

Urologic Passages

UPDATES FROM MCG DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY



The New Department

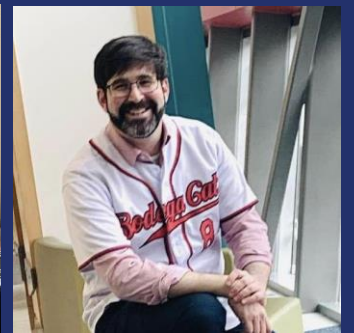
After years of effort by all prior chiefs of the Division of Urology at MCG, Urology received designation as the Department of Urology on July 1, 2023. We celebrated with a reunion with prior residents and faculty at the landmark 50th Annual Rinker-Witherington Society Meeting, October 14-15, 2023.

The New Residents

The 2024 Match brought 3 new outstanding new residents into the intern class. All 8 MCG students applying in urology successfully matched. See inside for an introduction to these as well as a final salute to our graduating chief residents

The New Business Model

In September 2023, AU Health entered a hospital management agreement with Wellstar Health System, a successful health care corporation in Georgia. The benefits of this arrangement were instantly evident in the availability of supplies and competitive salaries for support personnel.



2024 Rinker-Witherington Society Symposium

The 2024 Rinker Witherington Society Symposium will be held beginning the afternoon of Friday, September 27, 2024 and on Saturday, September 28, 2024. If you wish to attend the 2024 Rinker-Witherington Society Symposium please contact Kim Maddox (kimaddox@augusta.edu) or call 706-721-9977.

The Rinker Lectureship

In 1988, an endowment was established in the Medical College of Georgia Foundation to fund an annual John Robert Rinker Lectureship. 1989 marked the beginning of this activity, which is open to all faculty, residents and students within the School of Medicine.

Accreditation

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Designation

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University designates this live activity for a maximum of 10 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Zoom Link: Will be provided to the business or given email, this will be a virtual event.

MCG Medical Student Success in the Urology Match

The Medical College of Georgia is ranked 4th in the nation for the number of medical students we match in the field of urology. In addition, our success rate is far above the national average. This year was no exception with all 8 students matching at outstanding institutions.

Sung Alexander
Loyola

Alex Huynh
Connecticut

Rachel Kaufman
Emory

Quinn McDaniels
Duke

Medical College of Georgia

Students Matching in Urology

Rob Muller
Oklahoma

Viktoriya Sapkalova
Indiana

Maddie Snipes
Wake Forest

Amelia Vu
Virginia Commonwealth

Welcome to MCG Urology



Ahmad Haffar
West Virginia Univ



Libby Li
Univ of Mississippi



Grant Ward
Oklahoma State Univ

New Residents

Ahmad Haffar, MD

Dr. Haffar is a West Virginia native, who pursued his Undergraduate Education at the West Virginia University in Biology. He graduated in 2018 with a BS. He began his medical education at the West Virginia University School of Medicine, where he graduated with his MD. in May of 2022. He furthered his education as a Senior Research Fellow at John's Hopkins Brady Urological Institute advancing the understanding of bladder exstrophy.



Libby Li, MD

Dr. Li was born and raised in Mississippi. She pursued her Undergraduate education at University of Mississippi with a Bachelor's degree in Forensic Chemistry in 2019. She then furthered her education by obtaining a Master's degree in Biology of Medical Science in 2020. She began Medical School at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine and graduated with her M.D. in May 2024.



Grant Ward, DO

Dr. Ward was born and raised in Oklahoma. He obtained his D.O. at the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2024. He has been passionate about Research from an early age. He was a medical researcher for the Vassar Research team at OSU-COM before entering Medical School.

Fond Farewell to Our Graduating Residents!

Anthony Hiffa, MD

Dr. Hiffa, has joined a large private practice group, Georgia Urology, in Atlanta, Georgia. This is a fantastic location for him as his wife completes an Interventional Radiology fellowship at Emory.



Hunter Lambert, MD

Dr. Lambert, has joined a private practice group and will be moving his young family to Cookeville, Tennessee.



Michael Oberle, DO

Dr. Oberle is returning back close to his home in South Dakota where both he and his wife, a graduating MCG OB-GYN resident will be practicing in Dakota Dunes.



Congratulations!

Welcome to Our New Faculty!

Ashanda Esdaille, MD

Dr. Esdaille received her medical degree from Morehouse School of Medicine and rotated with us at MCG Urology as a senior medical student. We loved her then and are delighted that she is joining our faculty now. She completed her urology residency training at SUNY Downstate and her Urologic Oncology Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin.



Follow Us on Social Media!



Twitter/X: @mcg_urology Facebook: MCG Urology

Instagram: @mcgurology LinkedIn :MCG Urology

TikTok: @mcgurology reddit: r/MCGUrology

YouTube: MCG Urology



Accomplishments

Martha K. Terris, MD

Dr. Terris, Witherington Distinguished Professor and Inaugural Chair, MCG Department of Urology is president-elect of the Georgia Urological Society and Southeastern Section alternate representative to the Board of Directors of the American Urological Association.



Zachary Klaassen, MD

Dr. Klaassen was promoted to Associate Professor of Urology. He holds the Ronald W. Lewis, MD Endowed Chair for Urology Education, and Chief of Clinical Urological Research was appointed the Residency Program Director in May 2020.



Sherita King, MD

Dr. King was promoted to Associate Professor of Urology. She serves as Chief of Prosthetics and Sexual Medicine. She also serves as Associate Program Director of the urology residency program as well as Medical Director of the Physician Assistant Program.



Bradley Morganstern, MD

Dr. Morganstern was promoted to Associate Professor of Urology. He is Chief of Pediatric Urology and oversees all urology medical student rotations has assumed the role of academic/career advising for medical students in the MCG Office of Academic Affairs.



Pablo Santamaria, MD

Dr. Santamaria has been named Chief of Endourology/Stone Disease. He was a panelist on a practice management course at the AUA Annual Meeting this year.



Selected Recent Publications

Association between patient-surgeon gender concordance and mortality after surgery in the United States: retrospective observational study. Wallis CJ, Jerath A, Ikesu R, Satkunasivam R, Dimick JB, Orav EJ, Maggard-Gibbons M, Li R, Salles A, Klaassen Z, Coburn N, Bass BL, Detsky AS, Tsugawa Y. *BMJ*. 2023 Nov 22;383:e075484.

Allostatic load and cardiovascular outcomes in males with prostate cancer. Stabellini N, Cullen J, Bittencourt MS, Moore JX, Cao L, Weintraub NL, Harris RA, Wang X, Datta B, Coughlin SS, Garcia J, Shanahan J, Hamerschlak N, Waite K, Fillmore NR, Terris M, Montero AJ, Barnholtz-Sloan JS, Guha A. *JNCI Cancer Spectr*. 2023 Mar 1;7(2):pkad005.

Time from biopsy to radical prostatectomy by race in an equal-access healthcare system: Results from the SEARCH cohort. Pereira V, Oyekunle T, Janes J, Amling CJ, Aronson WJ, Cooperberg MR, Kane CJ, Terris MK, Klaassen Z, Freedland SJ, Vidal AC, Csizmadi I. *Prostate*. 2023 Aug;83(11):1011-1019.

Exposure to Agent Orange and Risk of Bladder Cancer Among US Veterans. Williams SB, Janes JL, Howard LE, Yang R, De Hoedt AM, Baillargeon JG, Kuo YF, Tyler DS, Terris MK, Freedland SJ. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023 Jun 1;6(6):e2320593

The Role of Alumni Networks and Career Advising in Early Career Stability of Urologists: Results of a Multi-Institutional Study. Cabo JJS, Koch GE, Tallman JE, Thavaseelan S, Oberle M, Terris M, Kronenberg DG, Buckley JC, Scarpatto KR, Chang SS. *Urology*. 182:48-54, 2023.

Therapeutic potential of pomegranate juice-derived nanovesicles in nude mouse benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) xenograft model. Sreekumar A, Simmons MN, Lee TJ, Sharma A, Saini S. *Sci Rep*. 2023 Aug 1;13(1):12427.

miR-410 Is a Key Regulator of Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition with Biphasic Role in Prostate Cancer. Asante DM, Sreekumar A, Nathani S, Lee TJ, Sharma A, Patel N, Simmons MN, Saini S. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2023 Dec 21;16(1):48.

A novel exosome based therapeutic intervention against neuroendocrine prostate cancer. Saini S, Sreekumar A, Nathani S, Asante DM, Simmons MN. *Sci Rep*. 2024 Feb 2;14(1):2816

Primary Palliative Care in Urology: Quality Improvement Summit 2021-2022. Bergman J, Filippou P, Suskind AM, Johnson K, Calvert E, Fero K, Lorenz KA, Giannitrapani K, Hugar L, Koo K, Leppert J, Scales CD Jr, Terris M, Nielsen M, Gore JL. *Urol Pract*. 2024 May;11(3):529-536.

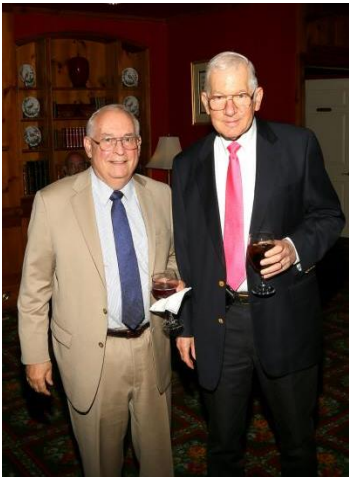
Transgender patient undergoing Rezum therapy: a case report. Sakhalkar OV, Scanlan L, Klaassen Z, King SA, Simmons MN, Terris MK, SantaMaria PJ. *J Surg Case Rep*. 2024 Feb 13;2024(2):rjae064.

Do Hispanic Puerto Rican men have worse outcomes after radical prostatectomy? Results from SEARCH. Guerrios-Rivera L, Janes JL, De Hoedt AM, Klaassen Z, Terris MK, Cooperberg MR, Amling CL, Kane CJ, Aronson WJ, Fowke JH, Freedland SJ. *Cancer Med*. 2024 Feb;13(4):e7012

Addressing racial disparities in prostate cancer pathology prediction models: external validation and comparison of four models of pathological outcome prediction before radical prostatectomy in the multiethnic SEARCH cohort. Mottaghi M, Gu L, Deivasigamani S, Adams ES, Parrish J, Amling CL, Aronson WJ, Kane CJ, Terris MK, Guerrios-Rivera L, Cooperberg MR, Klaassen Z, Freedland SJ, Polascik TJ. *Prostate Cancer Prostatic Dis*. 2024 Apr 11.

Emerging racial disparities among Medicare beneficiaries and Veterans with metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer. George DJ, Agarwal N, Ramaswamy K, Klaassen Z, Bitting RL, Russell D, Sandin R, Emir B, Yang H, Song W, Lin Y, Hong A, Gao W, Freedland SJ. *Prostate Cancer Prostatic Dis*. 2024 Apr.

Contemporary risk of biochemical recurrence after radical prostatectomy in the active surveillance era. Das S, Luu M, Terris MK, Klaassen Z, Kane CJ, Amling C, Cooperberg M, Rivera LG, Aronson W, Freedland SJ, Daskivich TJ. *Urol Oncol*. 2024 Mar



In Memoriam: Dr. Arthur M. Smith

We will miss our friend and mentor Dr. Arthur Smith who passed away September 1, 2023, at the age of 85 after over 40 years on the MCG faculty. Please help us memorialize his efforts in urologic education at MCG by contributing to the fund established in his honor. Make checks payable to MCG Foundation with a notation that it is for the Arthur Smith Education Fund. Alternatively you may wish to support our other funding opportunities listed below. Mail checks to: Kim Maddox Augusta University Department of Urology 1120 15th St., Room BA-8414 Augusta, GA 30912-4050. Or you can give on-line at: <https://mcfoundation.org/give-now/> Enter the amount in the Gift Amount window, and in the Select Fund box select Enter Designation Below then type in the Message window which one of the funds you would like to support and proceed with your credit card information.

Other Funds Available for Contributions

Urology Residency Fund # 8245: Supports educational, research, and clinical activities for residents in urology.

Roy Witherington MD Chair Fund #8192: Supports a chair in urology

Quentin T. Lawson MD Urology Research and Education Fund #8049: Provides funding to residents in the urology residency for the purpose of travel related expenses including transportation, accommodation, registration, and incidentals when presenting at national or regional meetings.

Rinker-Witherington Urologic Society Fund #8179: Supports the Rinker-Witherington Symposium and Lectureship.

Ronald W. Lewis MD Chair Fund #8248: Supports the urology residency program director and resident expenses for travel, research, and projects.

Rudolph Bell Urological Fellowship Fund #8153: Provides financial support to urology interns and residents committed to the practice of urology.

Faculty and Clinic Contact Information

Ashande Esdaille, MD (available July 2024)

Urologic Oncology and Robotic Surgery
Georgia Cancer Center
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-0248
Fax: (706) 721-8776

Jill Harper, NP

Pediatric Urology
Medical Office Building 3rd Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-3042
Fax: (706) 721-5550

Sherita King, MD

Prosthetics and Sexual Medicine
Medical Office Building 4th Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-7000
Fax: (706) 721-4444

Zachary Klaassen, MD

Urologic Oncology and Robotic Surgery
Georgia Cancer Center
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-0248
Fax: (706) 721-8776

Gina Jones-Knight, NP

Urologic Oncology
Georgia Cancer Center
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-0248
Fax: (706) 721-8776

Bradley Morganstern, MD

Pediatric Urology and Robotic Surgery
Medical Office Building 3rd Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-3042
Fax: (706) 721-5550

Ashley Patten, NP

General Urology
Medical Office Building 4th Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-7000
Fax: (706) 721-4444

Pablo Santamaria, MD

General Urology, Stones
Medical Office Building 4th Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-7000
Fax: (706) 721-4444

Miranda Shuler, NP

General Urology
Medical Office Building 4th Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-7000
Fax: (706) 721-4444

Martha K. Terris, MD

Urologic Oncology and Robotic Surgery
Georgia Cancer Center
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-0248
Fax: (706) 721-8776

Miranda Wood, NP

Pediatric Urology
Medical Office Building 3rd Floor
Appointments/Referrals: (706)721-3042
Fax: (706) 721-5550

