg.* 2020;110(6):e545-e547.
105. Sorber R, Pedroso FE, Murphy JM, Stewart D. Dual-layer everted saphenous vein patch for pediatric femoral artery repair following ECMO decannulation. *J Pediatr Surg.* 2020;55(7):1409-1413. doi:10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2020.02.055
106. Felsenreich DM, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Bendl R, Palmer S, Bergamaschi R. Comment on: "Neyman's Bias in Online Voluntary Databases!" [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jun 12]. *Ann Surg.* 2020;10.1097/SLA.0000000000003900. doi:10.1097/SLA.0000000000003900
107. Wharton K, Chun Y, Hunsberger J, Jelin E, Garcia A, Stewart D. Successful use of an enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) pathway to improve outcomes following the Nuss procedure for pectus excavatum. *J Pediatr Surg.* 2020;55(6):1065-1071. doi:10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2020.02.049
108. Verzaro R, Nishida S. The surgeon and the COVID-19 pandemic. *Int J Surg.* 2020;78:160-161. doi:10.1016/j.ijssu.2020.05.001
109. Gogna S, Latifi R, Policastro A, Prabhakaran K, Anderson A, Con J, Choi J, Samson DJ, Butler J. Complex abdominal wall hernia repair with biologic mesh in elderly: a propensity matched analysis. *Hernia.* 2020;24(3):495-502. doi:10.1007/s10029-019-02068-7
110. Gachabayov M, Gogna S, George G, Samson D, Latifi R. Recurrence of infection and hernia following partial versus complete removal of infected hernia mesh: a systematic review and cohort meta-analysis. *Hernia.* 2020;24(3):433-439. doi:10.1007/s10029-019-02095-4
111. Gachabayov M, Dong XD, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Considerations on Colorectal Cancer Care in a COVID-19 Pandemic Epicenter. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;36:148-149.
112. Felsenreich DM, Bichler C, Langer FB, Gachabayov M, Prager G. Sleeve Gastrectomy: Surgical Technique, Outcomes, and Complications. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;36:63-69.
113. Efetov SK, Picciariello A, Tulina IA...Bergamaschi R...et al. Three-plane Model to Standardize Laparoscopic Right Hemicolectomy with Extended D3 Lymph Node Dissection. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;36:136-142.
114. Angelos G, Dockter AG, Gachabayov M, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Emergency Colorectal Surgery in a COVID-19 Pandemic Epicenter. *Surg Technol Int.* 2020;36:18-21.
115. Goldberg JB, Spielvogel D. Commentary: Zoning out [published online ahead of print, 2020 May 15]. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg.* 2020;S0022-5223(20)31140-5. doi:10.1016/j.jtcvs.2020.04.151
116. Tang GHL, Zaid S, Fuchs A...Goldberg JB, Undemir C, Lansman SL...et al. Alignment of Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Neo-Commissures (ALIGN TAVR): Impact on Final Valve Orientation and Coronary Artery Overlap. *JACC Cardiovasc Interv.* 2020;13(9):1030-1042. doi:10.1016/j.jcin.2020.02.005
117. Sartelli M, Weber DG, Kluger Y...Latifi R... et al. 2020 update of the WSES guidelines for the management of acute colonic diverticulitis in the emergency setting. *World J Emerg Surg.* 2020;15(1):32. Published 2020 May 7. doi:10.1186/s13017-020-00313-4
118. Rojas A, Tewari V, Gachabayov M, Felsenreich DM, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Do not snare post-THD pseudopolyps. *Tech Coloproctol.* 2020;24(5):487-488. doi:10.1007/s10151-020-02186-w
119. Magharious P, Cvetkovic D, Weigel T. An Innovative Way to Achieve Safe Lung Deflation During One-Lung Ventilation in a Potential Coronavirus Disease 2019 Patient: A Case Report. *A A Pract.* 2020;14(7):e01244. doi:10.1213/XAA.0000000000001244
120. Lee H, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Felsenreich DM, Tsarkov P, Bergamaschi R. Systematic review of failure of nonoperative management in complicated sigmoid diverticulitis with abscess. *Langenbecks Arch Surg.* 2020;405(3):277-281. doi:10.1007/s00423-020-01872-5
121. Zaid S, Sengupta A, Okoli K...Goldberg JB, Undemir C, Lansman SL... et al. Novel Anatomic Predictors of New Persistent Left Bundle Branch Block After Evolut Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation. *Am J Cardiol.* 2020;125(8):1222-1229. doi:10.1016/j.amjcard.2020.01.008
122. Di Saverio S, Podda M, De Simone B...Latifi R...et al. Diagnosis and treatment of acute appendicitis: 2020 update of the WSES Jerusalem guidelines. *World J Emerg Surg.* 2020;15(1):27. Published 2020 Apr 15. doi:10.1186/s13017-020-00306-3
123. Jabbour G, Lombardo G, Litow K, Prabhakaran K, Carroll F, Policastro A, Rhee P, Latifi R. Bilateral Renal Artery Occlusion after Blunt Abdominal Trauma. *Am Surg.* 2020;86(4):e210-e212.
124. Choi J, Gogna S, Rozenblit G, Latifi R. Hybrid Surgical Management for Massive Splenomegaly in a Septuagenarian for Chronic Myelofibrosis. *Am Surg.* 2020;86(4):e175-e176.
125. McIntyre MK, Kumar NS, Tilley EH, Samson DJ, Latifi R. Clinical Characteristics Predict the Yield of Head Computed Tomography Scans among Intoxicated Trauma Patients: Implications for the Initial Work-up. *J Emerg Trauma Shock.* 2020;13(2):135-141. doi:10.4103/JETS.JETS\_74\_19
126. Litow K, Jabbour G, Bahn-Humphrey A, Stoller C, Rhee P,

- Latifi R, Prabhakaran K, Veillette G. Curative resection of a duodenal gastrointestinal stromal tumor in the setting of von Willebrand's disease. *J Surg Case Rep*. 2020;2020(4):rjaa081. Published 2020 Apr 24. doi:10.1093/jscr/rjaa081
127. Kobi M, Veillette G, Narurkar R, et al. Imaging and Management of Pancreatic Cancer. *Semin Ultrasound CT MR*. 2020;41(2):139-151. doi:10.1053/j.sult.2019.12.003
128. Gachabayov M, Gogna S, Samson D, Latifi R. Does computed tomography scan add any diagnostic value to the evaluation of stab wounds of the anterior abdominal wall? A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;88(4):572-576. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002587
129. Gachabayov M, Gogna S, Latifi R. En bloc removal of infected hernia mesh rather than "blue-ectomy". *Hernia*. 2020;24(2):425-426. doi:10.1007/s10029-019-02012-9
130. Rojas A, Felsenreich DM, Quintero L, Gachabayov M, Grimes CL, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Robotic sutured rectopexy for external full-thickness rectal prolapse - a video vignette [published online ahead of print, 2020 Mar 18]. *Colorectal Dis*. 2020;10.1111/codi.15038. doi:10.1111/codi.15038
131. Frischmeyer-Guerrero PA, MacCarrick G, Dietz HC, Stewart FD, Guerrero AL. Safety and outcome of gastrostomy tube placement in patients with Loeys-Dietz syndrome. *BMC Gastroenterol*. 2020;20(1):71. Published 2020 Mar 12. doi:10.1186/s12876-020-01213-2
132. Zhang Y, Stringel G, Bezahler I, Maddineni S. Nonoperative management of periappendiceal abscess in children: A comparison of antibiotics alone versus antibiotics plus percutaneous drainage. *J Pediatr Surg*. 2020;55(3):414-417. doi:10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2019.09.005
133. Rybkin I, Azizkhanian I, Gary J...Anderson P...et al. Unique Neurosurgical Morbidity and Mortality Conference Characteristics: A Comprehensive Literature Review of Neurosurgical Morbidity and Mortality Conference Practices with Proposed Recommendations. *World Neurosurg*. 2020;135:48-57. doi:10.1016/j.wneu.2019.11.028
134. Prabhakaran K, Gogna S, Pee S, Samson DJ, Con J, Latifi R. Falling Again? Falls in Geriatric Adults-Risk Factors and Outcomes Associated with Recidivism. *J Surg Res*. 2020;247:66-76. doi:10.1016/j.jss.2019.10.041
135. Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Bergamaschi R. Is Case Sequence Analysis an Objective Assessment of Learning Curve?. *Dis Colon Rectum*. 2020;63(3):e23. doi:10.1097/DCR.0000000000001603
136. Smiley A, Castaldi M. Letter to Editor: Is Low-Volume Disease in the Sentinel Node After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy an Indication for Axillary Dissection? Miscalculation of Sensitivity and False-Negative Rate [published online ahead of print, 2020 Feb 28]. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2020;10.1245/s10434-020-08262-7. doi:10.1245/s10434-020-08262-7
137. Ranchal P, Ferin A, Gupta R...Malekan R, Goldberg J, Laskowski I...et al. Clostridium septicum aortitis: A kiss of the devil. *J Card Surg*. 2020;35(2):514-517. doi:10.1111/jocs.14402
138. Latifi R, Samson DJ, Gogna S, Joseph BA. Perioperative complications of complex abdominal wall reconstruction with biologic mesh: A pooled retrospective cohort analysis of 220 patients from two academic centers. *Int J Surg*. 2020;74:94-99. doi:10.1016/j.ijssu.2019.12.035
139. Latifi R, Parsikia A, Boci A, Doarn CR, Merrell RC. Increased Access to Care through Telemedicine in Albania: An Analysis of 2,724 Patients. *Telemed J E Health*. 2020;26(2):164-175. doi:10.1089/tmj.2018.0338
140. Con J, Zarain L, Gogna S, Sasmon DJ, Prabhakaran K, Gashi S, Tilley E, Latifi R. A novel tool to evaluate bias in literature on use of biologic mesh in abdominal wall hernia repair. *Hernia*. 2020;24(1):23-30. doi:10.1007/s10029-019-01935-7
141. Castaldi M, George G, Turner P, McNelis J. NSQIP Impacts Patient Experience. *J Patient Exp*. 2020;7(1):89-95. doi:10.1177/2374373518817081
142. Smiley A, Ramos WD, Elliott LM, Wolter SA. Association between trail use and self-rated wellness and health. *BMC Public Health*. 2020;20(1):128. Published 2020 Jan 30. doi:10.1186/s12889-020-8273-0
143. Sengupta A, Zaid S, Kamioka N...Lansman SL... et al. Mid-Term Outcomes of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in Extremely Large Annuli with Edwards SAPIEN 3 Valve. *JACC Cardiovasc Interv*. 2020;13(2):210-216. doi:10.1016/j.jcin.2019.08.042
144. Gachabayov M, Gogna S, Samson D, Latifi R. Does CT scan add any diagnostic value to the evaluation of stab wounds of the anterior abdominal wall? A systematic review and meta- analysis [published online ahead of print, 2020 Jan 15]. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2020;10.1097/TA.0000000000002587. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000002587
145. Malik AH, Zaid S, Ahmad H...Goldberg J, Undemir C, Lansman SL... et al. A meta-analysis of 1-year outcomes of transcatheter versus surgical aortic valve replacement in low-risk patients with severe aortic stenosis. *J Geriatr Cardiol*. 2020;17(1):43-50. doi:10.11909/j.issn.1671-5411.2020.01.005
146. Jehan F, Zeeshan M, Con J...Latifi R...et al. Metabolic Syndrome Exponentially Increases the Risk of Adverse Outcomes in Operative Diverticulitis. *J Surg Res*. 2020;245:544-551. doi:10.1016/j.jss.2019.07.075
147. Helder MRK, Schaff HV, Day CN...Lansman S...et al. Regional and Temporal Trends in the Outcomes of Repairs for Acute Type A Aortic Dissections. *Ann Thorac Surg*. 2020;109(1):26-33. doi:10.1016/j.athoracsur.2019.06.058
148. Gachabayov M, Tulina I, Tsarkov P...Lee H, Kajmolli A, Bergamaschi R...et al. Does an Ileostomy Rod Prevent Stoma Retraction? A Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. *Wound Manag Prev*. 2020;66(1):24-29.
149. Masoumi M, Tabaraii R, Shakiba S, Shakeri M, Smiley A. Association of lifestyle elements with self-rated wellness and health status in patients with Behcet's disease. *BMC Rheumatol*. 2020;4:49. Published 2020 Sep 27. doi:10.1186/s41927-020-00148-1
150. Kumaraswami S, Futterman I, Pothula S, Rajendran GP, Kaul A. Pushing the Envelope in Obstetric Care: A Case Report of Cesarean Delivery in a Parturient with a BMI >100 kg m-2. *Case Rep Anesthesiol*. 2020;2020:5498584. Published 2020 May 27. doi:10.1155/2020/5498584



151. Gogna S, Bergamaschi R, Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Samson D, Latifi, Dong XD. Clinicopathologic Features and Outcome of Adenocarcinoma of the Anal Canal: A Population-Based Study. *Int J Surg Oncol*. 2020;2020:5139236. Published 2020 May 13. doi:10.1155/2020/5139236
152. Gachabayov M, Latifi LA, Parsikia A, Latifi R. Current state and future perspectives of telemedicine use in surgery during the COVID-19 pandemic: A scoping review protocol. *Int J Surg Protoc*. 2020;24:17-20. doi:10.1016/j.isjp.2020.10.002
153. Aguilera S, Quintana L, Khan T...Latifi R... et al. Global health, global surgery and mass casualties: II. Mass casualty centre resources, equipment and implementation. *BMJ Glob Health*. 2020;5(1):e001945. Published 2020 Jan 13. doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001945
154. Jessica Pastoriza, John McNelis, Afshin Parsikia, Erin Lewis, Marie Ward, Corrado P. Marini, Maria T. Castaldi. Predictive Factors for Surgical Site Infections in Patients Undergoing Surgery for Breast Carcinoma. *The American Surgeon*. September 15, 2020.
155. Helder MRK, Schaff HV, Day CN...Lansman S...et al. Regional and Temporal Trends in the Outcomes of Repairs for Acute Type A Aortic Dissections. *Ann Thorac Surg*. 2020;109(1):26-33. doi:10.1016/j.athoracsur.2019.06.058
156. Gachabayov M, Tulina I, Tsarkov P...Lee H, Kajmolli A, Bergamschi R...et al. Does an Ileostomy Rod Prevent Stoma Retraction? A Meta-analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. *Wound Manag Prev*. 2020;66(1):24-29.
157. Masoumi M, Tabaraii R, Shakiba S, Shakeri M, Smiley A. Association of lifestyle elements with self-rated wellness and health status in patients with Behcet's disease. *BMC Rheumatol*. 2020;4:49. Published 2020 Sep 27. doi:10.1186/s41927-020-00148-1
158. Kumaraswami S, Futterman I, Pothula S, Rajendran GP, Kaul A. Pushing the Envelope in Obstetric Care: A Case Report of Cesarean Delivery in a Parturient with a BMI >100 kg m<sup>-2</sup>. *Case Rep Anesthesiol*. 2020;2020:5498584. Published 2020 May 27. doi:10.1155/2020/5498584
159. Gogna S, Bergamaschi R, Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Samson D, Latifi, Dong XD. Clinicopathologic Features and Outcome of Adenocarcinoma of the Anal Canal: A Population-Based Study. *Int J Surg Oncol*. 2020;2020:5139236. Published 2020 May 13. doi:10.1155/2020/5139236
160. Gachabayov M, Latifi LA, Parsikia A, Latifi R. Current state and future perspectives of telemedicine use in surgery during the COVID-19 pandemic: A scoping review protocol. *Int J Surg Protoc*. 2020;24:17-20. doi:10.1016/j.isjp.2020.10.002
161. Aguilera S, Quintana L, Khan T...Latifi R... et al. Global health, global surgery and mass casualties: II. Mass casualty centre resources, equipment and implementation. *BMJ Glob Health*. 2020;5(1):e001945. Published 2020 Jan 13. doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001945
162. Vancheswaran A, Babu S. Uncommon Manifestations of Common Vascular Disease in the Elderly. *J Gerontol Geriatr Med* 6. 2020; 079.
163. Khan T, Quintana L, Aguilera S, et al. Global Health, Global Surgery and Mass Casualties. I. Rationale for Integrated Mass Casualty Centres. *BMJ Global Health*. 2019;4e001943.



## 2021

1. Safaya A, Bhuta K, Rajdeo H. Considerations for Long-Term Dialysis Access in Patients with Left Ventricular Assist Devices. *Ann Vasc Surg.* 2021;70:568.e13-568.e17. doi:10.1016/j.avsg.2020.08.120
2. Margulies IG, Chuang C, Travieso R, et al. Preferences of Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Persons in Gender-Confirming Surgical Care: A Cross-Sectional Study. *Ann Plast Surg.* 2021;86(1):82-88. doi:10.1097/SAP.0000000000002351
3. Orangio G, Quintero L, Gachabayov M, Rojas A, Bergamaschi R. The nerve of blaming the curve [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 2]. *Tech Coloproctol.* 2021;10.1007/s10151-020-02380-w. doi:10.1007/s10151-020-02380-w
4. "Roberts SA, Castaldi M. Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy after Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for Breast Cancer. *Arch Cancer Biol Ther.* 2021; 1(3): 68-71"
5. Gachabayov M, Lebovics E, Rojas A, Felsenreich DM, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Performance Evaluation of Stool DNA Methylation Tests in Colorectal Cancer Screening: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 6]. *Colorectal Dis.* 2021;10.1111/codi.15521. doi:10.1111/codi.15521
6. Quintero L, Choi J, Rojas A, Latifi R. Complex abdominal wall reconstruction for management of umbilical hernia in cirrhotic patients with ascites: A video technique demonstration [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 2]. *Cir Esp.* 2021;S0009-739X(20)30387-0. doi:10.1016/j.ciresp.2020.11.017
7. Samson DJ, Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Biologic Mesh in Surgery: A Comprehensive Review and Meta-Analysis of Selected Outcomes in 51 Studies and 6079 Patients [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 8]. *World J Surg.* 2021;10.1007/s00268-020-05887-3. doi:10.1007/s00268-020-05887-3
8. Bauman ZM, Kulvatunyou N, Joseph B, et al. Randomized Clinical Trial of 14-French (14F) Pigtail Catheters versus 28-32F Chest Tubes in the Management of Patients with Traumatic Hemothorax and Hemopneumothorax [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 7]. *World J Surg.* 2021;1-7. doi:10.1007/s00268-020-05852-0
9. Di Saverio S, Gallo G, Davies RJ, et al. Robotic-assisted transanal total mesorectal excision for rectal cancer: more questions than answers [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 15]. *Tech Coloproctol.* 2021;10.1007/s10151-020-02402-7. doi:10.1007/s10151-020-02402-7
10. Rhee P, Prabhakaran K, Joseph B, et al. Firearm Deaths are Increasing and Endemic in the USA: It is a Problem of Suicides and Not Homicides [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 22]. *World J Surg.* 2021;10.1007/s00268-020-05938-9. doi:10.1007/s00268-020-05938-9
11. Lee H, Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Delayed urinary bladder perforation in a hostile post-radiation pelvis [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 26]. *Acta Chir Belg.* 2021;1-5.
12. Gogna S, Latifi R, Choi J, et al. Early versus Delayed Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Biologic Mesh Following Damage Control Surgery [published online ahead of print, 2020 Nov 3]. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2020;10.1097/TA.0000000000003011. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000003011
13. Da Dong X, Felsenreich DM, Gogna S, et al. Robotic pancreaticoduodenectomy provides better histopathological outcomes as compared to its open counterpart: a meta-analysis. *Sci Rep.* 2021;11(1):3774. Published 2021 Feb 12. doi:10.1038/s41598-021-83391-x
14. Felsenreich DM, Rojas A, Quintero LA, Gachabayov M, Dong XDE. Robotic proximal subtotal gastrectomy with double-tract reconstruction for gastric cancer: A video vignette [published online ahead of print, 2021 Feb 9]. *Asian J Surg.* 2021;S1015-9584(21)00051-8. doi:10.1016/j.asjsur.2021.01.010
15. Agarwalla A, Rawicki NL, Weigel TL, Asprinio DE. Humeral Head Fracture Dislocation with Displacement into the Mediastinum: A Case Report. *JBJS Case Connect.* 2021;11(1):10.2106/JBJS.CC.20.00437. Published 2021 Feb 19. doi:10.2106/JBJS.CC.20.00437
16. Daniel Moritz F, Mahir G, Joshua K, Aram R, Roberto B; RoSiX Study Group. A meta-analysis of DaVinci Si versus Xi in colorectal surgery [published online ahead of print, 2021 Jan 1]. *Int J Med Robot.* 2021;e2222. doi:10.1002/rcs.2222
17. Gachabayov M, Latifi LA, Rivera R, Baluyot FS, Latifi R. A Cost-Benefit Analysis of an Overseas Volunteer Mission to the Local Healthcare System [published online ahead of print, 2021 Feb 26]. *Am Surg.* 2021;3134821998683. doi:10.1177/0003134821998683
18. Fowler H, Gachabayov M, Vimalachandran D, Clifford R, Orangio GR, Bergamaschi R. Failure of nonoperative management in patients with acute diverticulitis complicated by abscess: a systematic review [published online ahead of print, 2021 Mar 7]. *Int J Colorectal Dis.* 2021;10.1007/s00384-021-03899-6. doi:10.1007/s00384-021-03899-6
19. Angeles C, Magharious P, Cvetkovic D, Weigel T. The Answer to the Silent "Super Spreader": An Innovative Way to Manage Chest Drains on Coronavirus Patients With Active Air Leaks. *A A Pract.* 2021;15(3):e01419. Published 2021 Mar 8. doi:10.1213/XAA.0000000000001419
20. Elzanie AS, Park KE, Irgebay Z, Choi J, Zellner EG. Zygoma Fractures Are Associated With Increased Morbidity and Mortality in the Pediatric Population. *J Craniofac Surg.* 2021;32(2):559-563. doi:10.1097/SCS.00000000000006948
21. Ohira S, Lansman SL, Spielvogel D. Direct Axillary Artery Cannulation Does Not Increase Stroke in Aortic Surgery [published online ahead of print, 2021 Mar 9]. *Ann Thorac Surg.* 2021;S0003-4975(21)00479-3. doi:10.1016/j.athoracsur.2021.02.070
22. Choubey AP, Parsikia A, Dubchuk C, Castaldi M, Latifi R, Ortiz J. Renal Transplant Recipients Suffer Significantly More Complications But Not Mortality After Breast Cancer Surgery And Benefit from Treatment at Transplant Centers. *Ann Breast Surg.* Feb 2021.



23. Castaldi M, Palmer M, Con J, Abouezzi Z, Latifi R, Bergamaschi R. Robotic-Assisted Surgery Training (RAST) Program: An Educational Research Protocol. *Surg Technol Int*. 2021 Apr 7; 38:sti38/1428.
24. Kajmolli A, Azim A, McGuirk M, et al. Early Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Biologic Mesh is Feasible after Catastrophic Abdominal Wall Disruption from Blunt Trauma [published online ahead of print, 2021 Apr 7]. *Surg Technol Int*. 2021;38:sti38/1435. doi:10.52198/21.STI.38.HR1435
25. Dale M, Sogawa H, Seyedsaadat SM, et al. Successful Management of COVID-19 Infection in 2 Early Post-Liver Transplant Recipients [published online ahead of print, 2021 Mar 19]. *Transplant Proc*. 2021;S0041-1345(21)00198-6. doi:10.1016/j.transproceed.2021.03.010
26. Kajmolli A, Smiley A, McGuirk M, Gachabayov M, Bodin R, Latifi R. Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction in Neutropenic Patients. *Am Surg*. 2021 Apr 13:31348211011086. doi: 10.1177/00031348211011086. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33847529.
27. McGuirk M, Kajmolli A, Gachabayov M, Smiley A, Samson D, Latifi R. Independent Predictors for Surgical Site Infections in Patients Undergoing Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction [published online ahead of print, 2021 Apr 2]. *Surg Technol Int*. 2021;38:sti38/1431.
28. Gogna S, Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Safety analysis of a multispecialty surgical volunteerism mission over thirteen years - age alone is not a contradiction [published online ahead of print, 2021 Apr 29]. *Acta Chir Belg*. 2021;1-20.
29. Rojas A, Gachabayov M, Abouezzi ZE, Bergamaschi R, Latifi R. Current Robotic Platforms in Surgery and the Road Ahead [published online ahead of print, 2021 Apr 16]. *Surg Technol Int*. 2021;38:sti38/1419. doi:10.52198/21.STI.38.SO1419
30. Gachabayov M, Samson D, Smiley A, Latifi R. Do Small Pilot Randomized Controlled Trials Provide Evidence? The Answer Is No [published online ahead of print, 2021 Apr 5]. *Surg Infect (Larchmt)*. 2021;10.1089/sur.2021.014. doi:10.1089/sur.2021.014
31. Podda M, Andersson R, Boormeester M, et al. Do young patients with high clinical suspicion of appendicitis really need cross-sectional imaging? Proceedings from a highly controversial debate among the experts' panel of 2020 WSES Jerusalem guidelines. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2021;90(5):e101-e107. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000003097
32. Tadlock MD, Carr M, Diaz J, et al. How to maintain the readiness of forward deployed caregivers. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2021;90(5):e87-e94. doi:10.1097/TA.0000000000003054
33. Kulvatunyou N, Bauman ZM, Edine SBZ, et al. The Small 14-French (Fr) Percutaneous Catheter vs. Large (28-32Fr) Open Chest Tube for Traumatic Hemothorax (P-CAT): A Multi-center Randomized Clinical Trial [published online ahead of print, 2021 Mar 16]. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2021;10.1097/TA.0000000000003180.
34. Rahmat S, Velez J, Farooqi M, et al. Post-traumatic stress disorder can be predicted in hospitalized blunt trauma patients using a simple screening tool. *Trauma Surg Acute Care Open*. 2021;6(1):e000623. Published 2021 Mar 23. doi:10.1136/tsaco-2020-000623
35. Gachabayov M, Di Saverio S, Orangio G, Remzi FH, Bokey L, Bergamaschi R. Consensus statement on transanal total mesorectal excision: other thoughts. *Colorectal Dis*. 2021;23(1):320-321. doi:10.1111/codi.15391

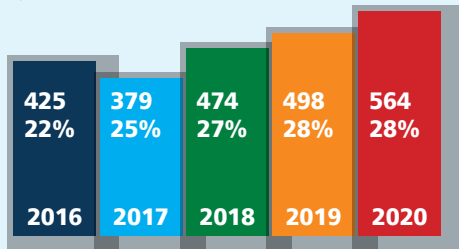


## Section of Trauma Highlights

Kartik Prabhakaran, MD, Trauma Medical Director, will be (virtually) hosting the Quarterly HVRTAC meeting May 27. The multi-disciplinary agenda will highlight: BIG Criteria (Brain Injury Guidelines); pre-hospital tourniquet usage; the COVID-19 impact and current 2021 patient transfer data.

### Westchester Medical Center Trauma Department announces 2021 Geriatric Fall Study

**Geriatric Trauma Admissions w/Falls (Age ≥ 65) 201–2020**  
% = Total Geriatric Falls / Total Admissions



Geriatric falls and secondary trauma are on the rise and the Westchester Medical Center Trauma Department will be conducting a formal research study beginning this summer to address this increasing problem. The study is aimed at identifying patients 65+ and admitted to Westchester Medical Center secondary to a fall. Patient follow-ups within this study will be four, eight and 12 weeks post discharge, while on-going assessment, education and awareness is facilitated. The goal: decreasing this serious issue in the elderly population.

## Section of General Surgery: Highlights

Although this last year has caused a drastic shift in the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic, under the leadership of Rifat Latifi, MD our department has remained committed to being a driving force of leadership for patient care and surgical transformation. We continue to build our network and strive for excellence. In the last few months, we have participated in the following conferences:

1. Latifi R. Telemedicine and Telehealth at Center Stage, but Long Overdue, Grand Rounds St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA April 16, 2021.
2. Latifi R. Telemedicine @ Center Stage, but Long Overdue; iatsic, European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery; Webinar February 8, 2021.
3. Latifi R. Current Management of Complex Abdominal Wall Hernias, Urology Grand Rounds, Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, NY, January 28, 2021.
4. Latifi R. Open Tracheostomy for COVID-19 positive patients: A method to minimize aerosolization, Qatar Health 2021; Virtual Conference January 23, 2021.
5. Latifi R. Leadership and Surgery Transformation--COVID-19 and Beyond: International Grand Rounds, Kosova College of Surgeons; Video Presentation October 2, 2020.
6. Latifi R. Nutrition: Student Presentations, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY, April 2020-Present.

## RAST: Robotic- Assisted Surgery Training

*Introducing the RAST program, which is being run by Roberto Bergamaschi, MD; Maria Castaldi, MD; Jorge Con, MD; and Rifat Latifi, MD. It's a brilliant informative program that will bring today's residents trainees into the technological advancement of tomorrow's surgical world. The RAST program is an educational challenge with the primary endpoint to provide evidence that formal instruction has an impact on the proficiency and safety in executing robotic skills.*

*Technology has had a dramatic impact on how diseases are diagnosed and treated. Although cut, sew, and tie remain the staples of surgical craft, new technical skills are required. While there is no replacement for live operative experience, training outside the operating room offers structured educational opportunities and stress modulation. A stepwise program for acquiring new technical skills required in robotic surgery involves three modules: ergonomic, psychomotor, and procedural. This is a prospective, educational research protocol aiming at evaluating the responsiveness of general surgery residents in Robotic-Assisted Surgery Training (RAST).*

### RAST Program Instructors

**Roberto Bergamaschi, MD**  
**Rifat Latifi, MD**  
**Maria Castaldi, MD**  
**Francis Carroll, MD**  
**Ryan Bendl, DO**  
**Ziad Abouezzi, MD**

## New York Medical College Faculty Participating in the Fourth Annual Indian Health Service Conference

The Fourth Annual I.H.S. Surgeons Conference in Anchorage is scheduled to take place between August 27-29, 2021. The Conference will be offered both in person and on Zoom.

The mission of the Indian Health Service is to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. Their vision is to promote healthy communities and quality health care systems through strong partnerships and culturally responsive practices.

We are excited to announce that several of our New York Medical College Department of Surgery faculty plan to attend this event; this includes Rifat Latifi, MD; Peter Rhee, MD; and Kartik Prabhakaran, MD.

## Books



## Recent Publications

1. Latifi R, Doarn C, Merrell R (ed.) *Telemedicine, Telehealth, and Telepresence: Principles, Strategies, Applications, and New Directions*. Springer Nature, Switzerland; 2021.
2. Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F (ed.) *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics*. Springer Nature, Switzerland; 2021.
3. Latifi R, (ed.) *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatric: A Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Approach*. Springer Nature, Switzerland; 2020.

## Book Chapters

1. Gachabayov M, Bergamaschi R. Right Colon Resection. In: Barry Salky, ed. *Intracorporeal Anastomosis: The Definitive Guide for the Minimally Invasive Surgeon*. Springer; 2021:9-16.
2. Latifi R, Choi J, Gogna S, et al. Prophylactic Approaches in Abdominal Wall Surgery: Preventing and Repairing the Burst Abdomen. In: Dilek ON, Uranues S, Latifi R, eds. *Prophylactic Surgery*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
3. Da Dong X, Latifi R. Prophylactic Thyroidectomy. In: Dilek ON, Uranues S, Latifi R, eds. *Prophylactic Surgery*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
4. Castaldi M, Roberts S, Latifi R. Prophylactic Parathyroidectomy. In: Dilek ON, Uranues S, Latifi R, eds. *Prophylactic Surgery*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
5. Prabhakaran K, Klein J, Rhee P, et al. Prophylactic Surgery in Trauma. In: Dilek ON, Uranues S, Latifi R, eds. *Prophylactic Surgery*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
6. Stewart D, Turkowski JR, Latifi R. Telemedicine for Burn Care: The Commonsense Telemedicine. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 307-320.
7. Latifi R, Da Dong X, Abouezzi Z, et al. Surgical Telementoring and Teleproctoring. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell R.C, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021:431-453.
8. Latifi R, Samson DJ, Kaul S. Emergency General Surgery in the Elderly: An Introduction to the Research Base. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 3-25.
9. Malcom R, Latifi R. Gut Access for Nutritional Provision. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 161-171.
10. Klein J, Latifi R. Damage Control and Open Abdomen in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021:371-382.
11. Feeney J, Latifi R. Geriatric Decision-Making in the Emergency Department: A Surgeon's Perspective. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021:27-37.
12. Koo DC, Angeles C, Weigel TL. Esophageal Perforation and Incarcerated Hiatal Hernia in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021:243-253.
13. Gogna S, Choi J, Latifi R. Abdominal Wall Reconstruction in the Elderly During the Acute Phase: Principles and Techniques. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 383-394.
14. Azim A, Veillette G, Latifi R. Management of Acute Pancreatitis in Elderly. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 419-433.
15. Gogna S, Gachabayov M, Latifi R. Incarcerated Inguinal Hernia in Elderly. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021: 447-455.
16. Weinstein RS, Holcomb MJ, Krupinski EA, Latifi R. First Trainees: The Golden Anniversary of the Early History of Telemedicine Education at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard (1968–1970). In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
17. Shehu M, Conigliaro R. Medical Comorbidities in Geriatric Patients Undergoing Major Emergency Surgeries. In: Latifi R., Catena F., Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
18. Latifi R. Biology of Perioperative Nutrition: An Update. In: Latifi R, Catena F, Coccolini F, eds. *Emergency General Surgery in Geriatrics. Hot Topics in Acute Care Surgery and Trauma*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
19. Latifi R. Initiate-Build-Operate-Transfer (IBOT) Strategy Twenty Years Later: Tales from the Balkans and Africa. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham 2021.
20. Latifi R. Initiate-Build-Operate-Transfer (IBOT) Strategy Twenty Years Later: Tales from the Balkans and Africa. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
21. Latifi R, Doarn CR. Incorporation of Telemedicine in Disaster Management: Beyond the Era of the COVID-19 Pandemic. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
22. Latifi R. Clinical Telemedicine Practice: From Ad Hoc Medicine to Modus Operandi. In: Latifi R, Doarn C., Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
23. Latifi R. Telemedicine for Trauma and Emergency Care Management. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
24. Latifi R, Osmani K. Telemedicine for Intensive Care. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
25. Latifi R, Osmani K, Kilcommons P, Weinstein RS. Telemedicine for Prisons and Jail Population: A Solution to Increase Access to Care. In: Latifi R, Doarn CR, Merrell RC, eds. *Telemedicine, Telehealth and Telepresence*. Springer, Cham; 2021.
26. Latifi R, Gogna S, George G. Decision-Making in Geriatric Surgery: More Surgery or Less Surgery?. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.



27. Prabhakaran K, Samson DJ, Latifi R. Frailty Assessment as Measurement of Physiologic Reserves in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

28. Gogna S, Maxwell J, Policastro AJ, Latifi R. Nutrition Support in Elderly Patients Undergoing Surgery. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

29. Smiley A, Latifi R. Caring for the Geriatrics Trauma Patient: The Challenges and the Opportunities. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

30. Koo DC, Carroll FX, Weigel TL. Thoracic Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

31. Goldberg JB. Cardiac Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

32. Castaldi M. Surgical Decisions on Breast Cancer in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

33. Con J, Gogna S, Latifi R. Emergency General Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

34. Gogna S, Choi JK, Latifi R. Inguinal Hernia Repair in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

35. Latifi R, Haider A. Abdominal Wall Reconstruction in the Elderly: Techniques, Outcomes, and Pitfalls. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

36. Chirumamilla V, Dale M, Kaul S, Kaul A. Bariatric Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

37. Babu SC, Safaya A, Mateo R, Laskowski I. Vascular Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

38. Da Dong X, Barasch S. Operative Surgical Oncology in the Elderly: Epidemiology, Opportunity, Outcome, and Ethical Issues. In: Latifi R, eds. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

39. Gachabayov M, Bergamaschi R. Colorectal Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

40. Nishida S. Liver Transplant Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

41. Diflo T. Renal Transplantation in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

42. Angeles C, Lascano D, Veillette G. Hepatopancreaticobiliary Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

43. Alizadeh K, Elzanie A. Plastic Surgery in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

44. Feeney JM. Drug Use in Elderly During Surgery: They Were Youngsters Once. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

45. Gogna S, Latifi R. Postoperative Quality of Life in the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

46. Blood VF, McIntyre MK, Bowers CA. Surgical Decision-Making in the Elderly with Serious Surgical Illness: The Role of Palliative Care. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

47. Abdelrahman H, Asim M, El-Menyar A. Spiritual and Religious Considerations in the Care of the Elderly. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.

48. Jehan F, Latifi R. Surgery in the Elderly with Mental Health Issues. In: Latifi R, ed. *Surgical Decision Making in Geriatrics*. Springer, Cham; 2020.





## Grand Rounds 2020/2021

Date	Presenter	Title
7/15/20	<b>Philip Spencer, MD</b>	ECMO for Coronavirus: The Westchester Experience
7/22/20	<b>Jackie Maxwell, MS, RD, CNSC</b>	Clinical Manifestations of Micronutrient Deficiencies in the Surgical Patient
7/29/20	<b>Roberto Bergamaschi, MD, PhD, FASCRS, FACS, FRCS</b>	Bandwagons in Colorectal Surgery
8/12/20	<b>Milana Flusberg, MD</b>	Imaging of Pancreatic Neoplasms
8/19/20	<b>Peter Rhee, MD</b>	What is Leadership?
8/26/20	<b>Neil Schluger, MD</b>	Research During a Pandemic: the Need and the Challenge
9/9/20	<b>Sean S. Tedjarati, MD, MOH, MBA</b>	Malignant Bowel Obstruction in Gynecologic Cancers. Not your Grandmother's Obstruction!
9/16/20	<b>Francis Winski, MD</b>	Hand Surgery 101
9/23/20	<b>Tomas M. Heimann, MD</b>	Surgical Treatment of Rectal Cancer
9/30/20	<b>Jerry Nadler, MD, MACP, FAHA, FACE</b>	Update of Diabetes Research and Treatment
10/14/20	<b>Mara Lugassy, MD</b>	Palliative Care in the Surgical World
10/21/20	<b>Samuel McCabe, MD, DABS</b>	Locoregional Therapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma
10/28/20	<b>Romeo Mateo, MD</b>	The TCAR Procedure: TransCarotid Artery Revascularization. Will it Replace Carotid Endarterectomy?
11/11/20	<b>Peter Panzica, MD</b>	Anesthesia as a True Partner to Surgery: The Slow, Steady, Endless March to a World Class Anesthesia Department
11/18/20	<b>Mitchell Cairo, MD</b>	Adenovirus, BK Virus and Cytomegalovirus Infections in Solid Organ Transplantation Recipients: New Cellular Therapy Approaches to Refractory Infections
12/9/20	<b>Seigo Nishida, MD</b>	Complication of Liver Transplant
12/23/20	<b>Kausik Kar, MD, FACP</b>	Current Status of Hyperbaric Oxygen
12/30/20	<b>Ryan F. Bendl, DO, FACS</b>	Surgical Management of a Medical Disease
1/13/21	<b>Ashraf Elzanie, MD</b>	Diverticulitis: A Review of Current Management
1/20/21	<b>Rifat Latifi, MD, FACS, FICS</b>	Directors Report: Transformation of Department of Surgery Through Kaizen Approach- The First Five Years
1/27/21	<b>Gregory R. Veillette, MD, FACS</b>	Surgical Management of Cholangiocarcinoma
2/10/21	<b>Carol Karmen, MD, FACP</b>	COVID-19: The Long Road to Recovery
2/17/21	<b>Roberto Bergamaschi, MD, PhD, FASCRS, FACS, FRCS</b>	Updates in Colorectal Surgery
2/24/21	<b>Vasu Chirumamilla, MD</b>	American Medicine and Indian Medicine: Journey, Challenges, and Comparisons
3/10/21	<b>Don Nakayama, MD</b>	Antisepsis and Women in Surgery: Transitions in Eakins' Clinic Masterpieces
3/17/21	<b>Michelle N. Johnson</b>	Uncovering Unconscious Bias for Clinical Professionals
3/24/21	<b>Ansab Haider, MD</b>	A Tale of 2 Health Systems
3/31/21	<b>Christy Stoller, MD</b>	Global Surgery: No Longer the Neglected Stepchild
4/14/21	<b>Christina Tat, MD</b>	Bariatric Surgery
4/21/21	<b>Douglas James, MD</b>	Gun Violence in Pediatrics: A Public Health Crisis
4/28/21	<b>Kartik Prabhakaran, MD, MHS, FACS</b>	Geriatric Trauma: Out with the Young, In with the Old
5/5/21	<b>Catherine Caldicott, MD, FACP</b>	Professionalism in Surgery: No, It's Not on the Boards (but What is its Metric?)
5/12/21	<b>Michelle Bravo, MD</b>	A Little Help From My Friends: Compassion in Healthcare
5/19/21	<b>Douglas K. Rex, MD</b>	Colon Polyp Management: Detection, Resection and Surveillance
5/26/21	<b>Bardiya Zangbar Sabegh, MD</b>	Frailty in Trauma and General Surgery

## National and International Conferences

The Department of Surgery has presented, and has been accepted to present, at several conferences in 2021.



Conference	Date	Location
Academic Surgical Congress	Feb 2-4, 2021	Virtual
New York Surgical Society Annual Meeting	Feb 10, 2021	Virtual
Western Trauma Association	Mar 3, 2021	Virtual
American Surgical Association	Apr 15-16, 2021	Virtual
American Society of Colorectal Surgery	Apr 24-28, 2021	Virtual
European Society for Trauma & Emergency Surgery (ESTES)	Apr 25-30, 2021	Virtual
American Transplant Congress	Jun 4-9, 2021	Virtual
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery	Jun 10-12, 2021	Virtual
Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Annual Meeting	Aug 2-5, 2021	Miami Beach, FL
Southeastern Surgical Congress	Aug 21-24, 2021	Atlanta, GA
Southwestern Surgical Congress	Sept 2-5, 2021	Maui, HI
World Society of Emergency Surgery (WSES)	Sept 7-10, 2021	Edinburgh, Scotland
American Hernia Society	Sept 23-25, 2021	Austin, TX
New England Surgical Society	Sept 24-26, 2021	Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT
American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST)	Sept 29-Oct 2, 2021	Atlanta, GA
American College of Surgeons (ACS)	Oct 24-28, 2021	Washington, DC
Plastic Surgery the Meeting	Oct 29-Nov 1, 2021	Atlanta, GA
Pediatric Trauma Society	Nov 3-6, 2021	Baltimore, MD
Western Surgical Association	Nov 6-9, 2021	Indian Wells, CA
ICS World Congress	Nov 17-19, 2021	Bangkok, Thailand
Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Annual Scientific Assembly	Jan 11-15, 2022	(Possibly Virtual)
World Congress of Surgery- International Surgical Week	Aug 28- Sept 1, 2022	Lumpur, Malaysia

## Coming Soon!

### COVID-19 Outpatient Thrombosis Prevention Study

In recent news, Westchester Medical Center is being activated for a COVID-19 trial to prevent outpatient thrombosis! A broad patient recruitment is anticipated to begin in the near future. Additionally, a significant feature of this trial is that after initial enrollment, the sponsor organizes the entire patient follow-up process!

The trial also allows for centralized evaluation and decreases the burden on individual sites,

#### What is the ACTIV-4b Outpatient Study?

*ACTIV-4b is a national study to determine if taking an FDA-approved and commonly prescribed blood thinner Eliquis (apixaban), or alternatively, taking baby aspirin is better than taking no blood thinner to prevent blood clots in people with COVID-19 who are recovering from their symptoms at home.*

*By participating in this study, you will help us learn more about COVID-19 and the best way to treat people newly diagnosed with COVID-19.*

For more information, please contact:  
Igor Laskowski, MD  
Chief of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery



COVID-19 Outpatient Thrombosis Prevention Study

Christopher Hall  
Clinical Research Coordinator

## Grants 2020-2021

#### Rifat Latifi, MD-2020

- TITLE: Application of Prevena™ Incision Management System in Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Biologic mesh and other major laparotomies.  
SPONSOR: Acelity Inc.

TITLE: Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Using Biologic Mesh Outcomes Prospective Study and Comparison of sample characteristics between Westchester Medical Center Strattice® recipients and Americas Hernia Society Quality Collaborative (AHSQC) registry Strattice® recipients  
SPONSOR: Allergan

TITLE: Long term patient reported outcomes following Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Strattice. A Prospective Observational Study.  
SPONSOR: Allergan

#### Thomas Diflo, MD-2020

- TITLE: The PROspira Kidney Transplant ACTIVE Rejection Assessment Registry  
SPONSOR: Natera
- TITLE: Evaluation of Patient Outcomes from the Kidney Allograft Outcomes Allosure Registry (KOAR)  
SPONSOR: CareDX

#### Kartik Prabhakaran, MD-2020

- TITLE: Closed or Open after Source Control Laparotomy for Severe Complicated Intra-Abdominal Sepsis (The COOL Trial): randomized controlled trial  
SPONSOR: University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services

#### Igor Laskowski, MD-2020

- TITLE: Best Registry  
SPONSOR: Duke

#### Roberto Bergamaschi, MD-2020

- TITLE: Multi-center, non-randomized prospective observation study comparing Ferguson hemorrhoidectomy and Transanal Hemorrhoidal Dearterialization (THD) for Prolapsed, Nonincarcerated, Reducible Hemorrhoids in Terms of 1 year Recurrence  
SPONSOR: THD America

## Featured Study of February

### 2020: Increased Access to Care Through Telemedicine in Albania: An Analysis of 2,724 Patients

Through the Integrated Telemedicine and e-Health program (ITeHP) of Albania, access to high-quality health care has been drastically improved. In this study, Rifat Latifi, MD aimed to test the hypothesis that the majority of patients in remote and regional hospitals can be managed using telemedicine, and this will ultimately prevent unnecessary transfers. The study found that the telemedicine program in Albania has improved access to specialized care in a number of specialty clinical disciplines, particularly in potentially life-threatening and time-sensitive conditions such as neurotrauma. During this study, almost 80 % of patients did not require transfer to tertiary centers and were kept for further treatment at the regional centers.

Latifi R, Parsikia A, Boci A, Doarn CR, Merrell RC. Increased Access to Care through Telemedicine in Albania: An Analysis of 2,724 Patients. *Telemed J E Health*. 2020 Feb;26(2):164–175. doi:10.1089/tmj.2018.0338.

## Featured Study of January 2021:

### Firearm Deaths are Increasing and Endemic in the USA: It is a Problem of Suicides and Not Homicides

Trauma is the leading cause of death for individual's age 46 and younger. It's also the leading cause of years of life lost. The causes of trauma deaths are constantly changing as society changes. From an injury treatment and prevention point of view, awareness of trauma epidemiology is important in order to allocate resources to where they are needed the most. The aim of this study was to analyze and report on the changes in the epidemiology of traumatic causes of death within the USA. The study found that deaths from firearms in the USA are increasing and endemic. They were the highest ever-reported in 2017 by the Center for Disease Control. While deaths from motor vehicle crashes used to be the main cause of traumatic death in the USA, deaths from firearms now almost equal it. Calculated years of life lost from firearms are now more than from motor vehicle crashes. The study concluded that most firearm deaths are not from homicides but are from suicides, and they are predominantly in white older males of the baby boomer generation (1946-1964). More resources redirected toward firearm suicides may decrease this potentially preventable death and years of life lost.

Rhee P, Prabhakaran K, Joseph B, Smiley A, Okumura K, Klein J, Policastro A, Lombardo G, Latifi R. Firearm Deaths are increasing and Endemic in the USA: It is a Problem of Suicides and Not Homicides. *World J Surg*. 2021 Jan; 45: 1323-1329. doi: 10.1007/s00268-020-05938-9.

## Department of Surgery Hosts 17th Annual Louis R.M. Del Guercio Research Day December 16, 2020

Julie Ann Sosa, M.D., M.A., FACS, MAMSE, FSSO, presented "Asking the Right Questions: How Research Can Impact Practice."



Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, FACS, MAMSE, FSSO

The 17th Annual Louis R.M. Del Guercio Research Day featuring keynote speaker Julie Ann Sosa, M.D., M.A., FACS, MAMSE, FSSO, was presented virtually on December 16, 2020. Dr. Sosa, the Leon Goldman M.D., Distinguished Professor of Surgery and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and professor in the Department of Medicine and affiliated faculty for the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies at UCSF, is an endocrine surgeon who specializes in thyroid cancer.

The Louis R.M. Del Guercio Research Day was established in 2002 to honor the late Dr. Del Guercio's leadership and pioneering research during his 24-year tenure as chair of the Department of Surgery, and to stimulate and promote surgical research at NYMC. After viewing the podium and poster presentations by faculty, residents and students, Dr. Sosa commented, "I've been so impressed by both the mentors and mentees. For mentees to be successful, it means they have incredible mentors. The breadth of the studies and the diversity of talking topics and presenters today was really fantastic."

#### Poster Award Winners:

Douglas E. James, M.D. (PGY6 WMC)

*"Bullets: The Leading Cause of Years of Life Lost Due to Trauma"*

Jake Schwartz (MS3)

*"The Learning Curve Associated with Robotic-Assisted Hip and Knee Arthroplasty in Low, Medium, and High Volume Surgeons"*

John Wainwright, M.D. (PGY7 NYMC)

*"Timing of Tracheostomy After Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion: A National Inpatient Sample Investigation"*

#### Basic Science Presentation Winner:

Lior Levy (MS2)

*"Regeneration of Osteochondral Defects Using Multipotent Adult Stem Cells"*

#### Clinical Science Presentation Winners:

James Choi, M.D. (PGY3)

*"Mesh Explantation is an Independent Predictor of 90-Day and 120-Day Readmission Following Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction"*

Agon Kajmolli, M.D. (PGY3)

*"Timing the Treatment of Traumatic Thoracic Aorta; Is There A Rush?"*

Katharine Kechejian (MS2)

*"Barriers to Breast Cancer Screening in Inner-City and Suburban County Women"*

Kenji Okumura, M.D. (PGY3)

*"Increasing the Number of Elderly Recipients of Liver Transplantation in the United States: Nationwide Trend and Up-To-Date"*

Aparna Vancheswaran (MS4)

*"Multidisciplinary Programmed Learning Simulation (PLs) to Improve Visual Blood Loss Estimation for Obstetric Hemorrhage and Trauma Scenario"*



## Section of Intra-Abdominal Transplant Surgery: Highlights

This past year has been one of extreme challenges for society, medicine, and transplantation. The COVID-19 pandemic effectively stopped transplantation in the New York region for two months earlier in the year.

Those two months notwithstanding, in 2020 the Section performed 65 liver transplants. This is the highest annual number of liver transplants at WMC in over a decade. Overall in 2020 we were able to save or improve the lives of 114 recipients with kidney or liver failure. In addition, both patient and graft survival rates were outstanding.

The Section also published several papers, mostly regarding the impact of COVID-19 on transplantation both at WMC and nationwide. We had the first report in the literature of a successful liver transplant performed in a patient who had recovered from COVID, and we have also recently transplanted a vaccinated liver recipient from a donor who had tested positive for COVID in the past.

The New York State Liver and Kidney Transplant Consortia have been collecting data on the rates of COVID-19 infection, hospitalization, intubation, ICU stay and death for all of the transplant centers in New York. While the infection and hospitalization rates at WMC were similar to those of the other centers, our rates of ICU stay and death were approximately 50% lower than the other centers. This is a credit to the outstanding surgical Critical Care team, as well as to our Transplant Infectious Disease practitioners, who spearheaded treatment of our post-transplant patients with monoclonal antibody therapy.

2021 has seen a continuation of our strong efforts, with 32 patients transplanted through the end of March.

## Section of Pediatric Surgery: Highlights

While much has changed in the last year, the dedication of the pediatric surgery section to provide excellent patient care has not. Our section still strives to work together with other global pediatric associations to continue progressing in the field of pediatrics.

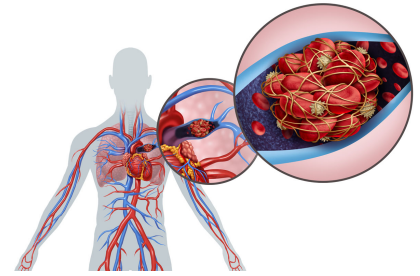
According to the American College of Surgeons, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital ranks in the top 10% of ALL reporting pediatric trauma centers for risk adjusted major hospital events including death by ages 0-13. MFCH also performed in the top 20% in four other categories, per ACS data. Patients and their families seek EMS guidance in making the right transport decision, and MFCH continues to be an ideal option for pediatric trauma care.

Under the guidance of pediatric surgeon Marc Arkovitz, MD, the department will be presenting their work "Intraoperative Electromagnetic Navigation Bronchoscopy in Pediatric Oncology Patients" at the Annual Pediatric Association (APSA) meeting. Dr. Arkovitz organized an international pediatric oncology conference between WMC and the Israeli Pediatric Oncology Association.

In March 2021, he also presented Grand Rounds at Nuvance Medical Center in Poughkeepsie titled, "Abdominal Masses in Children."

## WMCHHealth Cardiothoracic Surgeon Leads a Groundbreaking Study to Treat Pulmonary Embolisms

By Sheryl Kraft / February 2021



Surgical management of pulmonary embolisms — the third-leading cause of cardiovascular death — is safe and effective at saving lives, according to a study led by surgeons at Westchester Medical Center and recently published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

A pulmonary embolism is a life-threatening condition that is the result of a blood clot breaking loose and traveling through the bloodstream before becoming lodged in the lungs. Pulmonary embolisms can occur in a wide variety of patients — from the young with no known medical problems to the elderly with multiple, chronic medical conditions — and can cause sudden and fatal heart failure.

Traditionally, blood thinner medications are used to destroy blood clots, but sometimes they increase the risk of bleeding and stroke, causing other complications. Other treatments include compression stockings, elevating the legs, and physical activity. Joshua Goldberg, MD, a cardiothoracic surgeon at Westchester Medical Center, the flagship of WMCHHealth, led the study Survival and Right Ventricular Function After Surgical Management of Acute Pulmonary Embolism, which concluded surgical interventions such as an embolectomy and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) are "highly effective at saving lives" when used to treat massive and sub-massive pulmonary embolisms. More than 130 patients with pulmonary embolisms were identified for the study.

The study states that traditional care guidelines for pulmonary embolisms recommend systemic thrombolytic therapies, which use medicines to help destroy blood clots. However, these therapies have a high risk of stroke and bleeding, among other complications. The study reports "excellent outcomes" after embolectomy and ECMO with low rates of post-operative complications. These outcomes are far better than those reported using other treatment strategies and should be a "primary consideration" for patients with massive and sub-massive pulmonary embolisms.

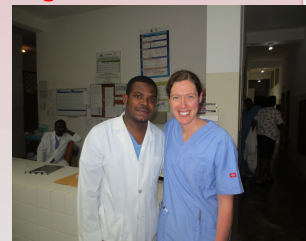
"We hope that other cardiac surgeons and professional guidelines will begin to recommend these procedures as treatment options," Dr. Golberg says.

The study was a single-center series led by Dr. Goldberg that included contributions from the following Westchester Medical Center physicians: Daniel M. Spevack, MD; Syed Ahsan, MD; Yogita Rochlani, MD; Tanya Dutta, MD; Suguru Ohira, MD; Masashi Kai, MD; David Spielvogel, MD; Steven Lansman, MD, PHD; and Ramin Malekan, MD.

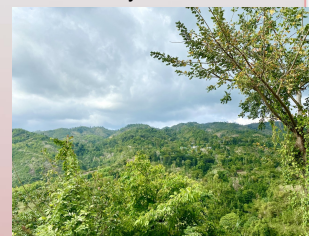
## Remembering the Reason Why

by Christy Stoller | Apr. 2021

The hopeful student, bright-eyed and unaware, sits before their interviewer laying down with practiced effort his or her reason for this career choice, General Surgery. Match Day comes, and whether met with good news or disappointment, that student persists, driven by his or her desire to bring healing to a hurting world through surgery. There are ups and downs, twists and turns, loops and barrel rolls, a roller coaster if you will, that is General Surgery residency. To survive, we hold on tight, taking the highs with the lows, and when in doubt returning to that reason we laid out so eagerly as an applicant, our why for pursuing Surgery. For me, being able to travel to the mountains of Bonne Fin, Haiti and work at Hospital Lumiere is that ultimate reminder. I most recently was able to visit and perform surgery for a week in March 2021. Whether performing a hernia repair, hysterectomy, or mass removal, helping one person at a time, to get back on their feet and back to their families. We all hold these reminders, and somewhere between the turns and the loops that bright-eyed and hopeful student becomes a surgeon.



Rony Luberisse, MD and Christy Stoller, MD



Hospital Lumiere, Bonne Fin, Haiti

## Section of Vascular Surgery: Highlights

Under the leadership of Igor Laskowski, MD, the Division of Vascular Surgery at Westchester Medical Center has earned a great reputation for delivering state-of-the-art care to patients with vascular diseases. In addition to Dr. Laskowski being the site PI for an important Covid-19 trial in which Westchester Medical Center was activated, the division of Vascular Surgery has produced several studies and is expected to present findings at various conferences in 2021. The expected presentations are as follows:

- 1.Ex-vivo Repair of Renal Artery Aneurysm and Auto-transplantation: Haider A, Veillette G, Babu S, et al. Accepted for video presentation at the 2021 Vascular Annual Meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery. August 18- 21, San Diego, CA
- 2.Effects of Individual Surgeon Volume on Outcomes after Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair; Is there a Minimum Threshold? Haider A, et al. Accepted for Poster Competition at the Annual Meeting of Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS). Aug 18-21, San Diego, CA
- 3.Modern approaches and innovations in the diagnosis and treatment of peripheral vascular diseases. Shi R, Babu S. By invitation. Submitted to Frontiers in Bioscience to be considered for publication in the special issue - Cardio metabolic Disorders
- 4.Outcomes following Peripheral Vascular Interventions in patients with End Stage Renal Disease. Patel A, Elias M, Goyal P, Hall C, Samson D, Laskowski I, Latifi R, Babu S. Accepted for Interactive Poster Session at the Vascular Annual Meeting of Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS). August 18-21, 2021., San Diego, CA.
- 5.Carotid Endarterectomy VS Carotid Stenting for Carotid Disease: A Nationwide Analysis of 6 months Outcomes. Zeeshan M, Khan M, Laskowski I, Jehan F, Mateo R, Goyal A, Babu S. Accepted for e-poster presentation at the 48th Annual Symposium on Vascular Surgery on March 13-17, 2021 at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel, Miami Florida (Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery (SCVS).



Academia Argentina de Cirugía

Miércoles 12 de Mayo de 2021  
19:00 hs.

Conferencia por invitación:



**"Complex abdominal wall reconstruction"**

**Dr. Rifat Latifi (USA)**

The Felicien Steichen Professor and Chairman of Surgery  
New York Medical College, School of Medicine, Valhalla,  
New York  
(July 2018- present)  
Director, Department of Surgery  
Chief, Division of General Surgery  
Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, New York



7 PM  
Buenos Aires



7 PM  
Santiago



5 PM  
Bogotá



7 PM  
Rio de Janeiro

Inscripción online en:

[www.academiadecirugia.org.ar/inscripcion](http://www.academiadecirugia.org.ar/inscripcion)

**Rifat Latifi, M.D., presented a virtual lecture at the Argentina Academy of Surgery on Wednesday May 12, 2021.**





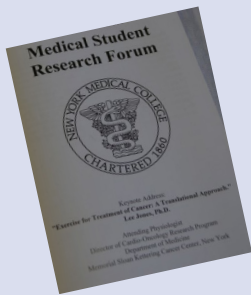
# Student Research Corner

**Importance of Research Activity:** With STEP exams and M1/M2 courses moving to PASS/FAIL, it is expected that Research Activity will become an increasingly important metric for distinguishing students!

**-SOM student engagement in research has reached its highest levels within the past two years.**

**-In the 2019 & 2020 Classes, there were 68% of students involved in some form of approved research.**

There are 4-6 week research internships available (NYMC or outside): STIPENDS AVAILABLE: Office of Medical Student Affairs at NYMC: \$1,000 stipend for student, plus a matching mentor stipend; TCUS offers stipend of \$1,500.



NYMC Students in Current Research Projects			
NAME	YEAR	SURGEON	PROJECT
Ankoo Patel	MS-3	Babu	Outcome of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Patients After Vascular Intervention
Murad Elias	MS-3	Babu	Outcome of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Patients After Vascular Intervention
Kristina R. Lucente	MS-2	Latifi	Damage Control Surgery in Trauma and Acute Care Surgery: Status and Outcomes at a Tertiary Care Hospital and Level I Trauma Center
Syian Srikumar	MS-2	Latifi	Analysis and Outcome of Emergency Gastrointestinal Surgery Done on Post-Cardiac Surgery Patients- A Retrospective Cohort Study
Raeesa H. Hossain	MS-2	Latifi	Emergency General Surgery for non-trauma- A Prospective Observational Study
Carly Roe	MS-2	Feeney/Latifi	Ethanol Infusion Compared to Benzodiazepines as a Treatment for Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome
Zhazira Irgebay	MS-2	Zellner	Pediatric Facial Fractures, Characteristics and Patterns in the United States: A Survey of Recent Trauma Quality Improvement Project (TQIP) Data
Sara E. Islam	MS-2	Zellner	Analysis of Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infection in a Pediatric Population: Analysis of Kids Inpatient Database (KID) from Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP)
Katherine M. French	MS-2	Latifi	Analysis and Outcomes of Emergency Gastrointestinal Surgery Done on Post-Cardiac Surgery Patients- A Retrospective Cohort Study
Madeleine Wong	MS-2	Sogawa	Secondary Data Analysis for Hepatocellular Carcinoma Patients Liver Transplant
James Stevenson	MS-4	Latifi	Emergency General Surgery for non-trauma- A Prospective Observational Study
Julia Rozenberg	MS-4	Latifi	Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Use of Biologic Mesh Outcomes Retrospective Study
Ariel Figueroa	MS-4	Latifi	Analysis and Outcome of Emergency Gastrointestinal Surgery Done on Post-Cardiac Surgery Patients- A Retrospective Cohort Study
Lior Levy	MS-1	Latifi	Emergency General Surgery for non-trauma- A Prospective Observational Study
Raeesa H. Hossain	MS-3	Blood	Retrospective Review of Trauma ICU Patients Before Palliative Care Service Creation Compared to After Palliative Care Service Creation
Jeffrey Baum	MS-3	Shnaydman	Implementation of Brain Injury Guidelines for Management of Traumatic Brain Injury at a Level 1 Trauma Center: a Retrospective Study
Gillian Hecht	MS-1	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Fecal Impaction
Bardia Khandehroo	MS-1	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Regional Enteritis
Hari Nath	MS-4	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Colon Cancer
Lior Levy	MS-3	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Hemorrhoids
Danielle Newbury	MS-3	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Gastritis with Hemorrhage
Malk Beidoun	MS-4	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- C. Difficile
	MS-2		Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Hemorrhoids
Amit Krishna	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Diaphragmatic
Jiselle Gill	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Femoral Hernia
Arjun Syal	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Inguinal Hernia
Saral Patel	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Umbilical Hernia
Medha Reddy	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Ventral Hernia
Rachel Thommen	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Diverticulitis of Small Intestine
Nicholas V. Vecchio III	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Hematemesis
Katherine Lo	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Blood in Stool
Maziyah Ogarro	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Vascular Insufficiency of Intestine
Akash Thaker	MS-2	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- GI Adhesions with Obstruction
Joseph Branco	MS-4	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Necrotizing Fasciitis
Stergios Gatzoflias	MS-4	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Plebitis
Manoj Goud	MS-3	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Chronic Gastrojejunal Ulcer
Klaudia Koziol	MS-3	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database- Nipple Infection
Antonio Loban	MS-3	Latifi	Mortality and Morbidity and the Associated Factors for Various Diseases Included in National Inpatient Sample Database



# NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

School of Medicine

Department of Surgery

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



**The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Louis R.M. DelGuercio  
Distinguished Visiting Professorship & Research Day**

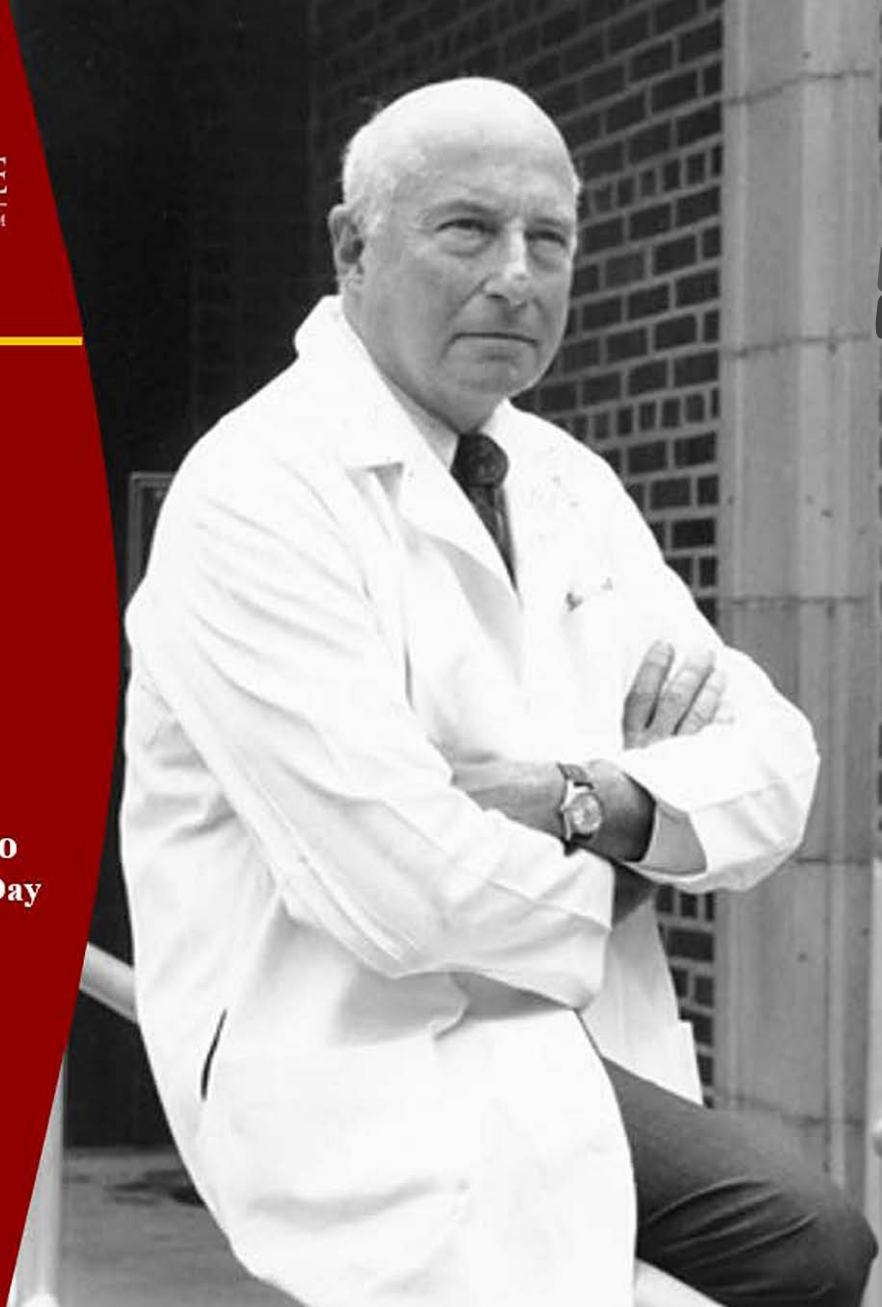
Friday, June 18, 2021

**VIRTUAL**

**ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED**

**BY: 5:00PM**

**FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021**



### *Invitation*

We invite you to submit your best Basic Science, Educational, Translational and/or Clinical research for presentation at the 18th Annual Louis R.M. DelGuercio, M.D. Distinguished Visiting Professorship & Research Day. The annual event offers a unique opportunity for all students, residents and fellows at New York Medical College, affiliated hospitals and regional hospitals performing research related to surgery to present new and innovative research and engage in academic discussions.

Please refer to the submission guidelines and contact us if you have any questions.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and to your participation in the **Eighteenth Annual Louis R.M. DelGuercio, M.D. Distinguished Visiting Professorship & Research Day.**

We are honored to announce **Raymond R. Price, MD, FACS**, will be our distinguished speaker for this auspicious event!

Dr. Price is a pioneer in expanding the role of surgery in public health, and has assisted in improving healthcare worldwide. Dr. Price has served in many leadership positions with the World Health Organization Global Initiative for Emergency and Essential Surgical Care, the Society of American and Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons, and the International Surgical Society. Additionally, he has helped guide the establishment of the Association of Academic Global Surgery (AAGS).





# *Department of Surgery*



4th Annual Retreat and Symposium  
"Transformation through Innovation and  
Collaboration"  
Department of Surgery  
December 6, 2019

*"Honoring the Past,  
Building the Future"*



**NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE**

A MEMBER OF THE TOURO COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

**School of Medicine**

Department of Surgery



Department of Surgery

**Westchester  
Medical Center**

Westchester Medical Center Health Network