

# EPIC

THE MAGAZINE OF THE GEORGIA  
COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

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GCEP Events



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GCEP.ORG



2024

capitol watch

## Expected 2025 Legislation

We anticipate the following legislation to be introduced in the 2025 session and will be monitoring all pre-filings as we move into the Fall.

- Tort Relief – Healthcare
- Workforce Shortage
- Behavioral and Mental Health Reform
- Prior Authorization Reform
- Accountability of Insurance Reform Efforts – Rep. Houston Gaines

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### Georgia Emergency Medicine Legislative and Advocacy Conference Update

We are on track to have the highest legislator and constitutional officers' turnout for our GEMLAC conference yet.

**[Click Here to Register!](#)**

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### Insurance/Billing Issues

If you experience any issues related to billing, please reach out to Devin Krecl at [devin@capitolstrategy.us](mailto:devin@capitolstrategy.us). Please include all pertinent details, and redacted PHI so they we can best determine the state agency to reach out to.

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### Contact Your Legislators

It makes a difference if you contact your Representatives and Senators. Discuss the issues that are important to your practice, your patients, and your community. If you have personal relationships with any state elected officials, please help us by making us aware of these crucial relationships. If you need assistance finding your legislator, please click the link below.

**[Find My Legislator](#)**



**Be a part of the action! Join the PAC!**

**Our PAC needs your help to fully engage in the political process & support our friends**

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### Looking Ahead

Keep an eye out for an email from the GCEP legislative team for a 2025 Pre-Legislative Session update. We will provide regular updates as the 2025 session gets underway.

**More information: Please reach out to our office at 770.435.5586 or reach out to us personally via our cell phones.**

Travis Lindley - 404.886.5058  
[travis@capitolstrategy.us](mailto:travis@capitolstrategy.us)

Devin Krecl - 770.655.9545  
[devin@capitolstrategy.us](mailto:devin@capitolstrategy.us)



## \* Action Alert

### The Corporate Transparency Act (CTA)

Starting January 1, 2024, a significant number of businesses will be required to comply with the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA). The CTA was enacted into law as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021. The CTA requires the disclosure of the beneficial ownership information (BOI) by specific entities defined in the act. The CTA is not a part of the Internal Revenue Code, it is a part of the Bank Secrecy Act, a federal law that requires taxpayers to keep records of, and file reports on, certain specified financial activities. Final regulations implementing the CTA were issued in September 2022. Under the CTA, BOI reports will not be filed with the IRS, but with the Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).

*Note: A U.S. District Court has issued an injunction against enforcement of the CTA. However, FinCEN has said it will continue to implement the law. As of April, 2024, reporting companies (see below) are still required to comply, though enforcement is pending further litigation.*

#### Who is required to report?

The CTA is not intended to require all companies to comply with its reporting requirements. Historically, such laws have focused on larger companies and provided exceptions to the smaller ones. The CTA, however, is focused specifically on the estimated 27 million small businesses that are considered "non-employer firms" with zero employees. These domestic entities and foreign entities meeting certain requirements are defined as reporting companies.

A domestic entity may be a reporting company if it is a corporation or a limited liability company (LLC) created by filing a document with a secretary of state (or similar office) of a state or Indian tribe. A foreign entity may be a reporting company if it is a corporation or LLC formed under the law of a foreign country that is registered to do business in any state or tribal jurisdiction by filing a document with a secretary of state or any similar office. The CTA includes the phrase "or other entity" in the list of entities that may be considered reporting companies. The regulations are unclear as to whether trusts and general partnerships that are created by operation of law without the filing of a formation document may be considered an "other entity" and therefore be subject to the beneficial ownership information reporting requirements.

#### Who is NOT required to report?

The CTA is not intended to require all companies to comply with its reporting requirements. Historically, such laws have focused on larger companies and provided exceptions to the smaller ones. The CTA, however, is focused specifically on the estimated 27 million small businesses that are considered "non-employer firms" with zero employees. These domestic entities and foreign entities meeting certain requirements are defined as reporting companies.

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## Who is a beneficial owner?

A beneficial owner is defined under the CTA as any individual who, directly or indirectly, either:

- Exercises substantial control over a domestic or foreign reporting company, or
- Owns or controls at least 25% of the ownership interests of a domestic or foreign reporting company.
- Ownership interests include those categorized as capital interests or profits interests as well as equity convertible through voting rights. The regulations further define the terms “substantial control” and “ownership interest.”

## Who is NOT a beneficial owner?

The CTA excludes from the definition of beneficial owner those who are:

- Minor children (provided the information for their parent or guardian is reported);
- Individuals acting as nominee, intermediary, custodian, or agent on behalf of another individual;
- Individuals acting solely as an employee of a reporting company (in specified circumstances);
- Individuals whose only interest in a reporting company is a future interest through rights of inheritance; and
- A creditor of a reporting company.

## What information is reported?

The CTA requires reporting companies to report their full business name, trade name, or doing business as (DBA) name, business address, state or Tribal jurisdiction of formation, and their IRS taxpayer identification number (TIN). Additionally, the CTA requires companies to report information on the beneficial owners of the entity, including the owner’s name, date of birth, address, and a unique identifier number from a recognized issuing jurisdiction as well as a photo of the document containing that unique number. Government-issued identification such as a passport or a driver’s license would satisfy the requirement.

## When must the information be reported?

The CTA requires reporting companies that were in existence prior to the January 1, 2024, effective date to report the required information to FinCEN on or before January 1, 2025. New entities created or registered after the effective date but before January 1, 2025, must file within 90 days from the day they receive notice of their formation or registration to report the required information to FinCEN. New entities created or registered after January 1, 2025, must file within 30 days from the day they receive notice of their formation or registration to report the required information to FinCEN.

## Are there continuing reporting requirements?

If there are any changes to previously reported information about the reporting company itself or its beneficial owners, the reporting company is required to file an updated information report within 30 days of such change. The regulations are unclear as to what constitutes a change to previously reported information. It has been suggested that changes to a beneficial owner’s information or the addition or removal of a beneficial owner will constitute a change that should be reported. However, the regulations are unclear as to whether changes like a change in the percentage ownership interest of a beneficial owner are sufficient to require an updated report.

## Are there penalty provisions in the CTA?

The CTA imposes penalties on parties or reporting companies for reporting incomplete or incorrect information which can result in daily fines of up to \$500 per day until the violation is corrected. Additionally, criminal penalties may be imposed in cases of willful non-compliance or when the non-compliance is accompanied by fraudulent intent. Criminal penalties may include fines of up to \$10,000 and imprisonment for as much as two years. The CTA makes unlawful the disclosure of BOI and imposes criminal fines of \$500 per day for such disclosure up to \$250,000 in the aggregate and up to 10 years in prison.

There is no clear indication that any compliance failure under the act would lead to a suspension of the company's ability to conduct business or limit the company's ability to commence an action in federal court. Finally, the CTA provides a safe harbor rule for any person that submits inaccurate beneficial ownership information if that person:

- Didn't know it was inaccurate
- Was not trying to evade the reporting requirement, and
- Corrected the information no later than 90 days after the initial report was submitted.

## What are the next steps?

FinCEN will begin accepting beneficial ownership information reports from reporting companies that are not exempt on January 1, 2024, the effective date of the reporting requirement. The information above is preliminary and it is possible that material changes may occur in our understanding of the CTA's implementation and requirements.

## In conclusion

The Corporate Transparency Act establishes a comprehensive framework of requirements that will impact small businesses. The complexities and nuances of the Act, coupled with the severe penalties for non-compliance, underscore the importance of understanding its obligations. It is important that guidance and counsel is sought from qualified financial professionals who can provide informed interpretations of the Act and its regulations, ensure accurate reporting, and aid in the timely response to any changes in beneficial ownership information.

**GET HELP >>>**

*This material is for informational purposes only and includes a discussion of one or more tax-related topics. This tax-related discussion was prepared to assist in the promotion or marketing of the transactions or matters addressed in this material. It is not intended (and cannot be used by any taxpayer) for the purpose of avoiding any IRS penalties that may be imposed upon the taxpayer. Everyone should seek and rely on the advice of their own independent tax and legal professionals before implementing any related planning strategies. Please understand that New York Life Insurance Company, its affiliates and subsidiaries, and agents and employees of any thereof, may not provide legal or tax advice to you. The Nautilus Group® is a service of New York Life Insurance Company. SMRU 6165249 exp 12/31/2025*

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Schedule a "Zero Call"

## Emory University School of Medicine Department of Emergency Medicine Updates

### Residency News

The residency team provided medical support for the AJC's July 4th annual Peachtree Road Race. There were 50,000 runners that participated in the 55th race. Thank you to Dr. Lekshmi Kumar who serves as the medical director for the event and everyone that assisted in the medical tents including our awesome new interns.



The interns and the residency team have been busy training at Emory's simulation center practicing airway simulation/skills with a combination of simulation cases, skills stations, and case-based discussion. Additionally, the interns participated in a procedure orientation with EM faculty.

President Biden appointed Dr. Jamaji Nwanaji-Enwerem, 2023-24 EM Chief Resident, to the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council. The council will provide recommendations on how to address current & historic environmental injustice. Read more here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/05/23/president-biden-announces-key-appointments-to-the-white-house-environmental-justice-advisory-council/>

### Fellowship News

Dr. Matthew Dernbach, a psychiatrist and fellow in the Emory EM Medical Toxicology Fellowship, worked with the Tox team and the Georgia Poison Center (GPC) to create an initiative to help Georgians that call into the GPC experiencing a mental health crisis. The new protocol for mental health crises demonstrates how university, city, state, and federal resources can collaborate to help the people of Georgia. The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Georgia Crisis and Access Line & 988, Georgia Emergency Communications Authority & 911, City of Atlanta 911, Emory University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and Emory University Department of Emergency Medicine's Medical Toxicology Fellowship came together to develop this new alliance and protocol for people experiencing a mental health crisis. You can read more about the initiative here: <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/press-releases/2024-04-29/dbhdd-poison-control-partnership>

### Emory EM's 2024-25 Fellows

- Administrative Fellow: Dr. Bryanna Carpenter
- Ultrasound Fellow: Dr. Jeffrey Downen
- Medical Education Fellow: Dr. Juhi Varshney and Dr. Elizabeth Stulpin
- International EMS Fellowship: Dr. Nahatai Jongprasitkul
- International Medical Toxicology Fellowship: Dr. Afra Alsuwaidi, Dr. Fatma Al Balushi, Dr. Al Yaqdhan Al Atbi, Dr. DUAA Al Lawati, Dr. Patcha Yenjabog

#### ACGME Medical Toxicology Fellowship

1. Dr. Tori Ehrhardt
2. Dr. Tyler Lopachin LT, MC, USN
3. Dr. Travis Mok
4. Dr. Jessica Sheno

#### 2nd Year Medical Toxicology Fellows

1. Dr. Mayank Gupta
2. Dr. Joseph Ebersole
3. Dr. Matthew Dernbach

ACGME EMS Fellowship: Dr. Malcolm Velasco

### Promotions and Distinctions



**Jonathan Rupp, Ph.D.**, is Emory EM's Vice Chair for Innovation and Discovery. Since joining the department in 2016, Dr. Rupp has been instrumental in advancing EM's research and innovation agenda. His leadership as Director of the Injury Prevention Research Center at Emory (IPRCE) and as Director for Innovation and Discovery has substantially shaped Emory EM's research programs and contributed to the Department's national prominence.

**Dr. Matthew Wheatley**, Professor

**Dr. Michael Carr**, Associate Professor

**Dr. Liang Liu**, Associate Professor

**Dr. Yuko Nakajima**, Associate Professor

**Dr. Andrew Pendley**, Associate Professor

**Dr. Amy Zeidan**, Associate Professor

**Dr. Inho Kim**, SOM Clinical Distinction, Senior Physician

**Dr. Vanessa Fields**, SOM Clinical Distinction, Senior Physician

**Dr. Kushal Nandam**, SOM Clinical Distinction, Senior Physician

**Dr. Melissa Piotrowski**, SOM Clinical Distinction, Senior Physician

**Dr. Michelle Lall** graduated from Drexel University's College of Medicine Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program.

**Dr. Laura Oh** is chairing the Annual Convention Committee for UltraCon 2025 for the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine

**Dr. Tammie Quest** is the Chief System Integration Officer for the Woodruff Health Sciences Center

**Dr. Shamie Das** was selected for the 2024-25 **Class of the National Academy of Medicine Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows**. The seven health professionals will spend a year in Washington, D.C., working on health-related legislative and regulatory issues with members of Congress and the executive branch. The fellows were chosen in a national competition for highly accomplished health and behavioral/social science professionals who have an interest in health policy.

## Emory EM News



**FRONTIERS IN ADVANCED EMERGENCY CARE**

**ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**  
Advancements, Breakthroughs, and Worldwide Outlooks is what the conference is all about! The agenda consists of two tracks over two days: Clinical Toxicology and Advanced Emergency Care. Each day features a keynote speaker, as well as additional breakout sessions to engage more in your interests. For any questions, email us at coec@emory.edu.

**CREDITS**

- AMA PRA Category I credits – 10
- Nursing contact hours – 10
- PharmD credits – 10 contact hours or 1.0 CEU
- Hours of instruction – 10

**TRACKS**

- Toxicology Track**
  - The Toxic Heat Stroke Transmission
  - Antidotes and Antidotes?
  - Opioid Withdrawal Management
  - Toxic Metabolic Acidoses
  - Plus More!
- Emergency Care Track**
  - Pediatric DEA Management: Updates Since PECAN
  - How Trauma Kills You in the ED
  - Prehospital Whole Blood Administration
  - ECOM Considerations for the Frontlines
  - Opportunities for AI in Emergency Medicine
  - Plus More!
- Breakout Sessions**

**Register Now:**  
<https://cmtracker.net/EMORY/Publisher?page=pubOpen#/event/18746/>

**September 12-13**  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

**Courtyard by Marriott**  
130 Clairmont Ave,  
Decatur, GA 30030

**Virtual Option Available**

Join Emory Emergency Medicine's new Center for Advanced Emergency Care for the **Frontiers in Advanced Emergency Care Conference September 12-13, 2024**, in Atlanta. The conference will feature innovations in Emergency Ultrasound, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Prehospital Care, and Toxicology. The agenda consists of two tracks over two days: Clinical Toxicology and Advanced Emergency Care. Each day features a keynote speaker, as well as additional breakout sessions to engage more in your interests.

[Register Now](https://med.emory.edu/departments/emergency-medicine/strategic-programs-initiatives/center-for-advanced-emergency-care/annual-conference.html) for this unmissable CME opportunity (medical, nursing, pharmacy).

For more information visit:

<https://med.emory.edu/departments/emergency-medicine/strategic-programs-initiatives/center-for-advanced-emergency-care/annual-conference.html>



Through the combined efforts of ACEP and SAEM's Social Emergency Medicine Sections, along with the support of the Andrew Levitt Center for Social Emergency Medicine, Dr. John Lewis from Emory EM shared a new Social EM curriculum integrating concepts of social drivers of health.  
<https://www.studysem.org>

### Annual SAEM Conference

During the May SAEM Conference, the Emory EM team led 28 presentations. Congratulations to **Dr. Anika Backster** who received the 2023-24 ADIEM Visionary Educator Award. From ADIEM: this award is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated an extraordinary impact on the academic success of students or residents who are underrepresented in medicine or from historically marginalized groups.

We also want to recognize the 2024 SAEM leaders from Emory EM:

**Dr. Michelle Lall**, President-Elect, SAEM

**Dr. Katrina Gipson**, President, ADIEM

**Dr. Eliot Blum**, Member-at-Large, ADIEM

**Dr. Amy Zeidan**, President, AWAEM

**Dr. Taylor Stavely**, Vice-President of Membership, AWAEM

**Dr. Kellie LeVine**, Resident Member, AWAEM

**Dr. Shamie Das, Dr. Naomi Newton, and Dr. Anwar Osborne** represented Emory EM in Washington D.C. at the annual ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference.

**Dr. Michael Carr, Dr. McKenzie Eakin (PGY3), and Dr. Anna Yaffee** trained the Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole Fire and EMS in prehospital POCUS at the Teton County Search and Rescue headquarters. Emory provides medical direction to Atlanta area National Parks including MLK NHP, Kennesaw Mountain NBP, and Chattahoochee River NRA.



### Publications

Dr. Iyesatta Emeli, Autherine Abiri DNP, ENP-C, Dr. George Hughes, Timothy Moran Ph.D., Dr. Matthew Keadey, and Dr. Michael Ross published their study on “The benefits of a virtual emergency department observation unit for hospital observation patients” in the American Journal of Emergency Medicine. <https://authors.elsevier.com/c/1jWsG2dHVQClaa>

Dr. Anika Backster was part of a team that wrote “Improving Accessibility and Maximizing Inclusion in Emergency Medicine: the Role of Technology” for the May/June 2024 SAEM Pulse:

[https://issuu.com/saemonline/docs/saem\\_pulse\\_may-june\\_2024/24](https://issuu.com/saemonline/docs/saem_pulse_may-june_2024/24)

Dr. Jamal Taha, Dr. George Hughes, Dr. Matthew Keadey, Dr. Douglas Chesson, Tim Moran, Ph.D., Dr. Qasim Kazmi, Dr. Michael Ross wrote “The feasibility of emergency department observation units in the management of mild to moderate hyponatremia” for the American Journal of Emergency Medicine:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0735675724001050>

Dr. Ziad Kazzi was part of a team that wrote “Pediatric Medical Countermeasures: Antidotes and Cytokines for Radiological and Nuclear Incidents and Terrorism” for Cambridge University Press.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38651400/>



**EMORY**  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

**Department of  
Emergency Medicine**

## Summer MCG Update

Summer brings a bittersweet time for residencies across the country as we say goodbye to our outgoing class as they graduate and say hello to a fresh new cadre of interns to join our team. The same is here in Augusta as we welcome an enthusiastic class of fourteen new interns that come from a whole array of backgrounds. We are in the midst of wrapping up our orientation month and will be in full swing once again with this new class embarking on their first true rotation.

## Welcome Emergency Medicine Residency Class of 2027



**Gabriela Amadeo, DO**  
Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine



**Jelani Bender, MD**  
University of South Alabama



**Reggie Benson, MD**  
Medical College of Georgia



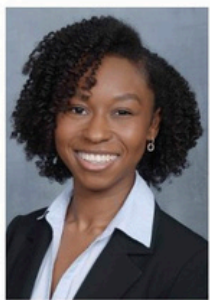
**Joshua Berk, MD**  
Uniformed Services University



**Robert Besch, MD**  
Uniformed Services University



**Jason Halley, DO**  
AT Still University



**Neva Hope, DO**  
William Carey University



**Tyler Jetjomlong, MD**  
Albany Medical College



**Manpreet Luthra, MD**  
University of South Carolina - Columbia



**Adir Mohaban, MD**  
Medical College of Georgia



**Tyler Reid, MD**  
University of Toledo



**Eddie Rutledge, DO**  
Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine



**Abby Thompson, DO**  
Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine



**Valdemar Wany, MD**  
Morehouse School of Medicine



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY  
**MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA**

Our outgoing graduates have made us proud this year with several starting their fellowship training in: Ultrasound (Maya Alexandri), Wilderness Medicine (Susan Brands and Lizzy Wesley), Critical Care (Jordan Cramer & Karly Flemmons), and EMS (Taylor Payne). We have a newly minted clerkship director in Texas (Ashlyn Herman), a community EM clinician (Carly Williams), and host of leadership in the US Army as EM physicians, some in the role of Flight Surgeons and Field Surgeons (Adam Henderson, Ryan Hodgeman, Nick Tannenbaum, Charlotte Todd, Mike Wallace) as well as a deputy commander of Clinical Services (Kelly Davison).

We are proud to have Dr Tannenbaum to have been selected as the MCG Resident of the Year. He has demonstrated exemplary leadership as our academic chiefs and holds himself to a high standard when it comes to meeting the clinical needs of his patients.

Our newest leaders in our residency include our chiefs Drs. Cooper Barber, Ben Caviston, Nicole Fuller and Brendan Miccio. We're thrilled to see our next generation of leaders also step in the roles of EMRA Sports Medicine Vice Chair (Ben Gold), EMRA Council Representative (Kevin Hendrickson), GCEP representative (Josh Mihalcin), and hospital sepsis committee representative (Chris Rowley).

As we look forward into the next academic year, we hotly anticipate the upgrade of our EHR to Epic which will be a tremendous benefit of all our trainees to effectively care for our patients. We'll be moving into a new resident lounge within the Emergency Department within the next year as our administrative and educational facilities will also be soon refreshed in a gorgeous office space next to campus. In the distance, we also look forward to the opening of our new training site a short drive away in Columbia County, which will provide our future residents with an opportunity to practice in a slightly more community oriented setting.

**Nicholas J Musisca, MD FACEP**  
**Residency Program Director**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Department of Emergency Medicine**  
**Wellstar/Medical College of Georgia**  
**Augusta University**

## Wellstar Kennestone Emergency Medicine Update

Barely one month in to the 2024-2025 academic year and the new residents have jumped in head first and have already become an integral part of the ED. They are off to a fantastic start in their training and we are excited about their addition to the program.

***Our biggest clinical update, is that we are now a Level 1 Trauma Center.***

This spring WellStar Kennestone was awarded the prestigious Level I Trauma Center verification from the American College of Surgeons and designation from the Georgia Department of Public Health State Office of EMS and Trauma. This extremely well deserved status is acknowledgement of the hard work and high quality care provided by our emergency medicine and trauma surgery teams and recognition of the vital role we play in Georgia's trauma network. Well done everyone!

New team members:

In addition to our intern class, we welcome a few new faces to the team.

**Annette Perry** joins us as a second Program Coordinator. She has worked for WellStar for many years but this is her first foray into the world of Graduate Medical Education. She has been a tremendous add to the residency leadership team and we are very lucky to have lured her to us.

**Dr. Nicholas Boyko** has been hired as a full-time clinical nocturnist.

**Dr. Andrew Smith** and **Dr. Rico Beuford** have joined us as administrative fellows (more on this below).



Finally, but perhaps most significantly, Dr. Danielle Bourget has been promoted to Core Faculty and will be assuming the role of CCC Chair and Resident Remediation Director. Dr. Bourget is a recent hire from Temple University in Philadelphia where she was a key member of the education team. She brings with her many years of academic experience and educational excellence to us and has already proven to be a fantastic add. Please join me in congratulating not only her promotion, but her being named Faculty Teacher of the Year by the most recent graduating class. She's a rockstar and we are thrilled to have her!

### **2024-2025 Chief Residents:**

We are pleased to announce our new chiefs for the upcoming academic year: Dr. Alaa Alghalayini, Dr. Joshua Sylvan, and Dr. Yashaswani Moparthi. We are confident that their leadership will continue to drive our program forward and support the ongoing success and development of our residents.



## Ultrasound

Enormous congratulations to our Ultrasound Director Dr. Kyle Embertson on passing his ultrasound boards. Well done Kyle!

We are also excited to announce several significant updates in our ultrasound section. First and foremost, we are proud to congratulate Dr. Sahil Patel on his graduation. Dr. Patel is now advancing his expertise as an Ultrasound Fellow at the University of Michigan. We would also like to congratulate Dr. Tom Li and Dr. Alex Cantral on their appointments as ultrasound chiefs for the 24/25 academic year. These chiefs are a huge resource to the rest of our residents throughout the year functioning as mini-fellows and expanding our educational capabilities.

In addition, we are thrilled to share that we are making major upgrades to our ultrasound infrastructure. This includes the introduction of multiple new ultrasound machines that will be available both in the department and our simulation center. These new machines will enhance our diagnostic capabilities and provide our learners with state-of-the-art training tools.

Furthermore, we are partnering with Exo Works to streamline and enhance the workflow for both our learners and clinicians. This collaboration aims to create more user-friendly and efficient processes, ultimately improving patient care and educational outcomes.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to advance and grow our ultrasound division!

## Administrative Fellowship

As the ApolloMD Emergency Medicine Administrative Fellowship enters its third year, we are thrilled to welcome our incoming fellows. Dr. Rico Beuford joins us from Duke University Medical Center where he completed his emergency medicine residency training. He will be working clinically at Kennestone. Dr. Andrew Smith is a home-grown talent having graduated from our own residency program in June. He will be working primarily at Cobb Hospital, but also spend time at our rural location in Sylvan Grove. Their interests include political advocacy, health equity, non-profit work, operations management, and entrepreneurship. They will be completing their MBAs at Emory University's Goizueta Business School and the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University.

In partnership with the WellStar Health System, the Administrative Fellowship is dedicated to cultivating and enhancing the leadership capabilities of motivated Emergency Medicine physicians, preparing them to become future leaders in all areas of the healthcare industry. The fellowship supports the pursuit of a master's degree in a program of the fellow's choice, providing a comprehensive and tailored educational experience.

We are actively recruiting for next year's class and look forward to furthering our mission of developing exceptional leaders in healthcare.

## Medical Student Education

We are continuing to see increasing interest in our acting internship applicants, which reflects the ongoing appeal and strength of our program. Our applicant number continue to skyrocket, and we have added additional spots to accommodate as many of them as possible. We are committed to maintaining and enhancing this level of engagement. Special thanks to Dr. Nitzken for his dedicated efforts and outstanding work as the Medical Student Coordinator, which have been instrumental in this success.

**Emergency Medicine Residency Program  
Wellstar Kennestone Regional Medical Center**  
***Through the Looking Glass: 79-Year-Old Male with  
Traumatic Vision Loss***

Presenting Author: Alexander Cantral, MD  
Additional Authors: Desiree LaCharite, MD

***Case Report: Management of Torsades de Pointes in a  
Patient with Alcohol Dependence***

Presenting Author: Ryan Ferguson, DO  
Additional Authors: Nauman Rashid, MD

***Emergency Department Orthopedic Reduction Study (ED  
ORAS): An Observational Cohort Study to Evaluate Efficacy  
of Current Practices in administering Sedation & Analgesia  
During Orthopedic Procedures in our ER***

Presenting Author: Sahil Patel, MD  
Additional Authors: Nauman Rashid, MD; Sandeep Bala, MD;  
Edward Stettner, MD

***That Escalated Quickly: Rapidly Progressive PCP Pneumonia  
with New AIDS Diagnosis***

Presenting Author: Sarah Price, MD  
Additional Authors: Nauman Rashid, MD; Mark Cruz MD

***Torsades de Pointes Following Kratom Ingestion***

Presenting Author: Jon Abigail Snider, MD, MS  
Additional Authors: Mohan Punja, MD

***Delayed Presentation of Post-Concussive Encephalopathy  
in an Elderly Patient: A Case Report***

Presenting Author: Joshua Sylvan, MD  
Additional Authors: Nauman Rashid MD

***Subcutaneous Ventriculoperitoneal Pseudocyst***

Presenting Author: Kelsey Woods, MD  
Additional Authors: Kyle Embertson MD; Nauman Rashid MD

## Scholarship

Emergency Medicine was very well represented at our most recent WellStar GME Research Day. Congratulations to the residents and faculty for their presentations at this annual event highlighting the research and scholarship of all of our residency programs.

Kudos to Dr. Blake Callahan one of our EM2s who's abstract A Predictive Nomogram Based Model for Lower Extremity Compartment Syndrome after Trauma, has been selected for a poster presentation at ACEP24 Research Forum in Las Vegas. Well done Blake!

Please join me in also congratulating Dr. Alex Cantral EM3 for winning Honorable Mention at the recent CHOA New Horizon's conference for his case report discussing a 6-month-old Unvaccinated Male with Stiffness and Fever.

I'll speak to you all again in a few more months. Enjoy the last weeks of summer!

**Ted Stettner**  
**Residency Program Director**

## Northeast Georgia Health System Update

### Residency and Education Updates

We're so excited for all the growth in our residency. This month we welcomed our third class of emergency medicine residents to finally complete our full complement. The interns have just completed orientation month which includes an entire EMS week where they get to do ropes rescue, swift water rescue, and use the jaws of life for vehicle rescue. Our intern class is boisterous, excited, and ready to hit the ground running on their first rotations. And in June, we took the graduating PGY2s for a class retreat to Kiawah Island for the Coastal Emergency Medicine Conference. In addition to our APD, Dr. Kathryn West, presenting on Diagnostic Stewardship in the ED, one of our senior residents, Dr. Seth Illu, won the Pecha Kucha speaker competition for his presentation titled, "Things to Do with Glue." We'd also like to recognize our inaugural group of chief residents who we elected at the end of the academic year and who attended CORD with the PD team. Drs. Leyanet Gonzalez, Mariah Jackson, Ziad Faramand, and Adebanke Oderinde will serve as the chief residents

And finally, we are still growing our faculty! We are actively recruiting and looking to hire residency faculty, especially those that are fellowship trained in EMS or Ultrasound! If you're interested in working for the largest democratic group in the state of Georgia with an amazing group of great residents, please reach out to the president of our group, Dr. Mohak Davé ([mohak@geds-emergency.com](mailto:mohak@geds-emergency.com)).

### Administrative Division Updates

GEDS is leading focused sessions for PGY 2's and 3's on the business of Emergency Medicine and system approaches to care and quality. As the largest independent democratic group in the state, GEDS wants the NGMC EM residents to have the skills when they graduate to continue growing independent democratic groups in GA and beyond. GEDS has partnered with our GME team to create a business of EM curriculum to teach our graduates a working knowledge of business concepts in medicine to allow them to graduate with the skills to communicate, negotiate and navigate the healthcare system.

### Observation Medicine

Our observation units continue to expand protocols and are consistently caring for 10% of our ED volumes at our 2 largest volume sites. Our length of stays are consistently 16 hours and inpatient bed capacity is expanded at each of these hospitals. This allows rapid transfer of patients out of the ED, decreases LOS for a large number of observation patients, increases patient and provider satisfaction and decreases LWBS and ED boarding.

### Simulation Division Updates

#### Mass Casualty Event Training

We completed our 2nd large scale mass casualty incident event on March 7th. This simulation aimed to provide realistic training scenarios for emergency medicine physician residents, frontline nurses, respiratory therapists, and chaplains. Collaborating with local fire, EMS, and police departments, the simulation aimed to enhance interdisciplinary coordination and preparedness for such events. Throughout the simulation, the PGY1 and PGY2 emergency medicine residents were challenged to apply their knowledge and skills in a high-pressure environment. Key training objectives included rapid triage and prioritization of patients based on severity of injuries, effective communication and teamwork among interdisciplinary teams, implementation of treatment protocols, and coordination with external agencies to ensure efficient resource utilization and patient care.

The simulated MCI at our learning center served as a valuable training opportunity for the physician residents to enhance their readiness and response capabilities. By simulating realistic scenarios and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, the simulation contributed to strengthening the collective ability to effectively manage MCIs and mitigate their impact on affected individuals and communities. Continued training and preparedness efforts are essential to ensure optimal response and care in the face of unforeseen emergencies.

## **SIM WARS**

Our PGY1 emergency medicine residents ended their intern year with our center for simulation and innovation's first SIM WARS event the first week of June. SIM WARS is a simulation competition between physician residents where residents participate in simulated medical scenarios that mimic real-life emergency situations. These competitions are typically organized to assess and enhance the clinical skills, decision-making abilities, teamwork, and communication skills of the participants. Benefits of such competitions include providing residents with hands-on experience in managing critical situations in a controlled environment, promoting teamwork and communication skills, and fostering a competitive yet supportive learning atmosphere. Overall, simulation competitions for residents play a crucial role in preparing them for real-life emergencies by allowing them to practice and refine their skills in a safe and educational setting. Thank you to our simulation team and emergency medicine faculty and attendings for making our first event a success.



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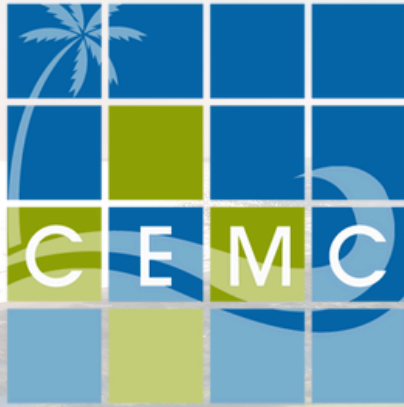
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