



NewYork-Presbyterian
The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell



Department of Surgery

Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program

Chairman: Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Program Director: Robert Winchell, MD, FACS

Associate Program Director: Mayur Narayan, MD, MPH, MBA, MHPE, FACS, FCCM, FICS

Program Manager: David Fehling, MA



We are delighted and proud to be an active part of our institution, which is among the top-ranked clinical and medical research centers in the country. Our affiliation with a major academic medical center underscores our department's three-pronged mission: to provide the highest quality of compassionate care, to educate the surgeons of tomorrow, and to pursue groundbreaking research. As members of the clinical staff of New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell, our team of experienced surgeons practice at the forefront of their respective specialties, offering patients outstanding, humane and personalized care. As faculty of Weill Cornell Medical College, these physicians are educating future generations of surgeons and advancing state-of-the-art surgical treatment.

The history of surgery at the New York Hospital, the second oldest hospital in the United States, reflects the evolution of surgery in America, and is marked by some of the most extraordinary achievements in medicine. The New York Hospital was the cradle of early surgical developments and instruction in America, earning a worldwide reputation for excellence and innovation. Many of today's practices and techniques arose from our institution. Our department continues to build upon our rich legacy of surgical innovations, making important contributions to the advancement of new surgical procedures. Wright Post, MD, one of the first surgeons appointed to the hospital in 1792, was the first in America to successfully treat aneurysms, developing state-of-the-art surgical techniques. In 1878, Lewis Atterbury Stimson, MD, the first professor of surgery at The New York Hospital, performed the first public demonstration of an antiseptic operation in the United States. In 1898, Dr. Stimson organized the charter that established Cornell University Medical College.

William Stewart Halstead, MD, widely regarded as the founder of modern surgery, was trained at The New York Hospital, under the mentorship of Henry Sands, MD, who fostered Dr. Halstead's early interest in anatomy and surgery. Another of our distinguished earliest surgeons was Valentine Mott, MD, a pioneer in vascular surgery.

In 1932, George J. Heuer, MD, joined The New York Hospital as Chief of Surgery and established the nation's second modern surgical training program. During the 1950's, Frank Glenn, MD, the first Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery, was internationally recognized as the leading expert in biliary and cardiovascular surgery. In 1963, the first kidney transplant in the metropolitan area was performed by our hospital's surgeons.

Dr. C. Walton Lillehei, who became the Lewis Atterbury Professor of Surgery in 1967, is widely regarded as the father of heart surgery because so many of his innovations were crucial to the evolution of cardiac surgery and cardiopulmonary bypass. He also trained Norman Shumway, MD and Christiaan Barnard, MD, early pioneers of cardiac and organ transplantations.

In 1976, the hospital formed the first comprehensive Burn Center in the New York region— today one of the largest and busiest in the nation. In 1996, we created the first pancreas transplant program in the tri-state area. In 2004 we were the first in the tri-state area to perform minimally-invasive islet cell transplants to cure Type I diabetes. In 2005, the first side-to-side bowel sparing strictureplasty in the eastern United States was performed in our hospital by the surgeon who pioneered the procedure for patients affected by advanced Crohn's disease of the small bowel. Today our surgeons continue to lead the way in shaping the medical world of the 21st century, and we remain one of the most outstanding academic departments and training programs in the world.

Thank you for applying to the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program.

Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery

Chairman of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College

Surgeon-in-Chief

New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Who Are We?

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital is one of the largest, most comprehensive hospitals in the nation, with more than 2,600 beds across six campuses, and one of the foremost academic medical centers in the world. With its two Ivy League medical school affiliates, [Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons](#) and [Weill Cornell Medicine](#), the Hospital is committed to pursuing clinical excellence, engaging in groundbreaking biomedical research, offering outstanding medical education, and providing prevention and wellness services to the community.

NewYork-Presbyterian offers expertise in every area of medicine. Among its highly regarded specialty centers and services are a [National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center](#), two premier sites for [pediatric care](#), the oldest and largest [organ transplantation program in the country](#), and centers of excellence in many other areas.

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital ranks #1 in New York and is consistently among the top hospitals in the nation, according to [U.S. News & World Report](#). Out of nearly 5,000 hospitals evaluated by U.S. News for its 2019-20 Best Hospitals rankings, NewYork-Presbyterian was ranked fourth out of 20 on their prestigious [Honor Roll](#).

Weill Cornell Medical College

Founded in 1898, and affiliated with what is now NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital since 1927, Weill Cornell Medical College is among the [top-ranked](#) clinical and medical research centers in the country. In addition to offering degrees in medicine, [Weill Cornell](#) also has PhD programs in biomedical research and education at the [Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences](#), and with neighboring [Sloan-Kettering Institute](#) and [The Rockefeller University](#), has established a [joint MD PhD program](#) for students to intensify their pursuit of Weill Cornell's triple mission of [education](#), [research](#), and [patient care](#).

The Department of Surgery of Weill Cornell Medical College and [NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine](#) is internationally recognized for outstanding and innovative surgical expertise. There are seven divisions: [Critical Care and Trauma](#), [General Surgery](#), [Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry](#), [Pediatric Surgery](#), [Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery](#), [Transplantation Surgery](#) and [Vascular Surgery](#). There are also seven sections within General Surgery: [Breast Surgery](#), [Burn Surgery](#), [Colon and Rectal Surgery](#), [Endocrine Surgery](#), [Gastrointestinal Metabolic Surgery](#), [Laparoscopy and Bariatric Surgery](#) and [Surgical Oncology](#). We provide our patients with the highest quality, most compassionate care, utilizing state-of-the-art, [minimally invasive technologies and techniques](#) to achieve the most successful surgical outcomes.



Who Are We?

Columbia University Medical Center

The [Columbia University Medical Center](#) is located on a 20 acre site in Upper Manhattan. Formerly Columbia Presbyterian, this center was first established in 1928 as a joint project between Columbia University and the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. It was one of the first academic medical centers to integrate clinical care, research and teaching at one campus. The campus now includes the [Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons Medical School](#), [The Mailman School of Public Health](#), [Children's Hospital of New York](#), [Milstein Hospital](#), [The New York State Psychiatric Institute](#), as well as a number of institutes dedicated to clinical and basic science research.

CUMC is especially proud of its relationship with the surrounding [Washington Heights community](#), many of whose members have roots in the Dominican Republic and other Spanish-speaking countries. CUMC serves a local, largely uninsured population in addition to patients traveling to the hospital from the greater tri-state area. The opportunity to work with a wide spectrum of patients and patient problems is one of the great strengths of the residency program. Our plastic surgical residents participate in the diagnosis, treatment, and initial patient education for a variety of common and complex plastic surgery conditions.



Columbia University Medical Center

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer (MSKCC)



Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center

[Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center](#) is located in the [Upper East Side of Manhattan](#), close in proximity to the [Cornell campus](#). Weill Cornell Medicine and MSKCC have a long-standing educational relationship and opportunities for collaboration with the Critical Care team at MSKCC are available. [MSKCC's Critical Care Medicine \(CCM\) Service](#) provides state-of-the-art, lifesaving care to critically ill cancer patients in our 20-bed adult Intensive Care Unit. The service also operates a consultation and rapid response service throughout Memorial Hospital 24 hours a day. Providing education and training for future critical care specialists and participating in multicenter research activities are also core parts of our mission.

Skill Acquisition & Innovation Laboratory

Skill Acquisition and Innovation Laboratory (SAIL)

The Department of Surgery, in collaboration and partnership with the Department of Anesthesiology at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, recently opened our newly-renovated, expanded Skills Acquisition & Innovation Laboratory (SAIL), which is a unique educational resource designed for residents, fellows, medical students, attending surgeons and other healthcare professionals to improve patient safety through simulation. A vital, 24-hour, 7 days a week teaching and research laboratory, SAIL is part of our department's strong commitment to providing unique, personalized training, which uses the most advanced, state-of-the-art technology within the framework of surgical simulation science. Since its opening in 2008, SAIL has played a major role in helping our department teach generations of surgeons acute patient care, surgical techniques and procedures. With developments in the field of surgery occurring at a rapid pace, SAIL provides a critical training component, enabling new and seasoned surgeons to become acquainted with new technologies and to maintain and broaden their surgical skill set.

Dr. Mayur Narayan serves as the Surgical Director for SAIL and is responsible for the surgical simulation curriculum for the general residency as well as the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship. Dr. Jay Rosenberg is the Program Manager of the newly renovated and expanded facility that offers simulation technologies and is designed for immersive simulation and fully functional connectivity, utilizing transparent technology which records and collects metadata to assess performance for training purposes.

SAIL enables us to recreate a wide array of patient care situations where residents and fellows can practice and perfect many surgical techniques prior to their operative experience. They can also practice and pass surgical simulation tests that are now required for board certification in General Surgery. Medical students can practice basic skills prior to their clinical rotations in order to be prepared to be integral and safe members of the healthcare team.

SAIL includes thirty high definition cameras, fifteen large, high definition LED flat screens, two dozen omni-directional microphones, and a command center, which controls all the cameras from a central location. It offers a large OR simulation room, which contains a full bodied mannequin full bodied mannequin that breathes, blinks, talks and responds to medications and procedures. SAIL also recently acquired a state of the art Mentice Endovascular simulator, with the capability to simulate endovascular abdominal and thoracic aneurysm repair, carotid angioplasty and stenting, peripheral interventions, and embolization. The Lab also has a simulation patient care/ER room, and a simulation procedural skills lab, with inanimate tissue models and the most advanced minimally invasive surgery and technology equipment to practice surgical procedures. A state-of-the art conference room, equipped with a wall of high definition flat screens, enables the highest quality broadcast and is designed for interactive teaching sessions and live operations from the hospital's ORs and from anywhere in the world.



Overview of the Program

The [Surgical Critical Care Fellowship](#) is accredited by the ACGME. The goal of the program is to teach the clinical knowledge and technical skills of [critical care and trauma surgery](#) that will enable each fellow to become a confident critical care practitioner, administrator, and educator.

The [Surgical Critical Care](#) faculty at [NewYork-Presbyterian – Weill Cornell Medical Center](#) are heavily involved in the training of surgical residents. Incoming fellows will be expected to participate in resident education in the ICU, in the OR, and in conferences. [The Surgical Critical Care Program](#) has 7 hours of protected time for teaching conferences. Additionally, extensive bedside teaching will continue to occur concurrently on SICU rounds.

Required weekly conferences include Department Grand Rounds and Morbidity and Mortality Conference on Monday mornings. On Tuesday, the primary teaching day, the ICU fellow is required to participate in the series of lectures and teaching rounds. The fellow must attend the Acute Care Surgery division's case conference and the weekly Department of Surgery Trauma Review conference, which

includes participants from the [Emergency Department](#) and other surgical subspecialties.

Finally, on Thursday the fellow is required to attend the weekly multidisciplinary Surgical Intensive Care Unit conference. In addition to this extensive clinical experience, the fellowship's educational program includes an in-depth critical care lecture and workshop series, rotation-based educational materials and conferences, research conferences, quality improvement and morbidity/mortality conferences, journal clubs, and grand rounds. Computer-assisted, full-scale patient simulation

[S.A.I.L. \(Simulated Acquisition Innovation Laboratory\) Lab](#) is used extensively. the curriculum includes discussions of medical education techniques, scientific methods, and administration.

Opportunities for [research](#), education, and administration can be tailored to meet individual fellow's needs.

There are two surgical critical care fellowship positions available each year. Applicants for the surgical critical care fellowship must have successfully completed at least 3 years of surgery training prior to beginning the fellowship.



Overview of the Program

In order to achieve the program's goals, the following set of learning objectives has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the [Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education \(ACGME\)](#) and the guidelines of the [American Board of Surgery](#).

Clinical Training is acquired through alternating rotations at the [Surgical Intensive Care Unit](#) of the [Cornell campus of New York-Presbyterian Hospital](#) (7 months) and other rotations at the same institution including the [Burn Unit](#) (1 month), and [Cardiothoracic Surgery Intensive Care Unit](#) (1 month) with 3 months being used for elective rotations to be selected from the [Medical Intensive Care Unit](#), the [Pediatric Intensive Care Unit](#), the [Neonatal Intensive Care Unit](#), and [Anesthesia](#). All clinical instruction is conducted under the direct supervision of attending staff surgeons.



Additionally, the fellows learn and subsequently supervise the techniques of various bedside procedures including percutaneous tracheostomy, bronchoscopy, percutaneous endoscopic gastroscopy, central venous line insertion, pulmonary artery catheter insertion, arterial line insertion, thoracostomy tube insertion, thoracentesis, and bedside management of the open abdomen.

In addition to clinical training, fellows will be exposed to an extensive nutrition and ultrasound/ ECHO curriculum. Following their nutrition training, fellows will be [CNSC certified](#).



Current Surgical Critical Care Fellows



Rachelle Lodescar, MD

Dr. Lodescar received her MD from New York Medical College in 2013. Following this, Dr. Lodescar completed her General Surgery Residency at Westchester Medical Center in 2018. Dr. Lodescar completed a Burn Surgery Fellowship at NewYork-Presbyterian-Weill Cornell in 2020.



Mayo Fujii, MD

In 2013, Dr. Fujii received her MD from the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine. Dr. Fujii then completed her General Surgery training at the University of Vermont Medical Center in 2020.

Surgical Critical Care Fellow Alumni

All of the graduates of the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship routinely secure academic and private positions in any one of a number of institutions across the country. Positions obtained by our graduation fellows are as follows:

2019 Graduates

Matthew Bronstein, MD
Acute Care Surgeon,
Westchester Medical Center

Cameron Gibson, MD
General Surgeon
Global Health Initiatives

2018 Graduates

Christina Lee, MD
Burn Surgery Fellowship
Weill Cornell Medicine

Cassandra Villegas, MD
Acute Care Surgery
Weill Cornell Medicine

2017 Graduates

Dustin Donley, MD
Acute Care Surgeon
Private Practice, Richmond, VA

Rohan Policherla, MD
PGY 4 General Surgery Resident
Wayne State University, Detroit MI

2016 Graduates

Yohey Hashimoto, MD
General Surgeon
Southeast Surgical Associates
Dothan, AL

Nima Maghami, MD
Acute Care Surgeon
Surgical Intensivist
Houston Methodist Hospital
Houston, TX

2015 Graduate

Dean Kristl, MD
Continuing PGY5
General Surgery Resident
Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

2014 Graduate

Daniel Kim, MD
Critical Care Surgeon
William Beaumont Army Medical Center
El Paso, TX

2013 Graduates

William C. Nugent, III, MD
Attending Trauma Surgeon
NewYork-Presbyterian Queens

2012 Graduates

Vladimir Rubinshteyn, MD
Trauma Surgeon
Amboy Medical Practice Staten
Island, NY

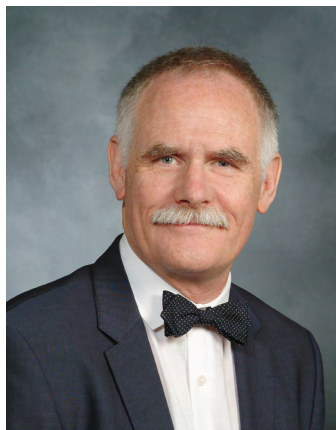
2011 Graduates

Peter McWhorter, MD
Colon & Rectal, Critical Care Surgeon
Northeast Medical Group
Yale New Haven Health
Stratford, CT

Our Faculty



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Robert J. Winchell, MD, FACS

Chief of Trauma, Burns, Critical, and Acute Care

Director, Trauma Center

Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Robert J. Winchell, MD, FACS received his undergraduate degree from the California Institute of Technology, his M.D. from Yale University, and did his internship, General Surgery residency, and Trauma and Critical Care Fellowship at the University of California, San Diego, where he remained on the faculty as Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery in the Division of Trauma through 1999. After leaving the University of California, Dr. Winchell established and subsequently directed the Tacoma Trauma Center in Tacoma, Washington. In 2001, Dr. Winchell moved to the Maine Medical Center and assumed the role of Head of the Division of Trauma and Burn Surgery in 2004. He remained in that position for 10 years, also serving as an Associate Professor of Surgery at the Tufts University School of Medicine. Under his direction, Maine Medical Center became a verified Level I trauma center for the first time in 2007. After leaving Maine, Dr. Winchell served as Chief of Trauma and Visiting Professor of Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Chief of Trauma at Memorial Hermann –Texas Medical Center until assuming his current post. In July 2015, Dr. Winchell joined the faculty in the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College as Chief of Trauma, Burns, Critical and Acute Care and Director of the Trauma Center at New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Winchell has been deeply interested and involved in the development and evolution of trauma systems for his entire career. He has been involved in trauma center and trauma systems design and operation in a wide variety of settings covering the spectrum of system development. He was instrumentally involved in leadership roles with both the day-to-day operations and ongoing development of the San Diego County trauma system for over ten years and served as chair of the San Diego and Imperial County Committee on Trauma. He participated in the leadership, operation and ongoing development of the Washington state trauma system, serving on the state advisory board, and as chair of the Southwest EMS region. During Dr. Winchell's tenure in Maine, he developed the Maine state system, serving as a member of the state advisory board and as a chairman of the Maine State Committee on Trauma. In Texas, he served on the Trauma Systems subcommittee of the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council. Dr. Winchell is Chair of the Trauma Systems Evaluation and Planning Committee of the American College of Surgeons and also serves as a senior site reviewer for the trauma center verification program of the College. He has led 17 state trauma system consultations. He is leader in international trauma systems development, and founding representative from the American College of Surgeons to the World Health Organization's Global Alliance for the Care of the Injured.

In parallel to his clinical and research work, Dr. Winchell has had the honor to serve the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma for almost 20 years, first as a State Chair for San Diego County and for Maine, and currently as a member and part of the Executive Committee. His leadership and forethought have been instrumental to Trauma Systems consultation program of the COT since 2006, and he currently serves as Chair of the Trauma Systems Evaluation and Planning Committee. In that role, he has conducted expert consultation in 17 states and regions, serving as team leader for 13 of these, and has also participated in trauma systems work internationally.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Mayur Narayan, MD, MPH, MBA, MHPE, FACS, FCCM, FICS

Associate Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Assistant Professor of Surgery (Interim)

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Dr. Narayan is an Attending Surgeon at Weill Cornell Medical Center in the Division of Trauma, Burns, Critical and Acute Care Surgery. He was previously Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, where he also served as Chief of Acute Care Surgery, Chief of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit and Associate Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program. He was previously an Assistant Professor at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD, where he founded and served as Medical Director for the Center of Injury Prevention & Policy. He was the Associate Director of the Division of Medical Education and Course Founder and Director for two new courses, the Humanism Symposium and the Surgical Boot Camp.

Dr. Narayan received a B.S. (major-biology) from Old Dominion University and his MD from the Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS) as a member of the highly competitive joint BS/MD program. He stayed on to complete his internship and general surgery residency at EVMS. Dr. Narayan completed his Surgical Critical Care and Traumatology Fellowships at the University of Maryland R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. He received a Master of Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health and a Master of Business Administration from the Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School. Dr. Narayan has also received his Master of Health Professions Education from Harvard Macy and the MGH Institute of Health Professions.

Dr. Narayan has been an invited international lecturer in trauma and injury prevention. Additionally, he serves as Visiting International Faculty for Trauma at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, and the King George Medical College in Lucknow as well as the Chengdu 120 Emergency Command Center Chengdu, China. He is a member of both Alpha Omega Alpha and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2011 Leonard Tow Humanism Award awarded by the Gold Humanism Honor Society and Arnold P. Gold Foundation. In 2012, the Arnold P. Gold Foundation awarded him the prestigious Gold Doctor, a national award given to those “working to keep the care in healthcare”. In addition, Dr. Narayan has been awarded the highly coveted Golden Apple Teaching Award for Best Clinical Faculty by the American Medical Student Association in 2012 and 2013. In 2013 and 2014, Dr. Narayan's led Center for Injury Prevention & Policy was awarded a Senatorial Award from US Senator Barbara Mikulski, D-MD for positively impacting the lives of troubled youth in Maryland. In 2014, Dr. Narayan was Visiting Professor for the White House Medical Unit. He is a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, the International College of Surgeons, the Association of Surgical Education, the Association for Academic Surgery, the L.D. Britt Surgical Society, the Indian American Surgical Association and several other organizations. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Critical Care Medicine, and the International College of Surgeons.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Philip S. Barie, MD, MBA, FACS, MCCM

Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

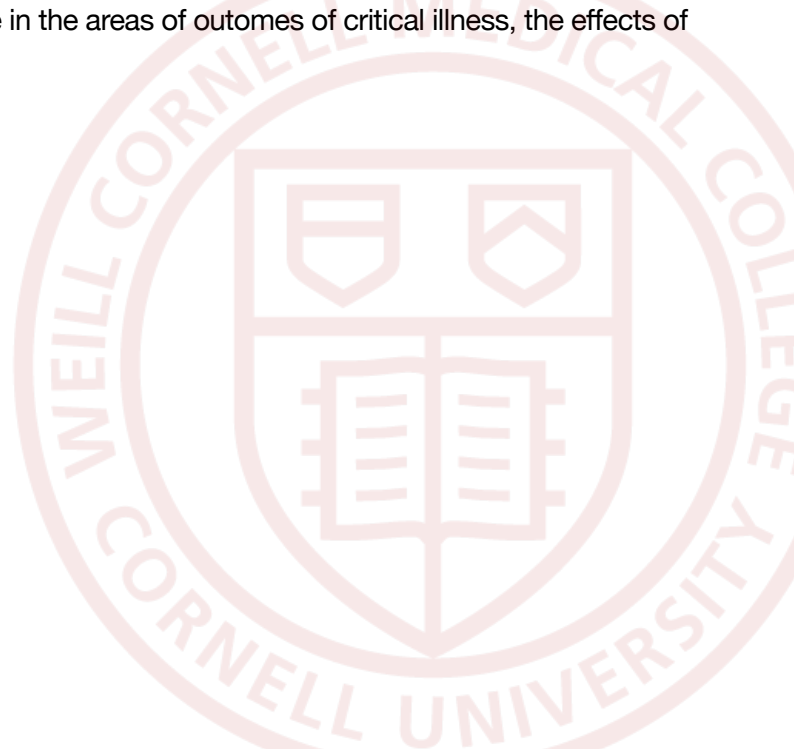
Professor of Medical Ethics in Medicine

Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

Dr. Philip S. Barie is Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an attending surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. A long-time member of the Department of Surgery, Dr. Barie specializes in high-risk surgery, trauma, surgical critical care, surgical infections, hernia repair, and gastrointestinal surgery. Dr. Barie is extremely active in the department, participating on various committees and plays a leadership role in the training of general surgery residents. Dr. Barie is also active nationally and internationally as a member of more than 20 learned surgical societies, serving on the board of directors or as an officer of several. He is the immediate past president of the New York State Society of Surgeons.

Dr. Barie was instrumental in expanding the Surgical Intensive Care Unit from 9 beds to 20 beds, with a resulting 115 percent increase in the volume of patients cared for, and has also achieved increases in the number and severity of trauma cases cared for by the Division. In addition, Dr. Barie spearheaded the introduction of continuous renal replacement therapy into NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, along with percutaneous insertion of tracheostomies at the bedside.

Dr. Barie was named repeatedly by both US News World Report and Castle Connolly as one of "America's Top Doctors" since 2011. He was recognized since 2011 as a "New York SuperDoctor," an honor accorded to just 5% of all New York physicians. Dr. Barie's research interests are in the areas of outcomes of critical illness, the effects of infection on the host, and multiple organ failure.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Anton Kelly, MD

Instructor in Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

Assistant Attending Surgeon

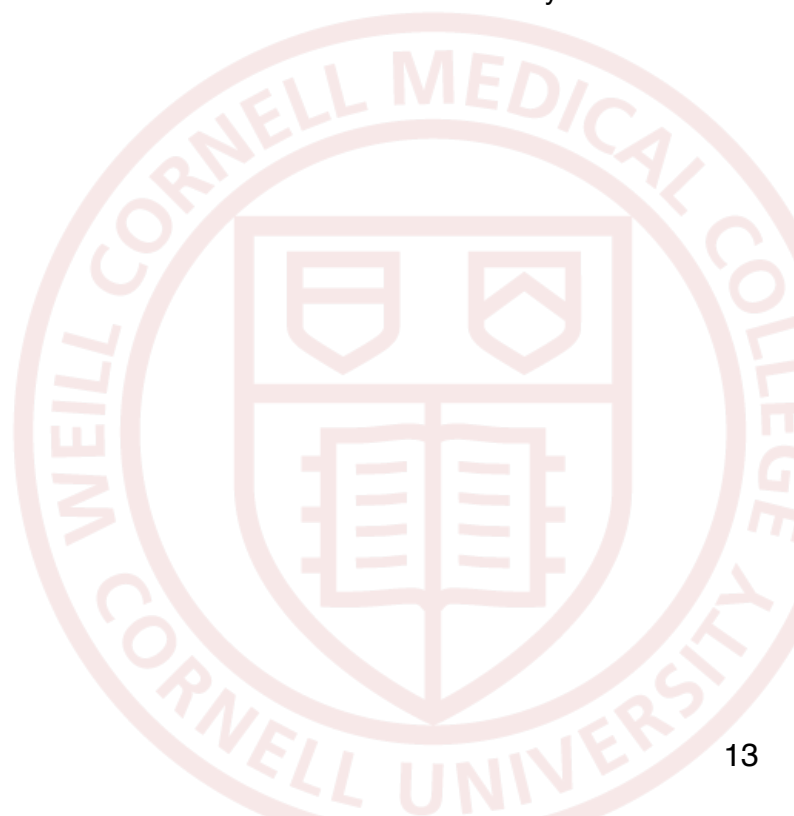
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Anton George Kelly, MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the division of Trauma, Burns, Critical and Acute Care at Weill Cornell Medical College and Assistant Attending Surgeon at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Kelly specializes in Surgical Critical Care, Acute Care Surgery and Trauma with a focus on Traumatology and Burn management.

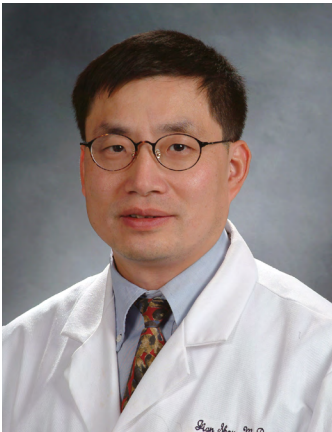
Prior to his arrival, Dr. Kelly completed his residency in general surgery at Easton Hospital in Easton Pennsylvania followed by a dual fellowship in burn surgery and surgical critical care at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center and Westchester Medical Center respectively.

Dr. Kelly is an active member of many prestigious medical and surgical societies, including the American College of Surgeons, Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, Society of Critical Care Medicine and the American Burn Association. He has also been published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and abstracts.

In addition, Dr. Kelly has been honored with the 2015 Physician of the Year Award from NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Jian Shou, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Associate Attending Surgeon

New York-Presbyterian Hospital

Dr. Jian Shou is a board-certified surgeon by the American Board of Surgery in both General Surgery and Trauma/Surgical Critical Care. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is maintaining a busy surgical practice since he joined the Department of Surgery in 2003. His research interests are immunological and metabolic modulation in critical ill animal models and patients. He has ongoing laboratory and clinical researches related to surgical infection. Dr. Shou's responsibilities also include lecturing and teaching medical students and surgical residents at Weill Medical College of Cornell University.

Jian Shou graduated from Lincoln Medical and Mental Health center in 2002 after five years of a general surgery residency. Prior to that he held the title of Research Associate in the Department of Surgery at Cornell for three years. In addition, he was a Research Associate at the University of Pennsylvania and performed a postdoctoral research fellowship from 1987 to 1991.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Kira Smith, MD, MS

Instructor in Surgery

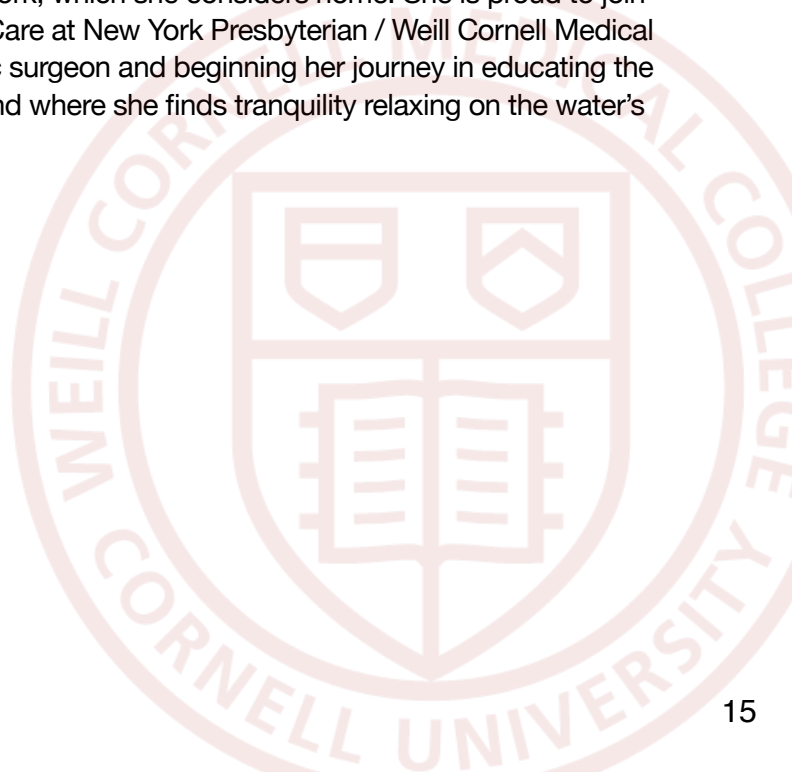
Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

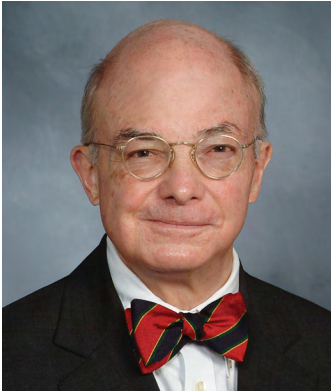
New York-Presbyterian Hospital

Dr. Smith was born and raised near San Francisco where she cultivated a love for skiing and relaxing by the bay. She became a third generation Golden Bear, studying integrative biology and physiology at the University of California at Berkeley. After working for several years as a scribe in an inner city ED and volunteering as a science teacher in an underserved area, she moved east in pursuit of more snow and a graduate degree. She attended New York Medical College where she received her Master of Science in Physiology, with particular interest in cardiopulmonary and vascular physiology. She went on to stay at New York Medical College to receive her medical degree, and ultimately decided on a career in surgery after a summer internship in a trauma ICU, where it was evident that she could maximize the use of her background in physiology and cardiopulmonary interests.

With surgery residency came a relocation to Long Island, and five years of training at Nassau University Medical Center, where she was exposed to a busy trauma and critical care service that she knew was her calling. Following residency, Dr. Smith was honored to train in fellowship for surgical critical care and trauma at UT Southwestern/ Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, Texas. While in Texas, she transitioned to the role of attending surgeon under the guidance of her mentors, acting as junior faculty in the department of trauma and critical care at Parkland. After two years in Dallas, she was happy to return to New York, which she considers home. She is proud to join the family in the department of Trauma, Acute and Critical Care at New York Presbyterian / Weill Cornell Medical Center where she looks forward to growing as an academic surgeon and beginning her journey in educating the new generations of physicians. Dr. Smith lives on Long Island where she finds tranquility relaxing on the water's edge and eagerly awaits snowfall.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Palmer Q. Bessey, MD, MA

Aronson Family Foundation Professor in Burn Care

Weill Cornell Medical College

Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Dr. Palmer Q. Bessey is the Aronson Family Foundation Professor in Burn Care at Weill Cornell Medicine. In 1975 he received his MD from the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He also received his MA in Chemistry from University of Oregon in 1970.

After his initial medical training at University of Vermont, Dr. Bessey completed a surgical residency from the University of Alabama, Birmingham (UAB). Dr. Bessey then completed two fellowships in Surgical Metabolism and Nutrition at Harvard and Brigham & Women's Hospital, respectively.

In the time following his training, Dr. Bessey has served as the Chief of Trauma and Burns at UAB Hospitals; the Director of Trauma, Burns, and Critical Care at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, MI; the Director of Trauma, Burns, and Critical Care at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY; and the Associate Director of the William Randolph Hearst Burn Center at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, NY.

Dr. Bessey has dedicated his career to the care of people with serious injuries from trauma and burns. His goal is to strive not only for survival, but also quality of life and to always remember that each day is a gift.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



James Gallagher, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

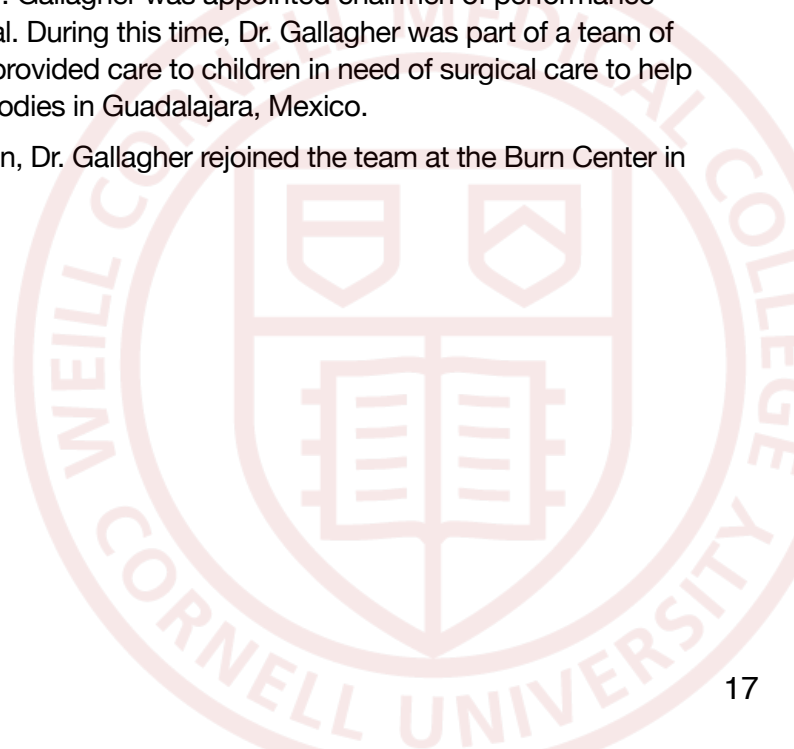
James Gallagher is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Assistant Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. A board-certified surgeon, Dr. Gallagher has extensive experience in the treatment of burns, surgical critical care, and international surgery. His areas of special interest include surgical education, international surgical outreach, the burned hand, burn resuscitation, and surgical care of the burn wound.

James Gallagher, M.D. received his B.S. Summa Cum Laude in Biochemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1988 and his M.D. from SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, New York in 1992. He completed his internship and residency training in general surgery at Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania in June, 1997.

After completing training in General Surgery, he worked in the western fingers small town of Dansville, New York. After four years in private practice in Dansville, Dr. Gallagher relocated to Cameroon, West Africa. There Dr. Gallagher become the solo surgeon in a rural missionary hospital. Upon returning home to the United States, Dr. Gallagher became the clinical burn fellow at the William Randolph Hurst Burn Center at New York Hospital.

After completing his burn fellowship, Dr. Gallagher accepted a position as an attending burn surgeon joining a team of four surgeons and more that 65 research scientists all devoted to the advancement of burn care in Galveston, Texas. Mentored by the chief of staff, Dr. David Herndon, Dr. Gallagher was appointed chairmen of performance improvement and infectious disease at the Shriners Hospital. During this time, Dr. Gallagher was part of a team of American and Mexican burn reconstructive surgeons who provided care to children in need of surgical care to help relieve the long term effects of burn scar on their growing bodies in Guadalajara, Mexico.

In 2008 following Hurricane Ike, which devastated Galveston, Dr. Gallagher rejoined the team at the Burn Center in New York Hospital.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Abraham P. Houg, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Abraham P. Houg, MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the division of Burns, Critical Care and Trauma at Weill Cornell Medical College and Assistant Attending Surgeon at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. A board-certified surgeon, Dr. Houg specializes in the treatment of burns, burn surgery, and surgical critical care.

Prior to his arrival, Dr. Houg was an attending surgeon at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Department of Surgery in Livingston, New Jersey. He obtained his BS from Columbia University in Bioengineering and received his MSE from University of Pennsylvania. He attended New Jersey Medical School, affiliated with Rutgers University, for his MD. He completed his surgical residency at Saint Barnabas Medical Center and continued his training in Surgical Critical Care Fellowship with special emphasis in burn surgery and treatment at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Houg has been involved in quite a few medical mission endeavors to Haiti as a surgeon. He has led multiple teams of fellow surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and physical therapists on short-term basis to serve the population in need and to further train the physicians in Haiti.

Dr. Houg is an active member of many prestigious medical and surgical societies, including the American Burn Association, American College of Surgeon, and Society of Critical Care Medicine. He has also published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and abstracts.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Philip Chang, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Philip H. Chang MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the division of Trauma, Burns, Critical Care, and Acute Care Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Assistant Attending Surgeon at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. A double board-certified surgeon and critical care intensivist, Dr. Chang specializes in the treatment of burns of all types for adults and children, burn surgery, surgical critical care, burn reconstruction, laser treatment of burn scars, and selected skin conditions that require the wound care expertise of a burn unit. He also has areas of special interest in surgical education, international burn care, scar rehabilitation, and burn patient advocacy.

Philip Chang was designated a White House Presidential Scholar back in 1990. He graduated B.A. cum laude from Harvard University in 1994, where he studied biochemical sciences. He attended the University of Alabama School of Medicine where he spent several years doing basic science research in cell motility and growth factor signaling supplemented with work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Pittsburgh before graduating with an M.D. in 2004. His general surgery residency training was completed at the University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago, Illinois in 2008. He went on to further specialized fellowship training in burn surgery and trauma/surgical critical care at the Shriners Hospitals for Children-Northern California and the University of California at Davis Medical Center from 2009-2011.

Dr. Chang began his surgical career as an attending burn surgeon at the Massachusetts General Hospital Sumner Redstone Burn Center and the Shriners Hospital for Children-Boston. He was appointed an Instructor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. He served as interim medical director of the pediatric burn service at Shriners-Boston from 2014-2015. Dr. Chang worked with a number of non-profit organizations to visit burn centers and help train burn teams in Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Colombia and Ghana. He has been recognized for his educational efforts in training medical professional at all levels, and was elected a member of The Academy at Harvard Medical School, an elite group of medical educators.

In 2016, Dr. Chang joined the burn teams at the Shriners Hospitals for Children-Cincinnati and the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. He cared for patients from over 22 U.S. states and international patients from several countries including Israel, Ivory Coast, Honduras, Guatemala, and Colombia. He treated hundreds of patients during his time at the Cincinnati Shriners, doing numerous reconstructive surgeries to restore range of motion and limb function as well as laser treatments to ameliorate the dyschromia and hypertrophy of burn scar.

Dr. Chang is an active member of many prestigious medical and surgical societies including the American Burn Association, the European Club for Pediatric Burns, the American College of Surgeons, and the Association for Academic Surgery. He has been published in multiple medical journals and authored textbook chapters.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Cassandra Vanessa Villegas, M.D.

Instructor in Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

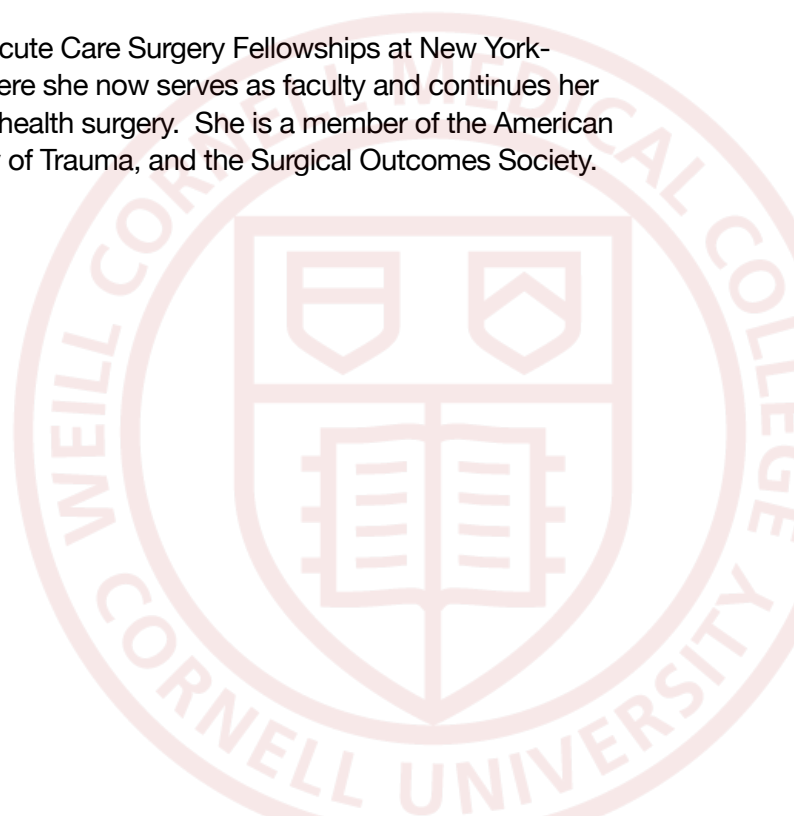
Assistant Attending Surgeon

New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Cassandra Villegas, MD MPH is an Attending Surgeon at Weill Cornell Medical Center in the Division of Trauma, Burns, Critical, and Acute Care Surgery. She received her B.S. in Biological Sciences from Stanford University, where she was a President's Scholar and received the Teaching Excellence award. She remained at Stanford University as an instructor and doing neuroscience research before joining Teach for America to teach high school science in Los Angeles Unified School District for five years. There, she won the Most Inspirational Teacher Award before leaving education to attend Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. As a medical student, she completed her MPH at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, focusing on data outcomes research while diversifying her medical training at Guy's, King's, and St. Thomas's Hospital in London, England as well as the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland.

She continued her outcomes research in trauma and health disparities before starting her general surgery residency at the University of Arizona. While there, she took 1st Place in the American College of Surgeons Resident Paper Competition and earned the American Association for the Surgery Resident Scholarship for her work in trauma outcomes. She received Resident Educator of the Year twice, and was Awarded Resident of the Year at the Southern Arizona Veteran's Hospital. At the conclusion of her residency, she was awarded the Charles Putnam Chief Resident Teaching Award.

Dr. Villegas then completed her Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery Fellowships at New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, where she now serves as faculty and continues her research interest in trauma, emergency surgery, and global health surgery. She is a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, and the Surgical Outcomes Society.



Living in NYC



Life in New York City

Weill Medical College of Cornell University is located in an attractive residential area on the upper east side of New York City, adjacent to the East River. The center is ideally situated to take advantage of New York's cultural treasures. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, the Frick, Whitney, and Guggenheim museums along with several renowned private art galleries all are within walking distance. Many other cultural attractions including Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the American Museum of Natural History, the great playhouses of Broadway, and world famous jazz clubs are just a short bus ride away. Madison Square Garden, Yankee Stadium, MetLife Stadium, and Shea Stadium are easily accessible. Residents are able to enjoy the haven that Central Park provides from the city's pavement since it is located just blocks from the Medical Center. Numerous restaurants and shops of every kind are also just blocks away. Perhaps most appealing is the great diversity represented in New York's many ethnic neighborhoods, each offering their own unique experiences.

Benefits, Housing & Insurance

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center offers all residents the option to reside in hospital-owned apartments located on York Avenue directly across the street from the hospital. The modern luxury apartments are offered at a reduced rate that is considered superior to that offered by other medical centers in New York City.

Stipends and Benefits

The stipends for interns and residents at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell are consistent with those offered by other medical centers in the New York City area. The stipends undergo yearly adjustments to keep pace with increases in the cost of living.

Salary (2020-2021)

PGY 1	\$73,489
PGY 2	\$79,359
PGY 3	\$85,864
PGY 4	\$88,277
PGY 5	\$91,276
PGY 6	\$92,918
PGY 7	\$95,713v

Medical, Dental & Malpractice Insurance

Medical insurance is provided for graduate trainees and their dependents free of charge. This insurance includes Blue Cross and Major Medical Insurance covering inpatient and outpatient services, including pediatric care, formulary drugs, laboratory and x-ray services, emergency care, and maternity care. Long-term disability insurance also is provided free of charge. A dental plan is provided at no cost and can cover eligible dependents with a minimal additional fee. Each intern or resident is provided malpractice insurance free of charge at each hospital through which they rotate.

Other Benefits

At no cost, residents and interns are provided with uniforms and laundry service, \$100,000 in life insurance, and four weeks of paid vacation per year.



**NewYork-Presbyterian/
Weill Cornell Medical College**

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Connect
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