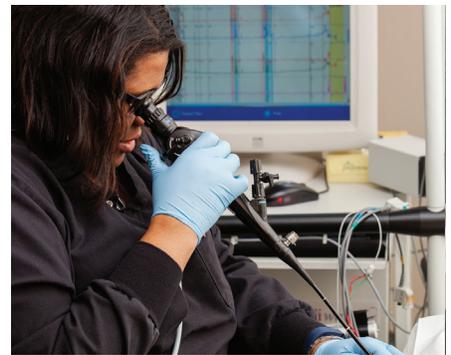


2019-2020

Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program



Our mission:

To serve. To heal.

To educate.



Welcome



Thank you for your interest in the Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS) Fellowship Program at Cooper University Health Care. Our program is three years in length and accepts one fellow per year. The FPMRS fellowship functions as an integral component of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program and both programs are currently accredited by the ACGME.

Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery is one of five divisions within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cooper University Health Care (CUHC) employs 34 full-time faculty members committed to delivering the finest patient care and providing the best education for the next generation of physicians. The program consists of three years of broad-based training in urogynecology with access to innovative research and dynamic clinical training in an academic environment. The FPMRS program has an active conference schedule with monthly clinical conferences and Journal Club, in addition to organized didactic conferences offered on a biweekly basis. First- and second-year rotations consist of FPMRS, urology, colorectal, and two weeks of plastic surgery. The third year typically consists of a more focused experience on these services with the opportunity for external electives if there is interest. Fellows participate in regular continuity clinic sessions at The Jaffe Family Women's Care Center at Cooper, following their own panel of patients throughout the three years of training.

The Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program at Cooper places special emphasis on the importance of comprehensive education and developing collegial relationships between faculty and fellows. FPMRS faculty hold academic appointments at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) and are actively involved in medical-student educational programs at the medical school. There is a high faculty-to-fellow ratio with three core and six non-core employed faculty involved in the education of three FPMRS fellows. The program offers access to faculty with expertise in a variety of specialties as they pertain to the field of FPMRS, including vaginal; abdominal and endoscopic reconstructive surgery; pelvic floor anatomy; genitourinary and rectovaginal fistula repair; urodynamics and cystoscopy; multiple treatment modalities for urinary incontinence; integrative medicine in urogynecology; and urologic, colorectal, and plastics procedures.

The following pages provide specific information about FPMRS fellowship training at Cooper. We invite you to take the time to explore our program.

CooperHealth.edu

About this Program



“Urogyn fellowship at Cooper was the best time in my training years.

Attendings put an emphasis on education, not service.

You are exposed to various approaches of different surgeries.

The variety and volume of surgeries is unmatched by any other fellowship program. However, that is not all you learn. Most importantly, they will show you how much you should care about patients.”

...

**Sang Ho Rhee, MD
2014**

Attending Urogynecologist
MidAtlantic Urology Associates, LLC
Greenbelt, Maryland

Cooper’s department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cooper University Health Care offers women a full range of advanced medical programs and services through all stages of life. All OB-GYN sub-specialists are board-certified and fellowship-trained, offering expert treatment options in many areas from the management of pregnancy and delivery, maternal fetal medicine, gynecologic oncology, treatment of disorders of the reproductive system, to pelvic and sexual health. Cooper is distinguished as a state-designated Regional Perinatal Center, serving the region’s highest-risk patients in need of the most serious care

Cooper’s division of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery was established in the late 1990s and accredited in 2000 when the first fellow was accepted. The division has more than 5,000 patient visits and 400 surgeries per year. The division has trained fellows that have gone on to practice in many universities around the country.

The FPMRS team works closely with the divisions of urology, colorectal surgery, plastic surgery, and physical therapy to provide patients with access to comprehensive care that best meets their needs. Although Cooper University Hospital is the core teaching facility where patients are seen and surgeries are performed, urogynecologic care is provided at many of the surrounding community hospitals from central to southern New Jersey. Their two offices are located in Voorhees and Hamilton, in addition to the Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center, a fellow-run office in Camden where patients receive the most up-to-date diagnostic and treatment modalities available.

Our division’s faculty is nationally recognized for their skills in vaginal reconstructive surgery and are considered key opinion leaders in FPMRS. They are all founders of international mission organizations that provide much needed care to women around the world. Former fellows have had the opportunity to provide mission work around the world, adding to the unique opportunities that continue to enhance our program.

The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center

The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center at Cooper University Hospital provides obstetric and gynecologic care for patients with financial burdens. The primary goals of this clinic are to provide services for those who otherwise cannot afford OB-GYN care and to provide education for the residents and fellows. All subspecialty services for obstetrics and gynecology are offered. This is one of few clinics that provides such services for the underserved. The FPMRS clinic is run by the fellow(s) one half-day session a week for three weeks a month with attending supervision. The first week is dedicated to The Jaffe Family Women’s Care Center OR. It is a great opportunity for the fellow to work as a supervisor and clinical instructor. There is always at least one resident assigned to this clinic that evaluates the patients and presents the cases to the fellow and the attending. The fellows are able to make independent clinical decisions and teach residents under faculty supervision.

About the Faculty

“Exceptional surgical diversity is the hallmark of Cooper’s Urogynecology Fellowship Program. A curriculum of vaginal, abdominal and robotic training will ensure you have all the tools and techniques necessary to become a complete pelvic surgeon.”

...

**Benjamin Steinberg, DO
2011**

Assistant Clinical Professor,
University of California
San Francisco-Fresno Female Pelvic Medicine
and Reconstructive Surgery,
Urology Associates of Central California

Cooper University Health Care Faculty:

Adam S. Holzberg, DO, FACOG

Dr. Holzberg is an Associate Professor at CMSRU and serves as the Division Head of FPMRS at Cooper University Health Care and FPMRS Fellowship Program Director. He received his medical degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and his OB-GYN residency and FPMRS fellowship at Cooper. He received his subspecialty certification in FPMRS from the ABOG inaugural class of 2013. His area of interest is graft use in vaginal reconstructive surgery where he is widely published. He is a founding member of the Mesh Special Interest Group and founding Chair of the EMR Special Interest Group for the American Urogynecologic Society. He serves as the Cooper principal investigator for an FDA required and industry sponsored research project on the Uphold lite synthetic mesh kit. Dr. Holzberg also serves as Cooper’s Medical Director of the Ambulatory Clinical Documentation Improvement Program and is the Physician Champion/Chair for Physician Engagement. Dr. Holzberg also has a special interest in international medicine. He serves as the Secretary and is a founding board member for International Healthcare Volunteers. He has participated in multiple medical missions to Ghana, West Africa.

Lioudmila Lipetskaia, MD, MSc, FACOG

Dr. Lipetskaia is an Assistant Professor at CMSRU and FPMRS Fellowship Associate Program Director. She received her medical degree in Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia, and graduated from her OB-GYN residency at St. Luke’s Bethlehem. She became board certified in FPMRS after she completed her fellowship at the University of Louisville. As Associate Fellowship Director, she pays special focus on the fellow’s curriculum development and implementation.

Dr. Lipetskaia’s areas of interest in teaching include video mentoring and hands-on anatomy dissections. She is a member of the AUGS education committee. She brings a patient-centered approach to care and infuses that approach in her work leading fellows, residents, and students. She has special clinical expertise in the areas of robotic surgery and native-tissue repairs. Her research interests are in the area of near-infrared imaging in robotic surgery and big data set management.

Joseph M. Montella, MD, MS, CPE

Dr. Montella, MD, MS, CPE is currently the Chief Medical Officer at Cooper University Health Care. He received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College then completed a residency in OB-GYN at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, and a fellowship in Female Pelvic Medicine

About the Faculty, continued

"I hold my training at Cooper's FPMRS fellowship in the highest regards.

It has allowed me to succeed in my career by providing me with superior surgical skill, research acumen, and teaching ability. As an assistant FPMRS fellowship director, I understand what is needed to educate and produce the best in the field. Cooper exudes this with a world-class faculty and facility. Humanistically, the fellowship provides you with understanding and compassion needed to treat any condition of the female pelvic floor."

...

Adam Steinberg, DO

2005

Associate Director of Quality Woman's Health,
Assistant FPMRS Fellowship Director,
Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT
Assistant Professor,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
University of Connecticut, School of Medicine

and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of California, Irvine. He earned a Master of Science degree in Healthcare Quality and Safety from the Jefferson College of Population Health and is a Certified Physician Executive through the Certifying Commission of Medical Management. He is also a TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer in patient safety. Dr. Montella is Board Certified in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery and has practiced this specialty for over 26 years. He was former Chair of the Department of OB-GYN at Jefferson Medical College, served as President of the American Urogynecologic Society, and has participated in NIH study sections and grant reviews for the Pelvic Floor Disorders Network. He has presented his scientific work at TeamSTEPPS National Conferences and AUGS Annual Scientific Meetings and has published his research in the American Journal of Medical Quality, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and The Journal of Female Pelvic Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Montella is the executive physician lead on the Quality and Patient Safety Pillar for the organization and has designed a method for incentivizing physicians for meeting quality metrics. He has played an integral role in helping physician leadership craft individualized quality measures for their groups that align with organization goals in order to improve value while maximizing reimbursement and reducing cost.

Peter J. Chen, MD, FACOG

Dr. Chen is an Assistant Professor at CMSRU and Director of the Jaffe Family Women's Care Center at Cooper. He completed his medical degree at Hahnemann University School of Medicine in 1996, and his residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2000. Coming to us from the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where he was faculty from 2000-2011, he continues to actively participate in OB-GYN medical student, resident, and FPMRS fellow teaching. He has co-authored a variety of articles, abstracts and book chapters and has received numerous teaching awards including the "John J. Mikuta, MD Award for Excellence in Professionalism in Women's Health" by the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, in June, 2011; the Council on the CREOG National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education in June, 2012; and South Jersey Magazine's Top Doc in 2013. He specializes in robotic gynecologic surgery and significantly contributes to the fellows' robotic training.

Ronak Gor, DO

Dr. Gor is the Director of Genitourinary Reconstruction and Trauma in the Division of Urology at Cooper University Health Care and an Assistant Professor of Surgery. In addition to traditional reconstructive urology and prosthetics, he also has a particular focus on the medical and surgical

About the Faculty, continued

"Multiple caring and compassionate fellowship-trained surgeons provide an exceptional hands-on experience in urogynecology."

...

Deeptha Nair Sastry, MD
2010

Attending at Portsmouth Regional Hospital,
Harbour Women's Health
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

management of advanced neurogenic bladder. He is well versed in both continent and incontinent urinary diversion, complex abdominal surgery, and treating complications after prior surgery. Dr. Gor is passionate about the emerging field of transitional urology, taking care of adolescents with congenital neurogenic bladder transitioning into adulthood.

Saifuddin T. Mama MD, MPH, FACOG

Dr. Mama is Associate Professor at CMSRU and Head of Cooper's Section of Minimally Invasive Gynecology and Robotics. A graduate of Yale University with a Master of Public Health degree, Dr. Mama completed his medical degree at Thomas Jefferson College and his OB-GYN residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He has received numerous teaching awards. Dr. Mama's specialties include pediatric and adolescent gynecology, pelvic reconstructive surgery, and minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. Dr. Mama has ten years of experience in multiple medical missions volunteering abroad in Africa and Asia as a teaching attending and surgeon.

Martha S. Matthews, MD, FACS

Dr. Matthews is an Associate Professor of Surgery, Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery, and Program Director for the Plastic Surgery Residency Program. She is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College and completed her residency in plastic surgery at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine. She serves as the FPMRS Fellowship Clerkship Director for the fellows' plastic surgery rotation.

Robert P. Siefring, MD, FACOG

Dr. Siefring is Assistant Professor of OB-GYN and Medical Director of the Center for Vulvovaginal Disease at Cooper. He is a graduate of the University of Guadalajara and completed his OB-GYN residency at Cooper. He has received multiple teaching awards and has been selected as a Top Doc in South Jersey Magazine. The fellows gain most of their experience in vulvar diseases with Dr. Siefring during his monthly vulvovaginitis clinic.

Michael DiSanto, PhD

Dr. DiSanto is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Sciences and the Director of Urology Research. He received his Bachelors Degree in Biochemistry from Albright College and his PhD from Drexel University in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. A prolific researcher, he has been awarded multiple federal grants. He is part of our research team and serves as the mentor to our basic science projects.

About the Faculty, continued

“My fellowship training at Cooper didn’t just teach me how to perform surgery or analyze test results. It taught me principles and surgical fundamentals that have allowed me to stay at the forefront of innovation and be comfortable treating any form of pelvic floor dysfunction.”

...

Peter S. Finamore, MD, MA, FACOG 2009

Chief of Urogynecology
at Southside Hospital
of Northwell Health Department
of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Associate Professor,
Obstetrics and Gynecology Hofstra Northwell
School of Medicine
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Krystal Hunter, MBA

Krystal Hunter serves as the lead statistician for the Cooper Research Institute. She received her BA in Economics from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA and her MBA from Rutgers University Graduate School of Management, New Brunswick, NJ. She is an integral part of the FPMRS research committee and contributes to all research projects from their inception to publication. She also actively participates in all Journal Clubs for the division. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed papers and instructs the fellows and faculty in statistical analysis.

Elena Safronova, MD

Elena Safronova is Manager of Clinical Research for the department of OB-GYN at Cooper and has over eight years of experience in women’s health. She was earned her medical degree at the Medical University of Smolensk, Russia). She participates in coordinating all aspects of FPMRS research, including our sponsored research.

To enhance the education of our fellows and increase their surgical skills we have collaborated with Thomas Jefferson University Hospital for external rotations.

Alana Murphy, MD, Thomas Jefferson University Faculty

Dr. Murphy is an Assistant Professor of Urology and Female Urology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. She completed her training in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery at Cleveland Clinic. As the director of female urology and voiding dysfunction, she is involved in resident education, fellow training and clinical research.

serve

Educational Curriculum



Our fellowship is designed to provide fellows with comprehensive education and training in a variety of specialties in urology, colorectal surgery, plastic surgery, and research. Fellows are also given the opportunity to explore additional interests in the FPMRS field during their clinical elective rotation in the third year. The educational curriculum has been designed to meet the objectives set forth in the proposed ACGME program requirements for residency education in FPMRS. There is a didactic conference schedule covering all aspects of FPMRS, in addition to quarterly lectures on atypical topics encountered in FPMRS. The fellow is expected to refer to this curriculum to direct their learning activities and identify areas of weakness or lack of experience. We strongly encourage fellows to bring any concerns to the attention of the program director in order to personalize their curriculum to strengthen those areas. An example of the educational monthly schedule is shown below.

Sample Monthly Educational Schedule

Monday Week 2	9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Pre-op Conference M&M Conference/ Interesting Case Didactics/Board Review	Suite 300 Conference Room
Monday Week 4	9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Journal Club Research Meeting Didactics/Board Review Business of Medicine	Suite 300 Conference Room
Last Friday of each month	7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Virtual Didactics	Web-based

heal

Educational Curriculum, continued



Research

During the FPMRS fellowship, the fellows fully participate in the theoretical and technical aspects of clinical and basic science research. Fellows are required to take Statistical Methods for Data Analysis, a graduate level course at Thomas Jefferson University, during the first fellowship year. During this course they learn to apply the principles and techniques of basic statistical analysis to research and are expected to actively conduct research during time away from clinical care responsibilities. The annual didactic sessions include research design, grant writing, research methodology, scientific writing, and presentation skills. The fellows learn how to conduct FPMRS research, work as part of a research team, and develop skills to critically review the research of others. The FPMRS fellow is required to complete and publish one thesis project and write and receive a grant by the end of the fellowship. This thesis should make a meaningful contribution to FPMRS literature. For further support, monthly research meetings are scheduled, in addition to quarterly meetings between the fellow and the faculty advisor with continuous oversight and direction provided by the director of FPMRS research, the research nurse, and the biostatistician.



Quality Improvement Projects

With the newest policy revision of the ACGME, the fellows are required to describe one learning activity to identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in their knowledge and expertise (self-reflection and self-assessment). The fellows will also set learning improvement goals and identify and perform appropriate learning activities to achieve self-identified goals. One such goal instituted was to improve the efficiency of our fellow-run clinic. This included all aspects of health care i.e., patient wait times, improving accessibility of clinic resources, patient education, and billing and coding.

International Opportunities

There are several opportunities for international exposure and experience. The entire core faculty in FPMRS, as well as many faculty in the OB-GYN Department and Cooper University Hospital, have extensive global experience. The division of FPMRS believes that in order to develop globally sensitive physicians, it is essential for those in training to participate in health care in other regions of the world. Thus, the division of FPMRS offers the fellows ample opportunity to become active internationally. Such places include, but are not limited to: Jamaica, Ghana, Rwanda, and Vietnam. Additionally, to enhance our fellows' education in the repair of fistula our division, in conjunction with the International Organization of Women and Development and International Healthcare Volunteers, has the opportunity to send one fellow along with at least one member of the faculty to Ghana in West Africa or Rwanda in East Africa for a period of two weeks during their senior year. The fellows can also develop contacts outside of Cooper and make their own arrangements if desired.

How to Apply



Contact Information

Director:

Adam S. Holzberg, DO, FACOG

Contact:

Dawn Maziarz, Coordinator

Phone:

856-342-3006

Fax:

856-365-1967

E-mail:

maziarz-dawn@cooperhealth.edu

Website:

cooperhealth.edu/fellowships/female-pelvic-medicine-and-reconstructive-surgery

Address:

Cooper University Health Care
Three Cooper Plaza, Suite 221
Camden, NJ 08103

The Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program at Cooper University Hospital/Cooper Medical School of Rowan University participates in the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and all information is processed through this system without exception. Information regarding the ERAS application process and timeline is available on the websites listed below.

Association of American Medical Colleges

www.aamc.org/eras

ERAS Fellowship Document Office

www.erasfellowshipdocuments.org

ERAS applications must contain of the following information in order for your application to be considered:

- Common application form
- Curriculum vitae
- Medical school transcript
- Three original letters of recommendation, one of which must be from your current or most recent training director
- Personal statement describing your training goals and future career plans
- ECFMG certification (IMG only)
- USLME reports (1, 2, and 3).

The program director and two additional faculty members will review applicant files. Invitation for interview will be based upon their recommendations.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility for the FPMRS Fellowship requires a satisfactory completion of an Obstetrics and Gynecology OR Urology residency approved by the American Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or the Council of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (CRCPSC). Individuals accepted for a position in the fellowship program must be a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident, or hold a J-1 visa.

Annual application deadline is April 30.

The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area



The expansion project at Cooper is a direct reflection of the growth in services that Cooper has experienced over the past several years.



It is extraordinary to have such a high concentration of leadership at one institution, but then, Cooper is an extraordinary health care system.

Cooper University Hospital is the center of a growing Camden health sciences campus that includes the hospital, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, Sheridan Pavilion at Three Cooper Plaza medical offices, the internationally acclaimed Coriell Institute for Medical Research, and the Ronald McDonald House. Adjacent to the Cooper Plaza/Lanning Square neighborhood, Cooper has a long history of outreach and service efforts to its local community. Some of these initiatives include health and wellness programs for the neighborhood, development of neighborhood parks and playgrounds, and outreach to programs into local schools.

The hospital's 312,000-square-foot, 10-story Roberts Pavilion features an expansive lobby and concourse, a restaurant and coffee shop, business center, gift shop, and chapel. State-of-the-art patient care facilities include private patient rooms, technologically advanced operating room suites with hybrid imaging capabilities, and an advanced laboratory automation facility. The Emergency Department features 25 beds, dedicated isolation suites, and autonomous CT scanning technology. Designated floors serve specific patient populations, including those needing advanced surgical and heart care, along with South Jersey's only dedicated 30-bed inpatient cancer unit.

Also in the Roberts Pavilion is the 25,000-square-foot Dr. Edward D. Viner Intensive Care Unit—featuring 30 private patient rooms equipped with the latest in advanced technology, and allowing 360-degree patient access. Five patient rooms are capable of negative pressure isolation, and five rooms have chambered isolation alcoves. In addition, an enlarged room with operating room caliber lighting is outfitted to perform bedside exploratory laparotomy in patients considered too medically unstable for transport to the operating room.

Cooper University Health Care and MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, partnered in 2013 to create MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper. MD Anderson has consistently been named one of the nation's top two cancer hospitals by U.S. News & World Report.

Our partnership is a full clinical integration between the two programs. MD Anderson at Cooper physicians adhere to the same philosophy, processes, and guidelines set by MD Anderson in Houston, and patients receive the same proven practice standards and treatment plans provided at MD Anderson. Today at MD Anderson at Cooper, patients have access to more clinical trials for more types of cancer than ever before, as well as a full range of supportive care services.

The Cooper Campus and Surrounding Area, continued



Advanced, comprehensive cancer services are provided at our Camden, Voorhees, and Willingboro campuses. Cooper Digestive Health Institute locations are fully accredited MD Anderson at Cooper locations providing innovative gastrointestinal cancer prevention, detection, and treatment services. Additional cancer clinical services are provided at multiple locations throughout the Philadelphia-South Jersey areas.

CMSRU's Medical Education Building is located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus on South Broadway, between Benson and Washington Streets in Camden. The medical school, which opened in July 2012, was designed to support an innovative curriculum that integrates knowledge of basic science concepts, early clinical experience and patient care, self-directed learning, teamwork, and medical and non-medical activities for the greater community's benefit.

The Cooper Health Sciences Campus is located in the heart of Camden's business district. The academic medical center campus is easily accessible by car or public transportation via the PATCO and bus terminal adjacent to the hospital.

Cooper is a short walk or drive from the exciting Camden waterfront, which includes a magnificent waterfront park and marina; the Adventure Aquarium; and the BB&T Pavilion, which hosts nationally renowned entertainment throughout the year. Nearby are the Sixers Training Complex, L3 Communications complex, Lockheed Martin, Rutgers University Camden Campus, and Camden County College. There are expected to be \$350M in transportation and infrastructure improvements within the next four to five years to handle the influx of thousands of new employees to the area and students at nearby growing academic campuses.

Cooper is conveniently close to Philadelphia. Just a mile-long drive over the Benjamin Franklin Bridge will put you at the doorstep of Philadelphia's cultural, culinary, and historic venues. South Jersey also offers a range of living and entertainment options. Quaint towns such as Haddonfield and Collingswood are just 10 minutes away. The lights and action of Atlantic City and popular beach towns such as Cape May and Ocean City are a one-hour drive from Cooper.

educate

Cooper Camden Campus Map



The most up-to-date directions to Cooper University Hospital are available at:
CooperHealth.org/Locations

campus



World Class Care. Right Here. Right Now.

George E. Norcross III
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Adrienne Kirby, PhD, FACHE
Executive Chairman
Chief Executive Officer

One Cooper Plaza · Camden, NJ 08103-1489 · CooperHealth.edu

Hospital Main Number: **856-342-2000**

Graduate Medical Education: **856-342-2922**