

# OB/GYN Residency Newsletter

October 2025  
Volume 8 Issue 1

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*"The success of our program depends on your time, commitment, and dedication."*

## A Word from the PD:

As we transition into the new academic year, I want to thank our faculty and residents for their contributions throughout 2024-2025. The success of our program depends on your time, commitment, and dedication.

### 2024-2025 Program Highlights:

1. All graduating residents exceeded the minimum ACGME procedural case requirements
2. Our program maintained Continued Accreditation status with no Citations or Areas of Concern from the ACGME
3. We successfully matched and welcomed our third class of five excellent interns
4. Our residents and faculty remained engaged in community outreach, including fundraising initiatives for local women's shelters, menstrual product and diaper drives, and ongoing partnerships with the Junior Urban Medical Pioneers (JUMP) High School Academy
5. Residents presented two research projects at national meetings

### Strategic Priorities for 2025-2026:

As we look ahead, our program will focus on several key initiatives to enhance educational quality and clinical excellence.

1. Refining the resident evaluation process to provide more comprehensive faculty feedback
2. Updating rotation-specific goals and objectives to align with current best practices
3. Optimizing JFWCC clinic scheduling templates to improve education and clinical workflows
4. Developing a comprehensive surgical curriculum, including a restructured preoperative clinic experience
5. Expanding our community engagement and service activities

I look forward to working with all of you in the year ahead as we continue to advance our mission of training exceptional obstetrician gynecologists.

#### Residents -

- Please complete your post rotation TrueLearn quizzes.
- Remember to log your duty hours daily.
- Please keep your case logs up to date on a weekly basis.
- Schedule a monthly meeting with your mentor and complete the mentoring form.

#### Faculty -

- Please complete the monthly post rotation evaluations in New Innovations within 2 weeks of receiving them.
- Continue to complete myTIPreports.
- Continue to meet with your mentees.

## Community Engagement

National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrated September 15-October 15:



Please click the link below for events around Philadelphia:

[Hispanic Heritage Month 2025 in Philly: 20+ Events & Festivals | Visit Philadelphia](#)

### October 15 Camden:

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage With Flavor, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Cafeteria Cape: Flavors of Dominican Republic, Cafeteria

### Lifting Up Camden Youth (LUCY) Outreach Food Drive:

The residents will be volunteering at Lifting Up Camden Youth (LUCY) Outreach food pantry on Friday, December 19.

We are collecting the following items needed:

- **Food Items** - Spaghetti sauce - Pasta - Peanut butter; jelly - Tortilla - Cereal - Breakfast bars - Granola bars - Fruit snacks - Trail mix - Pancake mix - Syrup - Brownie/cake mix - Coffee/tea
- **Toiletries/ Personal Care** - Toothbrushes - Toothpaste - Soap - Deodorant - Period products
- **Misc** - Napkins - Toilet paper - Paper towels - Disinfecting wipes (Clorox/ Lysol) - Heavy duty trash bags

There will be boxes in the L&D OB Workroom and at 101 Haddon Avenue, Suite 503A. If you would prefer, Dr. Kim will be collecting Venmo donations @YonSook-Kim and she will purchase items for you. Thank you for contributing to this worthy cause!



Edgar Soto, MD

Congratulations, Dr. Soto!

Edgar Soto has been selected as the NJ Section Junior Fellow Legislative Advocacy Chair. This role recognizes his dedication and passion for health policies and legislative advocacy.

## Research Division News

### Resident/Fellow Research Presentation Dinner

The Resident/Fellow Research Day was held on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Third-year residents and fellows present to the faculty, residents, medical students and staff.

#### PGY-3 Resident Research Projects:

Dr. Alyssa Brown: "Nulliparous Term Singleton Vertex (NTSV) C-Section Rate Reduction"  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rori Dajao

Dr. Alexa Corso: "Instagram as an Antepartum Education Tool for Improving Breastfeeding Knowledge and Intention to Breastfeed Rates"  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Robin Perry

Dr. Emily Hahm: "Comparing adverse outcomes of fetal growth restriction defined by abdominal circumference versus estimated fetal weight: A Retrospective Chart Review"  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ankita Kulkarni  
*(Congratulations to Dr. Hahm whose project was recently accepted for a poster presentation at the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Annual Meeting on February 11!)*

Dr. Karissa Rajagopal: "Vaginal Self Swab Protocol: Quality Improvement Incentive"  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Frances Martinez-Diaz

#### Fellow Research Projects:

URPS Fellow: Dr. Alicia Palmieri: "Role of Cannabinoid Receptor Signaling Pathway in Interstitial Cystitis/Bladder Pain Syndrome"  
Faculty Mentor: Lioudmila Lipetskaia, MD, MSc and Michael DiSanto, PhD

Gyn Onco Fellow: Dr. Helen Toma: "The role of NRF2 in high grade serous ovarian cancer differentiation and treatment"  
Faculty Mentor: Samera Hamad, Ph.D.

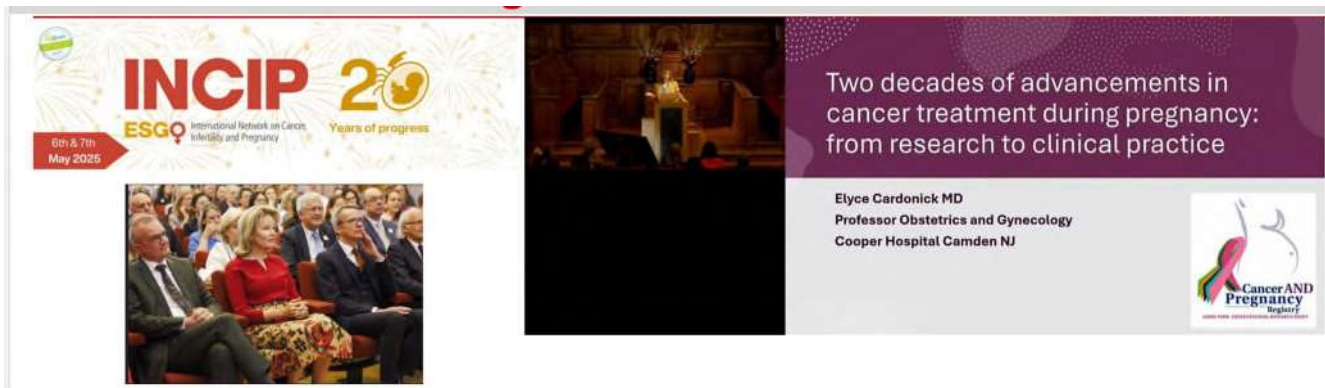


Congratulations to Dr. Karissa Rajagopal and Alicia Palmieri who received the Research Award!



## Research Division News (cont)

Congratulations to Dr. Cardonick for presenting at the 20<sup>th</sup> INCIP Conference!  
Attended by the Queen Consort of Belgium!!



### QI/PI Projects 2025-2026

Resident QI project requirement as a class will now be longitudinal throughout residency, which will provide more meaningful scholarly experiences and creating sustained quality improvement initiatives. The residents are still required to present their QI project updates annually in June at Grand Rounds.

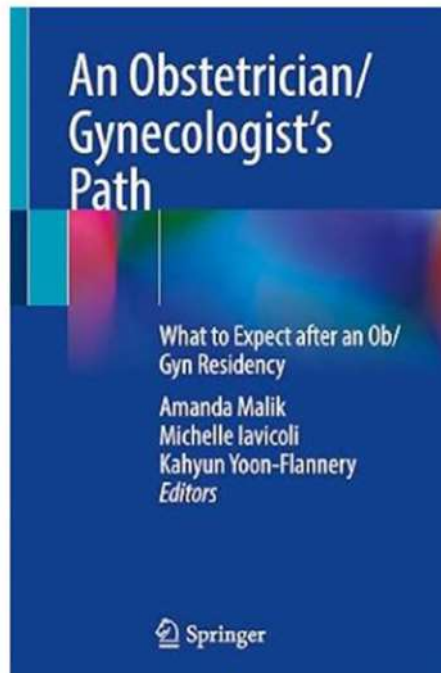
QI projects this year included:

- a. PGY-1 residents: "We Want to See You Soon! A QI Project to Improve Postpartum Attendance, Including BP checks"
- b. PGY-2 residents: "Meds to Beds"
- c. PGY-4 residents: "Tdap Rates and Documentation at Women's Care Center"

Research Division News (cont)



Amanda Malik, MD



Michelle Iavicoli, MD, FACOG

Congratulations to all the authors!!

Lioudmila Lipetskaia	Christina Chu	Carly Ross	Robin Perry	Simone Sweeny	Rori Dajao
Kristina Williams	Sook Kim	Amanda Mailk	Peter Chen	Richard Fischer	Dave Warshal
Michelle Iavicoli	Guy Hewlett	Lori Adriance	Kathy Schaeffer	Natali Franzblau	Jocelyn Williams
	Anna Pancheshnikov	Karissa Rajagopal	Meredith Crisp	Kyle Le	

## Research Division News (cont)

### Peer Reviewed Articles

#### Gynecologic Oncology

- Esnaola NF, Chelluri R, Castellanos J, Altman A, Chen DYT, Chu C, Farma JM, Haber A, Sheri F, Huang C, Kutikov A, Patel S, Patrick K, Reddy S, Rubin S, Viterbo R, Ridge JA, Edelman M, Ross E, Smaldone M, Uzzo RG. A randomized, controlled trial evaluating perioperative risk-stratification and risk-based, protocol-driven management after elective major cancer surgery. *Ann Surg.* 2025;280(3):295-403. doi:10.1097/SLA.0000000000006446. PMID: 39045699.
- Toma H, Katz C, Hong H, Kelly R, Diasti H, Krill L, Warshal D. Pembrolizumab and lenvatinib in the treatment of recurrent, platinum-resistant ovarian cancer: A single institution experience. *J Clin Oncol.* 2025;43:e17612. doi:10.1200/JCO.2025.43.16\_suppl.e17612.
- Covens, A., Huang, H., Monk, B., Yong-Beom, K., Moon-Hong, K., Warshal, D., et al. Evaluation of efficacy and fertility after nonradical surgical therapy (extra fascial hysterectomy or conc biopsy, with pelvic lymphadenectomy) for stage IA I , IA2, and IB I cervical cancer (GOG-0278) March 2025 *Gynecologic Oncology* 195(4):59-65 DOI: 10.1016/j.ygyno.2025.03.005
- Carter, J., Huang, H., Monk, B., Yong-Beom, K., Moon-Hong, K., Stuckey, A Warshal, D., et al. Evaluation of physical function and quality of life before and after nonradical surgical therapy for stage IA1 and IA2-IB1 cervical cancer (GOG0278) March 2025 *Gynecologic Oncology* 195(4):50-58 DOI: 10.1016/j.ygyno.2025.02.023
- Thaker, P., Richardson, D., Holloway, R., Hagemann, Reed, M., Bergman, M., Bhavani P, DePasquale S, Scalici JM, Bregar AM, Da-rus,CJ, Finkelstein K, Leath CA, Bell, M, Warshal D, et al. OVATION-2: A randomized phase I/II study evaluating the safety and efficacy of IMNN-001 (IL-12 gcnc therapy) with neo/adjuvant chemotherapy in patients newly diagnosed with advanced epithelial ovarian cancer June 2025 *Gynecologic Oncology* 197 DOI: 10.1016/j.ygyno.2025.04.578

#### General Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Hunter K, Ehrlich M, Mitchell-Williams J. An obesity paradox in preterm birth: A case control study. *PLoS One.* 2025;20(5):e0321876. doi:10.1371/journal.pone. 0321876.

#### Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility

- Vessa B, Franasiak J. Late bloomers: exploring the reproductive potential of day 7 embryos. *Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol* 2025 Jun 1;37(3):158-163. PMID: 40171986 DOI: 10.1097/GCO.0000000000001021
- Le KN, Maguire M, Puchalt NG, Lidon L, Sánchez-Martínez A, Franasiak J, Osman E. Parental balanced translocation carriers do not have decreased usable blastulation rates or live birth rates compared with infertile controls. *Fertil Steril* 2025 May;123(5):865-872. doi: 10.1016/j.fertnstert.2024.11.010. Epub 2024 Nov 13. PMID: 39542124

#### Maternal Fetal Medicine

- Cortes JE, Abruzzese E, Cardonick EH, Hernandez-Diaz S, Gutierrez J, Sardegna MS, et al. Perspectives on drug development for the treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia in pregnant patients and patients who are breastfeeding. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2024 Jul 5. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-24-0826
- Huis in 't Veld EA, Van Assche IA, Van Calsteren K, Salaets T, Sliker MG, Cardonick E, et al. Long-term development of 12- and 15-year-old offspring after maternal cancer diagnosis during pregnancy. *Annals of Oncology.* 2025. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.an-nonc.2025.04.011>

#### Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

- Lipetskaia L, Gupta A, Cheung RYK, et al. International Urogynecological Consultation Chapter 2.2: Imaging in the Diagnosis of Pelvic Organ Prolapse. *Int Urogynecol J.* 2025;36(4):759-781. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00192-024-05948-4>

## Research Division News (cont)

### Abstracts

#### Maternal Fetal Medicine

- Fetal and neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (FNAIT) risk across racial and ethnic populations: interim data from an international, prospective natural history study. Sitras V1, Vander Haar E2, Bussel JB2, Abshier-Ware C3, Allen GM4, Alson S5, Black D6, Dhanraj D7, Gupta A8, Hart LA9, Kohari K10, Lambert C11, Litorp H12, Mendez-Figueroa H13, McFarland EA2, Nanda S14, Paidas MJ15, Palomares K16; Perry R17, Pothof R18, Rosen T19, Schleussner E20, Skupski DW2, Swarup M21, Tiller H22, Thorp J23, Wiberg-Itzel E24, Williams SF25, Lawrence L26, Bombara M26, Armstrong R26, Verweij EJT18, Miller R27. Oral presentation by Dr. Verweij, 22nd World Congress in Fetal Medicine. Prague, Czech Republic. June 30th 2025.
- Maternal human platelet antigen (HPA)-1a alloimmunization: interim data from an international, prospective natural history study of fetal and neonatal alloimmune thrombocytopenia (FNAIT). Vander Haar E2, Sitras V1, Bussel JB2, Abshier-Ware C3, Allen GM4, Alson S5, Black D6, Dhanraj D7, Gupta A8, Hart LA9, Kohari K10, Lambert C11, Litorp H12, Mendez-Figueroa H13, McFarland EA2, Nanda S14, Paidas MJ15, Palomares K16; Perry R17, Pothof R18, Rosen T19, Schleussner E20, Skupski DW2, Swarup M21, Tiller H22, Thorp J23, Wiberg-Itzel E24, Williams SF25, Lawrence L26, Bombara M26, Armstrong R26, Miller R27, Verweij EJT18. Oral presentation by Dr. Verweij, 22nd World Congress in Fetal Medicine. Prague, Czech Republic. June 30th 2025.

#### Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery

- Palmieri L, Lipetskaia L, Carrasco G, DiSanto M. Cannabinoid receptor 2 signaling in regulating inflammation in interstitial cystitis/bladder pain syndrome. Presented at: American Urological Association (AUA) Annual Meeting; April 2025; Las Vegas, NV.
- Burton L, Lipetskaia L, DiSanto M. Effect of local estrogen therapy on cannabinoid receptor expression in the anterior vaginal wall of women with pelvic organ prolapse. Presented at: International Urogynecological Association (IUGA) Annual Meeting; 2025; Barcelona, Spain.
- Burton L, Lipetskaia L, DiSanto M. Investigating cannabinoid receptors in clitoral and peri-clitoral tissues for targeted therapy in clitorodysplasia, female sexual dysfunction, and pelvic pain. Presented at: International Urogynecological Association (IUGA) Annual Meeting; 2025; Barcelona, Spain.

#### Gynecologic Oncology

- Katz C, Toma H, Azmoudeh Y, Bendjilali N, Karaduman H, Shojaei H, Zhu G, Krill L, Chu C, Warshal D, Wang Y, Hamad S. Chemotherapies change the NRF2 levels and impact the differentiation and growth of human high grade serous ovarian cancer. Presented at: American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting; April 2025; Chicago, IL.
- Katz C, Toma H, Azmoudeh Y, Bendjilali N, Karaduman H, Shojaei H, Zhu G, Krill L, Chu C, Warshal D, Wang Y, Hamad S. High grade serous ovarian cancer differentiation and invasion post chemotherapy: Role of NRF2. Presented at: American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO); 2025; Online publication.
- Thaker. PH., Richardson, DL., Ilagernann, AR., Bergman, M., Pothuri, 13., Warshal, DP., et al. A phase 1/II study of the safety and efficacy of intraperitoneal IMNN-001 in combination with neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NACT) of paclitaxel and carboplatin in patients newly diagnosed with advanced epithelial ovarian cancer (FOC): Updated survival analysis from OVATION-2 trial. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* Volume 43, Number 16\_suppl doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2025.43.16\_suppl1.5516

#### General Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Fischer R, Machac N, Hunter K, Adriance L. A comparison of induction of labor success rates over three time periods in 20 years at a single academic tertiary care center. Presented at: Camden Scholar's Forum; March 2025; Camden, NJ.

## Research Division News (cont)

### What makes a good surgeon?

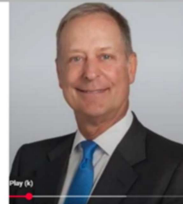
Saifuddin Mama, MD,  
MPH, FACOG, FACS



# SGS

SOCIETY OF  
GYNECOLOGIC SURGEONS

Congrats to  
Dr Mama!



### General Updates:

#### Upcoming change in Process for Fetal Loss Study:

1. No longer collecting blood at Cooper. Oral swabs will be sent and collected by mail
2. Continue to collect cord segments (1-2 cm of normal-appearing segment in sterile urine container with saline) from losses over 14 weeks (will be backup sample).
3. Contact Dr. Perry or Alex Santangelo with potentially eligible patients

### PRC Studies:

#### SHePREG: Study of Heart function in PRE-eclampsia during and after Pregnancy

Local PI: Dr. Perry

Co-Is: Dr. Mazzarelli, Dr. Mitchell-Williams, Dr. Dajao

#### ADEPT Trial: A Dose Escalation Study of Low Dose Aspirin for the Prevention of Recurrent Preterm Birth

Local PI: Dr. Perry

Co-Is: Dr. Mitchell-Williams, Dr. Dajao

Pfizer GBS Vaccine Study: Pfizer Phase 3 RPCCT of Maternal GBS Vaccine Candidate

Local PI: Dr. Chen

## Spotlight on Faculty Member, Dr. Meredith Duffy

Where did you go to medical school and residency?  
*University of Kentucky College of Medicine (Go Cats!)*

Where did you do your Fellowship?  
*University of Miami, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center*

What book are you currently reading?  
*Resilient Soul by Brad Leach*

What is your favorite restaurant?  
*Oh, this is hard because I really enjoy good food. Right now, my favorite restaurant is Good Earth in Cape May, NJ.*

What do you like to do in your spare time?  
*I like to take adventures with my husband. These are usually unplanned and local. We set out for the day with a location or one activity in mind and then the day unfolds. We may find a spot to take a walk, hike, ride our bikes and have a picnic. On several occasions, we have found ourselves at random community festivals. Other adventures may be planned trips, local or international. Either way, my husband says he is in charge of security and heavy lifting. I am in charge of technology and snacks. We always meet interesting people and have fun conversations.*

What do you like most and least about medicine?  
*Most- Helping people.  
Least- Long OR turnovers and late OR nights.*

What advice would you give to Cooper residents?  
*Enjoy your time in training where you get to develop your autonomy and skills while having someone supervising and quickly available to answer a question or strategize a challenge in the OR.*



Meredith Duffy, MD, FACOG  
Gynecologic Oncologist

Associate Professor of Clinical  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



## Spotlight on New Faculty



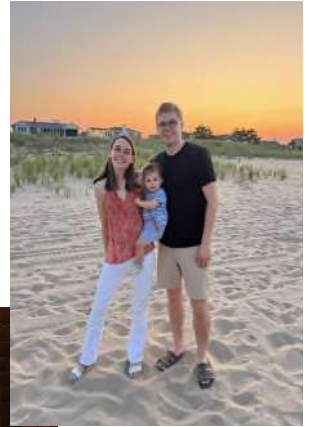
Elaine Hynds, MD

Where did you complete your residency?  
*I completed my residency at Pennsylvania Hospital, right across the bridge.*

What do you look forward to the most about teaching residents?  
*I am looking forward to helping residents improve their confidence in the operating room as they become well-rounded surgeons. I hope to learn up-to-date guidance from them, as well.*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?  
*I love Weckerle's ice cream, now in Rittenhouse. Does this count as a restaurant?*

What do you like to do when you are not working?  
*I love running along the Schuylkill River trail, spending time with my husband and daughter, and traveling. Over the summer I went to southern France!*



Where did you complete your residency?  
*I completed my residency at Pennsylvania Hospital.*

What do you look forward to the most about teaching residents?  
*I look forward to watching them grow and build their own skills!*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?  
*My favorite restaurant is Southwark*

What do you like to do when you are not working?  
*Eat!!!, go down the shore, watch the EAGLES!*



Jenna Snyder, MD



## Spotlight on New Faculty (cont)



Stephanie Kass,  
MD, FACOG

Where did you complete your residency and fellowship?

*At the absolute best place to train, Cooper! Then went on to complete my fellowship in MIGS at Northwell Health (Long Island/Manhattan, NY).*

What do you look forward to the most about teaching residents?

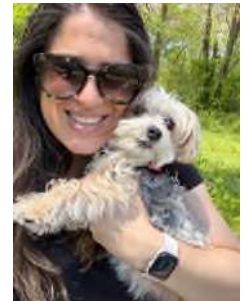
*I am most looking forward to teaching residents how to think outside of the box surgically and how to do procedures that markedly improve the quality of our patients' lives.*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

*Atomix (for a once in a lifetime super special occasion in NYC)  
Li Beirut (for a great local meal in Collingswood, NJ)*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*I love traveling, trying new restaurants, and spending time with my family - especially my daughter Penny and dogtor and Daisy!*



### Attention Class of 2026

#### ABOG Dates and Fees

2024 Specialty Qualifying Exam JULY 20, 2026

#### EXAM FEES IF PAID BETWEEN

Jan 7 - Feb 15, 2026

\$1,750

Feb 16 - Feb 28, 2026

\$1750 + \$400 late fee = \$2150

#### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Jan 7, 2026

Applications available online

Feb 15, 2026

Last day to apply without late fee penalty

Feb 28, 2026

Final deadline

Jan 2026-Feb 2026

Candidates will be notified of approval to take the examination and to make a Pearson VUE Testing Center computer reservation

April 25, 2026

Last day to reserve seat at Pearson VUE prior to seat block release

July 20, 2026

Qualifying Examination at Pearson VUE Testing Centers

## Spotlight on APP OB Hospitalists!

What do you look forward to the most about your new role?

*After practicing in the outpatient setting for over 20 years, I am looking forward to honing my skills in the inpatient setting. I love to learn and help to create this new APP role has been an amazing experience so far.*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

*Buddakan- an oldie, but goodie!*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*I love to travel. Prior to coming to Cooper, I spent a month in Italy with my family- husband Tony, daughter Natalie, 20, and son Anthony, 17. We hiked, researched some of our family ancestry, took a cooking class, toured historical sites, and of course, ate a lot! My next trip will be in October, when I will be going to London to spend some time with my daughter, who is studying history in the UK this year.*



Nicole Parone, DNP, APN, WHNP-BC  
Lead APP



Frances Doria, MSN, APN-BC

What do you look forward to the most about your new role?

*I am excited to step into my new role caring for our postpartum patients and supporting safe discharges - grateful for my journey from the ambulatory setting to inpatient OB triage, with the opportunity to build that role as an APP hospitalist.*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

*I have so many but if I had to pick, I would say Hen which is Vietnamese cuisine and my ultimate favorite food to eat.*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*I am a gym rat so I can be found at Planet fitness almost every day after work. I will be traveling to Saint Lucia in December and very excited. I also love to cook and bake, especially during the holidays.*

What do you look forward to the most about your new role?

*I look forward to the teamwork and learning something new every day.*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

*I am not much of a foodie. I like diner food or food that I don't have to cook for myself.*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*Home improvement projects, genealogy, spending time with family.*



Antoinette (Toni) McCahill, DNP, APN, WHNP-BC

## Spotlight on Chief Residents

### Dr. Alyssa Brown, Administrative Chief



Where did you relocate from?

*I'm originally from Hollidaysburg, PA. Medical school in Scranton, PA*

What do you enjoy most about Cooper?

*The camaraderie between residents and attendings!*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

*The Crab House in Wildwood, NJ*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*I like to spend time with family and friends, travel, and be a beach bum!*

Now that you are in your last year of residency, what advice do you have for your junior residents?

*Take advantage of every learning opportunity!*

### Dr. Emily Hahm, Administrative Clinic Chief

Where did you relocate from?

*I relocated from Brooklyn, NY*

What do you enjoy most about Cooper?

*My coresidents are my favorite part of Cooper!*

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

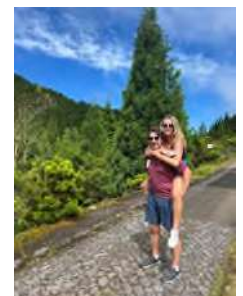
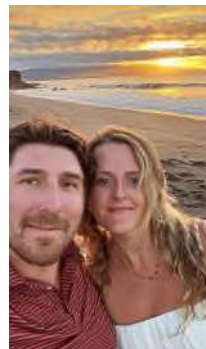
*Quality Italian in NYC is my favorite.*

What do you like to do when you are not working?

*When I'm not working I like to travel to NYC and explore the city with my fiancé and follow NY sports teams like the Yankees, Giants and Islanders.*

Now that you are in your last year of residency, what advice do you have for your junior residents?

*The best advice I have is to keep asking questions and getting involved in as many learning opportunities as possible.*



*Ciaran Smolinsky, MD  
OB/GYN hospitalist at Lankenau Hospital  
Cooper OBGYN Resident 2015-2019*



## Spotlight on Alumna, Dr. Ciaran Smolinsky

What year did you finish residency?  
*I finished my residency in 2019*

What is your current role?  
*I am an OBGYN hospitalist at Lankenau Hospital. I work mostly nights and weekends covering Labor and Delivery, but I am maintaining my outpatient skills supervising the resident clinic a few days a month. For the past few years, I have also been a clinical writer for UWorld - this helps me stay up to date on guidelines and forces me to keep up my USMLE knowledge!*

What first inspired me to go into OBGYN?  
*I knew I wanted to be an OBGYN since before I went to medical school. I love taking care of women and getting to be a part of some of the most important moments of their lives. And I like having a cut and dry problem (baby needs to get out) with a tangible product (usually a baby) at the end. As a wise Dr. Lori Adriance once told me during a super difficult C section, "well we can't just leave the baby in there."*

What advice would you give to OBGYN residents?  
*Two things: First, take time to ask your OB patients about their delivery preferences and try to accommodate them if you can. There is often more than one "right" way to manage labor and while we do this every day, most of our patients don't and I think it means a lot if we can make it the best experience for them as possible. Second, trust your instincts - if something feels wrong even though the patient looks ok, you're probably right and things can get bad quickly.*

How do you spend your free time/hobbies or interests?  
*Mostly spending time with my family, planning my wedding, walking around Philadelphia, and browsing on Zillow or Redfin and dreaming about buying a house. Three years ago I decided to start taking figure skating lessons (I always wanted to as a kid but never did) and I haven't gotten injured yet!*

In honor of Dr. Ances, we have renamed our OB/GYN Alumni Fund to the I.G. Ances, M.D. Memorial OBGYN Alumni Fund for Resident Education and Wellness. Donations can be made in his memory to: The Cooper Foundation, 101 Haddon Avenue, 08103 or online [HERE](#) and select Direct my gift to: I.G. Ances, M.D Memorial OBGYN Alumni Fund for Resident Education and Wellness in the drop-down menu.



## Congratulations!



Michelle Iavicoli, MD, FACOG

Vice Chief  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Cooper

### Graduates of Cooper 2025 Physician Leadership Program



Rori Dajao, MD



Laurel Krill, MD

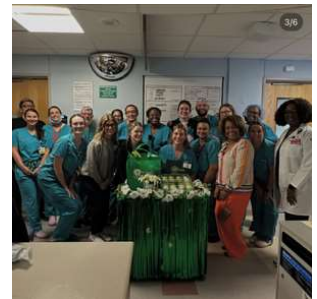


Anna Pancheshnikov, MD

### Congratulations!

Two of our nurses were presented the  
DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing

Julie Ghaul, RN     January 2025  
Emily Kehs, RN     September 2025



### OB/GYN Team Player of the Quarter Voted by their Peers

3rd Quarter 24-25

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 24-25



Karissa Rajagopal, DO



Savina Reid-Herrera, MD



Edgar Soto, MD

### Resident SIM Days

On July 24, 2025, Residents practiced operative vaginal deliveries, laparoscopy, IUPC and FSE placements



Our residents worked with the Urogyn team to perfect their TVH skills on September 5, 2025



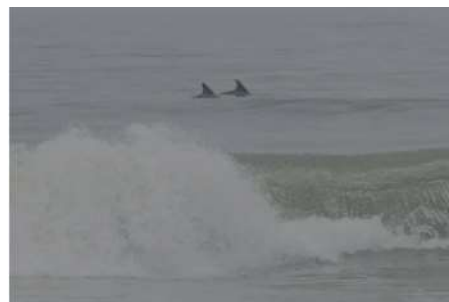
## Philadelphia Regional Educational Consortium in OBGYN

**PRECOG** is an annual boot camp for new interns. This year it was held on June 27, at the Virtua Simulation Center. 46 interns and 19 faculty from the OB/GYN programs from the surrounding region, including our own faculty, Drs. Hewlett, Malik and Kim participated. The interns learned knot tying, how to perform cesarean deliveries, perineal repairs, laparoscopy, hysteroscopy, cervical ripening techniques and IUD placement.



*Special thanks to the Program Administrators who helped keep things moving throughout the day.*

**RESIDENT RETREAT**  
June 6, 2025  
Relax, Restore, Rejuvenate!



On behalf of the residents, we wanted to say thank you for covering us and sponsoring our Resident Retreat on 6/6/2025. The weather wasn't so perfect, but a day at the beach always soothes the soul.

We appreciate you all!



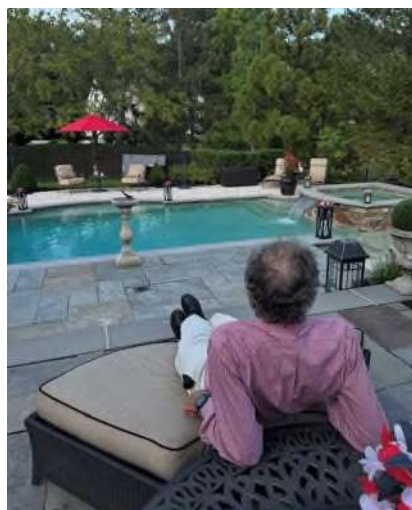
Day team coverage provided by  
Drs. Kulkarni, Mercado,  
Sweeney, Hennebery, Malik  
and Ross

Evening shift was covered by  
Drs. Williams, Mercado and  
Toidze



Welcome 2025-2026 Academic Year!

Many thanks to the LaMotta Family for hosting another fantastic Welcome Party!!!



## Celebrating Our Graduates



PGY 1



Graduation  
Day



## Ob/Gyn Graduation Celebration Adventure Aquarium, Camden, NJ



## Congratulations to the 2025 Graduation Ceremony Award recipients!

### Resident Awards

- Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Resident Award for Excellence in Obstetrics: *Alexa Corso, DO*
- AAGL Resident Award for Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology: *Alyssa Brown, MD*
- Society of Gynecologic Oncology Annual Award: *Anna White, DO*
- AUGS Award for Excellence in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery: *Savina Reid-Herrera, MD*
- SLS Resident Achievement Award Outstanding MIS Resident 2025: *Anna White, DO*
- Ryan Program Resident Award for Excellence in Family Planning: *Alyssa Brown, MD*
- Society for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility: *Amelle Williams, MD*
- Department Awards:
  - Professionalism: *Lexie Quiñonez, MD*
  - Social Media Recognition Award: *Edgar Soto, MD*
  - Resident Teacher of the Year: *Caroline MacGillivray, MD*
  - Resident of the Year: *Anna White, DO*

### Faculty Awards

- APGO Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Medical Education: *Peter Chen, MD*
- CREOG Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education: *Irina Tkach-Chubay, MD*
- Resident Ally Award: *Kathleen Schaeffer, DO*



Dr. Tkach-Chubay  
receives the CREOG  
Faculty Award



Dr. Schaeffer receives  
The Resident Ally Award

*We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the faculty  
for sponsoring our graduation celebration.  
This event would not be possible without your generous support!*

*Thank you!*

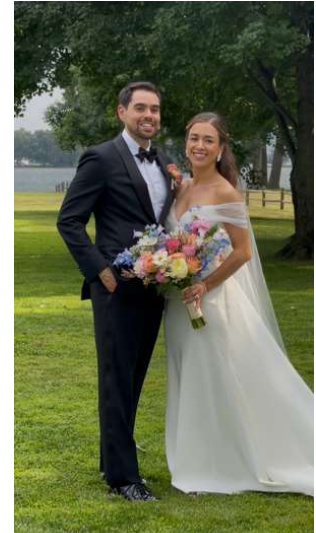
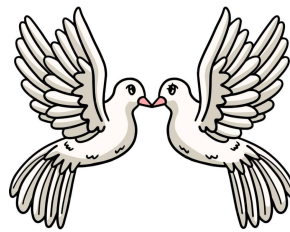
**We would also like to thank the faculty who have  
provided breakfast during didactics.  
We truly appreciate you!**

Cooper Family News

*Congratulations!!!*



*Dr. Kelsey Murray and her  
husband Gregory Wall  
April 12, 2025*



*Dr. Alexa Cosro and  
her husband Joe Baez  
September 6, 2025*



*Celebrating  
Dr. Russell,  
the Bride to Be*

*Dr. Ashley Russell and her  
husband Patrick Schaefer  
September 27, 2025*



OB/GYN FAMILY MEMBERS

Newest Additions to Our OB/GYN Family



Welcome Ariana Jane Metter!

Ariana was born on June 19,  
2025 weighing 6 lbs 14 oz.

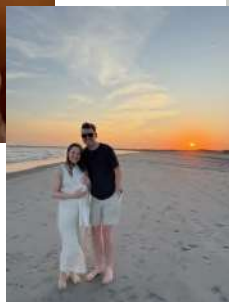
Congratulations Dr. Ross and her  
husband Jon Metter.



Welcome Thomas Ford Lindeman II (Ford)!

Ford was born on September 5,  
2025 to happy parents Dr. Burton  
and her husband Tommy Lindeman.

He weighed 7 lb 15.9 oz.



Welcome Meryn Catherine Brown!

Meryn arrived on September 9,  
2025. She weighed 7lbs 1.3oz.

Congratulations Drs. Alyssa and  
Ryan Brown!



OB/GYN FAMILY MEMBERS

Proud Parents & Grandparents

Dr. Kass's daughter, Penny

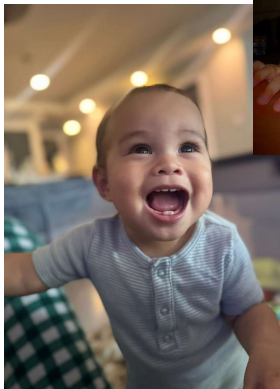


Penny and Amaya



Dr. Kulkarni's daughter Amaya

Dr. Malik's sons, Harvey and AJ

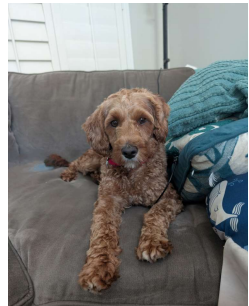


Dr. McGuire Calilung's son Ronny



New addition  
Lizzie Krill,  
Queen of  
England

Dr. Krill's Family:  
husband, sons  
James and Duke



Dr. Fischer with  
his daughter, and  
grandkids, Lily,  
Oliver and Casey

More OB/GYN FAMILY MEMBERS



Dr. Bruckler's Kids: Alexandria,  
Matthew and Andrew

Dr. Sweeney's son, Theo



Laura's grandson, Theo



Dr. Hewlett's grandson, Ellis

Dr. Bruckler & Andrew  
Dr. Malik & Harvey  
Dr. Kass & Penny



A few of Sue's grandkids:

Noah & Norah

Trae & Tristan



Addison



## Important Dates & Announcements

### Important Dates:

October 24	Resident SIM
October 31	Wellness Day
November 7, 14, 21	Residency Interviews
December 5, 12	Residency Interviews
December 19	Lifting Up Camden Youth (LUCY) Food Pantry
January 9	Residency Interviews
January 14, 15, 16	CREOG In-training Examinations
January 30	Wellness Day
February 6	Faculty SIM
February 13	Resident SIM
March 13	TLH SIM
March 20	Match Day
March 27	Resident Mock Orals PGY-1 & 4
April 10	Resident Mock Orals PGY-2 & 3
May 15	TLH SIM
May 22	Wellness Day
May 29	Annual Program Review
June 5	Resident Retreat
June 25	Resident and Fellow Graduation



We encourage you to send in updates so we can keep everyone apprised of current happenings in their personal and professional lives. Please send your updates and newsworthy information as well as any comments and suggestions to [mcfadden-susan1@cooperhealth.edu](mailto:mcfadden-susan1@cooperhealth.edu)