Dr. Harendra Arora: A Record of Excellence, A Readiness to Lead in Highest Level Academic Medicine

It's hard to overstate the impact that Edward A. Norfleet, MD '70 Distinguished Professor of Anesthesiology Harendra Arora, MD, MBA, FASA made at UNC Anesthesiology and UNC School of Medicine (SOM) over almost 14 years. His achievements advancing the tripartite mission in academic medicine (patient care, education, and research) are the marks of a leader who is ready to effect change at the next level. In February 2023, Dr. Arora departed UNC to begin serving as the Chair of Anesthesiology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, Mississippi.

Arriving in Chapel Hill with his family in July 2009, Dr. Arora brought to UNC early-career experience overseeing clinical operations at a veterans healthcare system and two large academic medical centers (AMCs). As UNC’s Vascular and Transplant Anesthesia Division Chief, Dr. Arora’s quiet command facilitating team-focused patient care gained notice.

In July 2012, Dr. Arora was named Vice Chair of Education and Residency Program Director (PD) for anesthesiology. Inheriting a training program with multiple graduate medical education citations, he assembled an academics-focused leadership team that prepared for a high-stakes ACGME site visit and review of the anesthesiology program. Just three months later, the program not only achieved full ACGME Accreditation, but also commendation.

In July 2012, Dr. Arora was named Vice Chair of Education and Residency Program Director (PD) for anesthesiology. Inheriting a training program with multiple graduate medical education citations, he assembled an academics-focused leadership team that prepared for a high-stakes ACGME site visit and review of the anesthesiology program. Just three months later, the program not only achieved full ACGME Accreditation, but also commendation.

Over 10 years, Dr. Arora brought program leadership and trainees together to broaden what anesthesiology education at UNC could offer next-generation anesthesiologists. Multiple innovative initiatives to enrich the training experience for residents were introduced during his term as PD. The program began offering a dual track (MHA/MPH) in advanced public health education to residents. The academic medicine rotation, Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCE) training, new CA-1 “Family Anesthesia Day,” personal finance...
Carolina Dreaming

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curriculum, a pathway for basic TEE certification, team-based quality improvement initiatives, and other innovative components enriched the program further under Dr. Arora’s leadership.

Dr. Arora noted: “My role was to empower our outstanding team of educators and trainees. If a resident or faculty member came up with an idea that would strengthen or enhance our residency program, we would give it serious consideration. We are a much stronger program today due to the collective efforts of our faculty and our trainees. It really does take a village.”

In early 2023, UNC Professor of Anesthesiology and former Associate PD Rob Isaak, DO, FASA, succeeded Dr. Arora as Vice Chair of Education. Dr. Isaak noted:

“Dr. Arora has been an advocate, leader, and most notably, an innovator in graduate medical education at UNC. Under his leadership, we implemented countless innovative programs that benefited so many young physicians and their patients.”

Dr. Arora was named multiple times to the Department’s “Outstanding Clinical Research Faculty” roster, as well as Clinical Researcher of the Year. Over the years, he encouraged research project collaboration among residents and faculty, as well as team-based QI projects. Now embedded in program structure, faculty mentoring has helped residents develop research submissions, obtain funding, and win awards at research symposiums and acceptances of abstracts and presentations at major conferences.

In 2020, UNC Professor of Anesthesiology Susie Martinelli, MD, FASA, succeeded Dr. Arora as Residency PD. Dr. Martinelli cites Dr. Arora as an instrumental influence in her path to becoming a nationally recognized leader in anesthesiology education. She noted:

“Dr. Arora is an outstanding clinician in all aspects of anesthesiology, a productive researcher, and respected teacher. In the years I worked with him as Associate [PD], he was an encouraging mentor who supported my professional growth and development.”

Serving citizens statewide is a linkage for academic physicians moving from one flagship hospital to the next. UNC and UMMC share similarities as large AMCs serving the people of their respective states, yet significant differences exist. UNC Hospitals is an expansive, rapidly growing and better-resourced healthcare system. It’s also one of four AMCs in North Carolina. By contrast, UMMC is the only Level 1 AMC serving the much lower-resourced State of Mississippi.

“Dr. Arora gave his all to UNC. He had an immediate impact on our team, and his influence and reach only grew. From Division Chief to Program Director to Vice Chair of Education, Dr. Arora helped make this department what it is today — a caring and high-achieving department of excellence.”

David Zvara, MD, FASA
UNC Department of Anesthesiology Chair

Dr. Arora noted: “The valuable career lessons I’ve learned at UNC will serve me in a new role that is much broader than any I’ve held before. My goal will be to continually improve our team’s ability to deliver the highest quality of patient care at the only [AMC] in Mississippi, to educate next-generation physicians, and to promote innovative biomedical and clinical research.

I look forward to providing new direction to a large department within an institution that has the same tri-partite mission as UNC. Building and empowering teams of stakeholders will be a vital part of creating solutions that are uniquely suited to the anesthesia care needs of the people [UMMC] serves.”

UNC Department of Anesthesiology Chair David Zvara, MD, FASA, stated: “Dr. Arora gave his all to UNC. He had an immediate impact on our team, and his influence and reach only grew. From Division Chief to Program Director to Vice Chair of Education, Dr. Arora helped make this department what it is today — a caring and high-achieving department of excellence.”
Spring is a time of renewal. The air is clear and the anticipation of new life is everywhere.

In our department, I sense a new direction and energy that may move us forward in our clinical, academic and service missions. We remain in the midst of a post-acute pandemic. The challenges associated with this recovery are real. In anesthesiology (and nursing, and pharmacy, and medicine, and, you name it), we see a turbulent workforce that grapples with the never-ending demand for services and the limited supply of providers.

The lessons I’ve learned in this time are to invest in our people. To truly care for each other and actively look for opportunities to express support. I see examples of this all around me. I also remain in awe of the accomplishments of our people.

Dr. Harendra Arora began his term as Chair of the University of Mississippi Medical Center Department of Anesthesiology in February. Dr. Rob Isaak was named our Vice Chair for Education. Dr. Susie Martinelli was nominated for the Norfleet Professorship. Dr. Kim Nichols was appointed UNC School of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Medical Student Education. Drs. Ben Cobb and Daniel Rosenkrans were named Assistant Program Directors of our residency leadership team. Aaron Lemmon has taken on the role of Chief CRNA. These accomplishments are but a few examples within our department. Let us celebrate!

In research, Drs. Linnstaedt and Mauck moved into new accommodations. Their teams are flourishing and their laboratory and research space is second to none.

As I write this, we have yet to hear our Match results for the residency. What I can say is that the recruitment effort, led by Dr. Emily Teeter and Dr. Erin Dengler, brought the most outstanding candidates to our door. It is humbling to think that of all the medical students going into anesthesiology across the United States this year, nearly every one of them sent an application to UNC! So, that’s cool ...

Finally, a big shout out to all our support staff. The workforce shortages have impacted this group too. Most importantly, what I see is everyone pitching in, asking “what can I do?” I love it.

Enjoy the spring air. Welcome the rebirth of a new season, and remember, it’s always #GDTBATH.
Leadership

Nation

Since 2020, Professor of Anesthesiology and Residency Program Director Susie Martinelli, MD, FASA, has led a fast-growing program alongside new leadership team dedicated to recruiting and graduating highly competent residents. In 2022, her leadership record and forward-thinking in anesthesiology education was tapped at the national level.

In October 2022, Dr. Martinelli was among 12 distinguished Anesthesiology residency program leaders who were selected for a six-year appointment on the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)'s Anesthesiology Residency Review Committee (RRC). This RRC sets the standards and governance of educational training across all ACGME-accredited Anesthesiology programs nationwide.

"Dr. Martinelli’s 2022 appointments speak volumes to her work and contributions as an education leader in our field. She and fellow distinguished leaders in anesthesiology education are helping to shape standards, governance and mentoring of program leadership, all of which are critical to the ongoing integrity of anesthesiology residency and subspecialty residency programs nationwide."

-David Zvara, MD, FASA
UNC Anesthesiology Chair

In early November, Dr. Martinelli was re-elected to serve as a 2022–2023 Association of Anesthesiology Core Program Directors (AACPDD) Council member. Named to her second 12-month AACPD Council term, Dr. Martinelli and other members assist top leadership in guiding residency program leaders nationwide through reshaping their programs in accordance with shifting anesthesiology training requirements and policies.

UNC Anesthesiology Chair David Zvara, MD, FASA, noted, “Dr. Martinelli’s 2022 appointments speak volumes to her work and contributions as an education leader in our field. She and fellow distinguished leaders in anesthesiology education are helping to shape standards, governance and mentoring of program leadership, all of which are critical to the ongoing integrity of anesthesiology residency and subspecialty residency programs nationwide.”

Institute

Over 10+ years, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology Kim Nichols, MD, FASA, has held a multitude of high-level leadership posts spanning UNC Anesthesiology, UNC School of Medicine (SOM) and institutional service. Well-known for her investment in UNC SOM learners, Dr. Nichols was named the UNC SOM’s new Senior Associate Dean for Medical Student Education in September 2022.

Dr. Nichols’ appointment is a fitting next step of leadership within the UNC SOM. She most recently served as the UNC SOM’s Associate Dean for DEI Faculty Access and Success. In undergraduate medical education, she has also served as Individualization Phase Co-Director (Office of Medical Education) and Clinical Academic Resources Director (Office of Academic Excellence). Dr. Nichols was elected by the 2021–2022 UNC SOM student body to serve as one of three honorary faculty “Hooders” at the Class of 2022 graduation ceremony.

UNC SOM Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Jennifer Wu, MD, MPH stated: “Dr. Nichols is a leader in medical education, organizational culture, and equity and inclusion and brings important knowledge and experience to the role. I am excited to work with her as our next Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education.”

Department

In January 2023, Professor of Anesthesiology Rob Isaak, DO, DABA, FASA, was appointed UNC Anesthesiology’s new Vice Chair for Education. A highly involved leader of anesthesiology education at the departmental, institutional and national levels, Dr. Isaak most recently served as Associate Program Director (2017–2023) of UNC Anesthesiology’s residency program.

Dr. Isaak’s forward-thinking approach to anesthesiology education includes his well-known development of a structured framework — Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) — for assessing learner clinical competence via hands-on task performance and diagnostic scenarios. This approach to graduate medical education assessment was successfully implemented across UNC Medical Center residency programs and led to Dr. Isaak’s appointment as Chair of the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA)’s OSCE Committee. Dr. Isaak joins peers nationwide who have been recognized as transformative thinkers and collaborators in anesthesiology education. He was honored by the Society for Education in Anesthesiology as a Distinguished Educator in Anesthesiology Award recipient (2020).

He noted: “UNC Anesthesiology is known as a top academic anesthesiology department and has a large, diverse array of learners and clinical experiences. My goal is to ensure that all Department members and School of Medicine parties who seek educational opportunities through UNC Anesthesiology are provided access and enrichment that will advance each learner’s knowledge and career.”
Leadership

Department

The UNC Anesthesiology residency program has experienced significant year-by-year growth as newly approved ACGME positions continue to increase our total program size (complement). Kicking off AY 2022–2023 with a 52-resident (PGY1s/CA1s-CA3s) complement, this year UNC Anesthesiology experienced a clear need to expand its residency leadership team.

In July 2022, Assistant Professor and Obstetric Anesthesia Fellowship Director Ben Cobb, MD, was named the program’s first Assistant Program Director (APD). In February 2023, Assistant Professor and former Chief Resident Daniel Rosenkrans, MD, joined Dr. Cobb as a second Assistant Program Director (APD). Drs. Cobb and Rosenkrans bring invaluable departmental leadership experience and fresh ideas on enriching the resident experience to a program directors team that has grown to four faculty members.

Dr. Cobb: “It is an exciting time for residency recruitment, and we have had an impressive group to meet throughout the interview season. Increasing our residency complement enables us to explore new experiences for our residents, such as extending the opportunity to do a hospice/palliative care rotation to PGY-1 residents categorial interns.

Given our recent growth, I look forward to learning from our experienced leadership team and helping the program continue to find the right balance between education and service in an ever-changing healthcare environment. Similar to the [OB Anesthesia] fellowship program I oversee, we re-address many issues from year to year affected by the dynamic nature of healthcare. It is never boring!”

Dr. Rosenkrans: “My primary role is scheduling our residents for a range of academic activities, like didactic lectures, simulation events, and mock OSCEs. Our recent residency complement increase requires special attention to ensure that each resident can access essential learning activities. It seems complicated, but we’re able to provide our residents with excellent academic programming throughout their tenure at UNC.

Being a former resident allowed me to assimilate into the [faculty] culture of UNC quickly and be sensitive to the resident experience. I plan to use my background in academic medicine and private practice to enrich our curriculum and ensure that our teaching methods remain effective and relevant.”
We’ve Got a New CRNA Chief!

The Department was pleased to name long-time, experienced nurse anesthetist Aaron Lemmon as our new Chief CRNA in February 2023. Well-known to the Department as a 10+-year UNC Health CRNA, Aaron served most recently as Interim Chief. Aaron previously shared the duties of Assistant CRNA Chief with Carly Raynor.

Aaron has studied nursing at all levels at UNC School of Nursing, including his anticipated completion of a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) in December 2023. Completing his BSN at UNC in 2005, Aaron’s internship and first nursing position (CVT-ICU) were at UNC Hospitals. In 2010, Aaron graduated as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist from the Raleigh School of Nurse Anesthesia. Aaron’s decade+ of nursing practice at UNC has led to leadership involvement in the Department’s ERAS Executive Council, COVID-19 taskforce, and Value Stream Analysis Committee. Aaron has also presented his work in numerous forums and is also an active leader within the North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NCANA).

UNC Department of Anesthesiology Chair David Zvara, MD, FASA, noted: “Aaron is a true Tar Heel. He has been a consummate team player every step of the way and I know he will be a fabulous Chief. Please joining me in welcoming him to this new position!”

We Celebrated National CRNA Recognition Week!

In late January, UNC Anesthesiology celebrated its 70+ CRNAs who are critical members of UNC Health’s peri-operative frontline. The Department hosted its annual CRNA breakfast, loaded up the team on Cookie Day and Taco Thursday and sponsored a CRNA night out to wrap up 2023 National CRNA Recognition Week.

Each year across the U.S., almost 60,000 CRNAs administer more than 50 million anesthetics to patients. Nurse anesthetists represent the majority of (> 80%) of anesthesia care providers in rural counties, where critical access hospitals often rely on them entirely for anesthesia care.

UNC Anesthesiology Chief CRNA Aaron Lemmon stated: “We celebrate this highly respected profession during this week, but we would be remiss if we did not recognize the hard work and dedication that CRNAs provide day in and out year-round. Alongside other healthcare facilities across the country, UNC is currently battling significant staffing shortages. Despite this, [UNC Health]’s CRNAs have provided countless hours of overtime to keep our ORs running. It’s an honor of mine to work at UNC as a CRNA, as well as a member of this leadership team. I am humbled by how much the [CRNA] team I work with gives of themselves to care for their patients.”
Word From Our Program Directors

As our residency program expands, our leadership team has also grown this past year.

Last July, Dr. Ben Cobb joined the team in a new Assistant Program Director Role. Dr. Cobb did his residency training at the University of Washington and completed an OB fellowship at Stanford University. He joined our faculty in 2015. He has experience in graduate medical education serving as the Program Director for the Obstetrics Anesthesiology Fellowship since 2020. Dr. Cobb’s primary focus as an APD will be the intern year. We expanded our clinical base year from 10 to 12 residents this year and will further increase to 14 next year. Dr. Cobb has already made improvements in our intern evaluations, orientation, and intern support lunches.

As Dr. Rob Isaak transitioned to the role of Vice Chair of Education, another APD spot opened up. Dr. Dan Rosenkrans became our second Assistant Program Director in February. Dr. Rosenkrans served as Chief Resident here at UNC before completing cardiac and critical care fellowships at Duke University. He then moved to Colorado for 2 years, working as a private practice cardiac anesthesiologist and intensivist. There he helped establish the cardiothoracic ICU service line as well as an immersive medical student elective. Dr. Rosenkrans joined our faculty in the fall of 2022. In his APD role, Dr. Rosenkrans will be managing the resident curriculum.

Finally, we welcome our new Assistant Residency Program Coordinator Aubrey Luallen. In December, Aubrey graduated from the University of Alabama with a BA in Sociology. Aubrey will be working under our amazing Program Coordinator, Elizabeth Aguero.

We are excited that Dr. Cobb, Dr. Rosenkrans, and Aubrey are joining our team. Their expertise and new ideas will help maintain continued growth and improvement of our outstanding residency program.

For 10+ years, Dr. Harendra Arora and Dr. Priya Kumar hosted an annual summer welcome picnic at their home for teaching faculty and upper-level trainees to get better acquainted with new residents and their families.

Dr. Kumar noted: “Each year, we eagerly anticipated our backyard picnic, much like a family vacation. We would get food trucks to drive into the backyard, have games like volleyball or ping pong tournaments, and even water slides one year. We enjoyed mingling with all the families in a relaxed, non-work setting. An enthusiastic turnout each year kept us wanting to host it year after year until it became a ritual. It is a testament to the bonding that we all share within our anesthesia family.”
Word From Our Chiefs

As we near the end of our Anesthesiology training at UNC, we are excited to take the next step in our careers and for the opportunities and challenges that await us. But this time of reflection and preparation is bittersweet because we know the depth of community and network of support we leave behind. Our class was cultivated from 11 different medical schools across the country. We brought spouses and children with us to UNC and celebrated 4 new marriages and the births of 5 children (with one on the way) during residency. The Covid pandemic had a profound impact on our training since it started during the spring of our intern year. We experienced the mass closures of clinical sites, restructuring of call and rotation schedules, PPE preservation, Covid ICU redeployment, vaccine roll-out, and rounds of quarantine. Despite these unique challenges, we received excellent clinical training at UNC and grew as resilient and adaptable professionals.

The 2023 graduating class matched 8 fellowship positions at prestigious institutions, including: Children’s National, Northwestern, Vanderbilt, Duke, Emory, University of California in San Diego, University of Miami, and of course, UNC Health, for spots in pain medicine, cardiothoracic, pediatric, and obstetric anesthesiology. This class also secured jobs in both academic and private practice in their desired region. As a testament to the legacy of our graduates, we received 2,176 residency applications, interviewed 144 highly qualified candidates, and had a successful Match Day in March!

Education remains the heart of our program and our residents have consistently demonstrated their commitment to medical education and research. This year, we hosted over 140 rotators from outside departments, including ~70 medical students. We were excited to return to the ASA 2022 Annual Meeting in New Orleans with 17 residents presenting original projects. We have fostered comradery through class retreats, social events, and wellness week.

Over four years, we gained confidence, experience, adaptability, and most importantly, trust in our colleagues — attendings, residents, CRNAs, anesthesia techs. You all have shaped us, made us better physicians, and prepared us to step into the professional world as young leaders. We are proud to call UNC home and will always be Tar Heels.

Match Day 2023: Residency Family Welcomes Our 16 Newest Tar Heels!

CATEGORICAL RESIDENTS

- Tyler Brookshire
- Anne Bryden
- Taylor Catalano
- Desby Cheribin
- Zachary Foster
- Geryn Hasty-Peggins
- Thomas Quisenberry
- Michael Sumner
- Precious Ichite
- Jeremy Interrante
- Kian Lari
- Blaire Lutes
- Alexander Spencer
- Isabella Valente
- Justin Wain
- Russell Wnek

RESERVED RESIDENTS

March 17th was Match Day, and UNC Anesthesiology was thrilled to match 14 Categorical and two Reserved residents to our program. We will welcome the 14 categorical residents in June. The two reserved residents along with our two advanced residents who matched last year — Drs. Patrick Einhorn and Jasmine Lin — will be joining us as new CA-1s in July.
Research

UNC Anesthesiology Research Division investigators and staff kicked off the year in a new home our team moved to in October 2022. Our vibrant group is thrilled to continue our work within UNC’s amazingly collaborative environment in a 3068-square-foot, state-of-the-art laboratory space in the UNC Adams School of Dentistry. Our research has improved understanding of chronic pain mechanisms and will lead to improved treatment options for individuals living in chronic pain. Funded primarily by the National Institutes for Health (NIH), our large-scale lab investigations are helping pioneer new treatments to prevent transition from acute to chronic pain.

Aimed at the opioid crisis, the NIH’s Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative launched in 2018 has two goals: 1) To improve care for individuals suffering from addiction; and 2) To develop better tools for managing chronic pain. In February 2023, Dr. Sarah Linnstaedt received an honorable mention for the NIH HEAL Director’s Trailblazer Award for her innovative work in developing novel therapies to prevent post-traumatic chronic pain. The Linnstaedt Lab’s ongoing study of the association between variants in the stress system gene FKBP5i that influence vulnerability to chronic pain and post-traumatic stress continues to impact and advance the HEAL Initiative’s goals.

In 2019, systems neuroscience and chronic pain expert Dr. Matt Mauck helped launch the HEAL Initiative’s five-year, 14-site Back Pain Consortium (BACPAC) Research Program to address the need for effective, personalized therapies for CLBP. Since September 2022, Dr. Mauck has served as site P.I. for the BACPAC Program’s centerpiece $30 million adaptive platform – the BEST (Biomarkers for Evaluating Spine Treatments) Trial – a guided, a sequential, multiple assignment, randomized trial (SMART) aimed at informing precision medicine approaches to treating CLBP.

UNC’s Pain Management Clinic Medical Director Dr. Brooke Chidgey contributes pain medicine clinical research expertise as UNC’s BEST Trial co-site principal investigator.

She noted: “Pain management physicians practice ‘the art of medicine’ in helping match patients with the most appropriate treatment. The BACPAC study will generate more scientific guidance to enable providers to assess different characteristics among diverse groups of patients to determine the most appropriate first treatment for an individual’s [CLBP].”

UNC Clinical Trial Coordinator Michelle Becton.
In the March 2023 *Pediatric Anesthesia*, five UNC Pediatric Anesthesia authors published the findings of a 30-month, single institution retrospective CRS–HIPEC surgery case review of multimodal, opioid-sparing, total intravenous anesthetic technique utilization, in conjunction with a tunneled thoracic epidural catheter, to avoid using postoperative mechanical ventilation and to minimize intraoperative and postoperative opioid requirements. This is the largest case series on the anesthetic, fluid, and pain management of pediatric CRS-HIPEC ever reported. In the same issue, an editorial by two prominent pediatric pain management experts notes: “The [UNC] authors deserve accolades on the much-improved outcomes … which exceed those previous studies of anesthetic and pain management strategies in this patient population.”

**In The Field**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lavinia Kolarczyk, MD</td>
<td>Elected to Association of Cardiac Anesthesiologists (ACA) (October 2022) and Association of University Anesthesiologists (AUA) (November 2022)</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Mayer, MD</td>
<td>Appointed to the Medical Care Commission of the North Carolina Medical Board by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper (December 2022)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meena Bhatia, MD</td>
<td>Selected to serve as an American Board of Anesthesiology Examiner for the APPLIED Exam (February 2023)</td>
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**Institution**

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<tr>
<td>Lindsey Gouker, MD</td>
<td>Elected to UNC Faculty Physicians Audit and Compliance Committee (August 2022)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Cobb, MD</td>
<td>Named to the leadership team for Anesthesiology at the UNC Rex Hospital/UNC Health outpatient North Chapel Hill Surgery Center (November 2022)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corine Thompson</td>
<td>Named Manager of the Anesthesia Support Tech team at UNC Medical Center (December 2022)</td>
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**Research**

**Pediatric Anesthesia**

Anesthesia and pain management of pediatric cytoreductive surgery with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy.

L to R: Adam Suchar, MD, Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology • Joelle Lane, NP, Family Nurse Practitioner • Ashley King, NP, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner • Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD, Former UNC Pediatric Surgery Chief • Janey Phelps, MD, Professor of Anesthesiology

In global health, evaluative studies are vital to planning subspecialty program introduction or expansion in low- and middle-income country (LMIC) hospitals. In August 2022, Thoracic Surgery Clinics published the findings of a collaborative study co-authored by two UNC Anesthesiology clinical faculty members (Drs. Janey Phelps & Bryant Murphy) and a certified Anesthesia and Intensive Care Associate and medical student (Henry Lizi) from Lilongwe, Malawi. Analyzing eligibility, capacity, management and other KCH data on record, the three authors identified critical factors tied to anesthesia care for LMIC hospital leadership to consider when planning to introduce or expand a thoracic surgery program.

Lead study author and UNC Professor of Anesthesiology Dr. Phelps noted: “It is vitally important for high-income country academic medical programs to partner with low- to middle-income country hospitals to advance their medical care and improve patient outcomes through capacity building programs. UNC Global Anesthesia is very proud of their work to date in achieving this goal. This chapter highlights critical factors that are needed to specifically establish and grow thoracic surgery programs in LMICs.”

Conferences

UNC Anesthesiology 37-Strong in New Orleans!

In late October 2022, 37 clinical faculty, residents, and UNC medical students represented UNC Anesthesiology at the American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting (ASA 2022) in New Orleans, LA. Over four meeting days, the strong showing from UNC presented medically challenging cases and quality improvement projects, facilitated problem-based learning discussions and hands-on workshops, and moderated 60-minute panels and refresher courses.

Hosted annually by UNC Anesthesiology, the four-part ASA Diagnostic Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Certificate Workshop drew multiple conference participants. UNC Professor of Anesthesiology David Hardman, MD, developed the POCUS workshop and serves on the ASA’s Editorial Board on Point of Care Ultrasound, which defines the elements of a Certificate of Completion in POCUS.

12th Annual UNC-Duke-WFU Pediatric Anesthesiology Conference Draws 100!

In September 2022, pediatric anesthesiologists from the largest four academic medical centers in North Carolina came together for the 12th Annual UNC-Duke-Wake Forest-Atrium Health Carolinas Pediatric Anesthesiology Conference. Each year, this conference focuses on best practices and current research relevant to improving the quality and safety of pediatric anesthesia care in the perioperative setting. Five UNC Division of Pediatric Anesthesia faculty gave podium talks at a conference that attracted over 100 registrants from seven states across the East Coast.
continuing education, on vacation.

Carolina Refresher Course in Anesthesiology, Pain & Critical Care

June 18-22, 2023
Kiawah Island, SC

Learn more at go.unc.edu/crc23

med.unc.edu/anesthesiology