Letter from the Dean

I am pleased to announce the addition of several new physicians to Albany Medical Center. Each doctor and his or her areas of expertise are profiled, and I encourage you to reach out to them regarding procedures or consultations if your patients are in need of their unique services.

Our new physicians include Dr. Kim Poli, who joined the Division of Cardiology and has expertise in preventative and non-invasive cardiology, as well as extensive experience in caring for women with heart disease. Complementing the Department of Pediatrics are general pediatrician Dr. Abigail Watson, who sees children from birth through adolescence, and pediatric gastroenterologist Dr. Nikki Allmendinger, who specializes in treating children with a wide range of gastrointestinal issues. Additionally, the Division of Gastroenterology welcomes Dr. Hubert Nietsch, an internationally renowned gastroenterologist and interventional endoscopist; as well as Dr. Xinjun Cindy Zhu, who specializes in inflammatory bowel disease and ulcerative colitis.

Our Department of General Surgery welcomes three elite surgeons, including transplant surgeon Dr. Nicole Siparsky, who specializes in kidney and pancreas transplantation, general abdominal surgery and dialysis access surgery; Dr. Syed Shah, who specializes in surgical oncology, gastrointestinal surgery, advanced laparoscopy and trauma and critical care surgery; and Dr. Purvi Parikh, who also specializes in hepatobiliary surgery involving the liver, pancreas, gallbladder, as well as high foregut and complex general surgery.

Additionally, Albany Medical Center is working to bring our specialists closer to you and your patients. Drs. Poli and Zhu are now seeing patients on certain days in our new office location at the Capital Region Health Park in Latham at 713 Troy-Schenectady Road. Appointments are available.

These physicians and surgeons continue to reinforce our commitment to providing quality patient care, advancing medical education, pioneering biomedical research and serving you and your patients.

Sincerely,

Vincent P. Verdile, MD
Dean, Albany Medical College
Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, Albany Medical Center
Abigail Watson, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Albany Medical College

BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Pediatrics
(Pediatrics)

RESIDENCY
Pediatrics
Albany Medical Center
Albany, New York

MEDICAL SCHOOL
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, New York

Nikki Allmendinger, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Albany Medical College

BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Pediatrics
(Pediatrics)

FELLOWSHIP
Pediatric Gastroenterology
AI Dupont Hospital for Children
Wilmington, Delaware

RESIDENCY
Pediatrics
University of Connecticut School of Medicine
Farmington, Connecticut

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Connecticut School of Medicine
Farmington, Connecticut
Department of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
47 New Scotland Avenue, MC 44
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 262-5076
Fax: (518) 262-5082

Kim A. Poli, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Albany Medical College

BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Internal Medicine
(Cardiovascular Disease, Internal Medicine)
American Board of Nuclear Cardiology

FELLOWSHIPS
Cardiovascular Disease
Beth-Israel Deaconess Medical Center
A Harvard Medical School Training Program
Boston, Massachusetts
Cardiology Research
The Framingham Heart Study
Framingham, Massachusetts

RESIDENCY
Internal Medicine
New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, Massachusetts

Edward F. Philbin, III, MD, FACC, FAHA
George E. Pataki Chair in Cardiology
Adult general cardiology, heart failure, heart transplantation

William Alderisio, MD
Adult general cardiology

Mohammad El-Hajjar, MD
Adult general cardiology, interventional cardiology

Steven Fein, MD
Adult general cardiology, non-invasive diagnostics

Jan Houghton, MD
Adult general cardiology, interventional cardiology

Robert Millar, MD
Adult general cardiology, non-invasive diagnostics

Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery
Section of Abdominal Transplantation
47 New Scotland Avenue, MC 61GE
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 262-5614
Fax: (518) 262-5571

David Conti, MD
Director, Section of Transplantation
General surgery, renal & pancreas transplant surgery, vascular access for dialysis

Michael Gallichio, MD
General surgery, renal failure, transplant surgery

Nicole Siparsky, MD
Kidney & pancreas transplantation, general abdominal surgery, dialysis access surgery

Edward F. Philbin, III, MD, FACC, FAHA
George E. Pataki Chair in Cardiology
Adult general cardiology, heart failure, heart transplantation

William Alderisio, MD
Adult general cardiology

Mohammad El-Hajjar, MD
Adult general cardiology, interventional cardiology

Steven Fein, MD
Adult general cardiology, non-invasive diagnostics

Jan Houghton, MD
Adult general cardiology, interventional cardiology

Robert Millar, MD
Adult general cardiology, non-invasive diagnostics

FELLOWSHIPS
Cardiovascular Disease
Beth-Israel Deaconess Medical Center
A Harvard Medical School Training Program
Boston, Massachusetts
Cardiology Research
The Framingham Heart Study
Framingham, Massachusetts

RESIDENCY
Internal Medicine
New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, Massachusetts

Sulagna Mookherjee, MD
Adult general cardiology, cardiovascular disease in women

Kim A. Poli, MD
Adult general cardiology, cardiovascular disease in women

Joseph Sacco, MD
Adult general cardiology

Henry T. Tan, MD
Adult general cardiology, cardiac electrophysiology, arrhythmia management

Mikhail Torosoff, MD
Adult general cardiology, non-invasive diagnostics

Nicole Siparsky, MD
Kidney & pancreas transplantation, general abdominal surgery, dialysis access surgery

Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery
Section of Abdominal Transplantation
47 New Scotland Avenue, MC 61GE
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 262-5614
Fax: (518) 262-5571

David Conti, MD
Director, Section of Transplantation
General surgery, renal & pancreas transplant surgery, vascular access for dialysis

Michael Gallichio, MD
General surgery, renal failure, transplant surgery

Nicole Siparsky, MD
Kidney & pancreas transplantation, general abdominal surgery, dialysis access surgery

Nicole Siparsky, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Albany Medical College

BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Surgery
(General Surgery)

FELLOWSHIP
American Society of Transplant Surgeons
Multi-organ Abdominal Transplantation
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

RESIDENCY
General Surgery
Washington Hospital Center
Washington, D.C.

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Boston University School of Medicine
Boston, Massachusetts
Department of Surgery
Division of General Surgery
47 New Scotland Avenue, MC 61GE
Albany, NY 12208
Phone: (518) 262-5623
Fax: (518) 262-4934

Steven Stain, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery
General surgery, hepatobiliary surgery, pancreatic surgery, surgical oncology

Edward Lee, MD
Chief, Division of General Surgery
General surgery, colorectal surgery

Todd Beyer, MD
General surgery, breast surgery, endocrine surgery for thyroid cancer and nodules, adrenal disease, neuroendocrine tumors, hyperparathyroidism

Daniel Bonville, DO
General surgery, trauma & critical care surgery

Jonathan Canete, MD
General surgery, colorectal surgery

David Conti, MD
General surgery, renal & pancreas transplant surgery, vascular access for dialysis

Michael Gallichio, MD
General surgery, renal failure, transplant surgery

Muhammad Hena, MD
General surgery, surgical oncology, breast, hepatobiliary, pancreatic, gastric surgery

Hashim Hesham, MD
General surgery, trauma & critical care surgery

David Kuehler, MD
General surgery, trauma & critical care surgery, laparoscopy

Ankesh Nigam, MD
General surgery, surgical oncology

Purvi Parikh, MD
Hepatobiliary surgery, high foregut complex general surgery, benign hepatobiliary diseases, chronic & necrotizing pancreatitis, benign biliary strictures & abdominal oncologic diseases

Donna Pietrocola, MD
Breast cancer care, surgical oncology

Carl Rosati, MD
General surgery, bariatric surgery, trauma & critical care surgery

Sharon Samuels, MD
General surgery, trauma & critical care surgery

Syed Shah, MD
General surgery, surgical oncology, gastrointestinal surgery, advanced laparoscopy, trauma & critical care surgery

T. Paul Singh, MD
General surgery, abdominal organ transplantation, laparoscopic surgery, anti-reflux surgery, pancreatic & biliary surgery, gastric bypass surgery, dialysis access surgery

Nicole Siparsky, MD
Kidney & pancreas transplantation, general abdominal surgery, dialysis access surgery

Brian Valerian, MD
General surgery, colorectal surgery

Syed Shah, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Albany Medical College
BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Surgery (Surgical Critical Care)
FELLOWSHIPS
Hepatopancreatobiliary and Foregut Surgical Oncology
Penn State Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, Pennsylvania
Minimally Invasive, Laparoscopic Bariatric and Robotic Surgery
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska
Laparoscopic Coloecal Surgery
Osaka Medical College
Osaka, Japan
Trauma/Surgical Critical Care
University of Miami
Jackson Memorial Hospital
Miami, Florida
RESIDENCY
Chief Resident, General Surgery
St. Vincent’s-Catholic Medical Center
New York, New York

Purvi Parikh, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Albany Medical College
BOARD CERTIFICATION
American Board of Surgery (General Surgery)
FELLOWSHIP
Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgery
Indiana University
Indianapolis, Indiana
RESIDENCY
General Surgery
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska
MEDICAL SCHOOL
Drexel University College of Medicine
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Catherine Bartholomew, MD  
The Albert M. Yunich Professorship;  
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology  
Women’s issues in gastroenterology, general gastroenterology, colonoscopy, swallowing disorders, motility

Peter Ells, MD  
Liver disease, chronic viral hepatitis, general gastroenterology

Jesse Green, MD  
Director of Endoscopy  
General gastroenterology, hepatology

Richard MacDermott Jr., MD  
Director, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center  
Ulcerative colitis, Crohn’s disease

Hubert H. Nietsch, MD  
Director, Pancreato-Biliary Services  
Interventional endoscopy, endoscopic ultrasound & ERCP, pancreato-biliary diseases

Seth Richter, MD  
Gastrointestinal malignancies, colon cancer screening

Vinay Sood, MD  
Endoscopic ultrasound & ERCP, pancreatobiliary diseases, general gastroenterology, hepatology

Xinjun Cindy Zhu, MD  
Inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis, Crohn’s disease, chromoendoscopy

Hubert H. Nietsch, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Albany Medical College  
Director of Pancreateo-Biliary Services  
Albany Medical Center

BOARD CERTIFICATION  
American Board of Internal Medicine  
(Gastroenterology)

FELLOWSHIP  
Gastroenterology  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

RESIDENCIES  
Internal Medicine  
University of Vermont  
Burlington, Vermont

Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology  
Ludwig-Maximilians University  
Munich, Germany

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
Ludwig-Maximilians University  
Munich, Germany

Xinjun Cindy Zhu, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Albany Medical College  
Assistant Professor  
Center for Cardiovascular Sciences  
Albany Medical College

BOARD CERTIFICATION  
American Board of Internal Medicine  
(Internal Medicine)

FELLOWSHIP  
Gastroenterology  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Baltimore, Maryland

RESIDENCY  
Internal Medicine  
The George Washington University at Providence Hospital  
Washington, D.C.

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
School of Medicine, Nanjing Medical University  
Nanjing, China
Albany Medical Center is committed to providing the highest quality care possible. Quality means we aim to deliver the right care to the right patient at the right time, every time. We’re measuring quality performance every day. In fact, our quality initiatives were recognized by the New York State Department of Health in September, when Health Commissioner Richard Daines released the state’s third annual report on hospital infection rates at a news conference at Albany Medical Center. Albany Medical Center was chosen because of our outstanding performance overall in lowering the incidence of hospital-acquired infections.

The State Department of Health “Hospital-Acquired Infections Report,” which contains 2009 data for hospital-acquired infections, found that the rate of overall central-line associated blood stream infections has fallen 18 percent since 2007. The rates of surgical site infections related to colon surgery and cardiac bypass surgery fell by 11 percent and 14 percent respectively for the same period. Since then, we’ve applied this diligent and detailed best practice approach to our pediatric intensive care unit and to other intensive care units with outstanding results.

The full report is available at http://www.health.state.ny.us/statistics/facilities/hospital/hospital_acquired_infections/. A summary of how Albany Medical Center performed compared to the NYS Average is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Line-Associated Blood Stream Infections</th>
<th>Albany Medical Center</th>
<th>NYS Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coronary ICU</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiotoracic ICU</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical ICU</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical ICU</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurosurgical ICU</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric ICU</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neonatal ICU</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Umbilical Infections</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal ICU</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surgical Site Infections</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colon</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hip</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronary Artery Bypass Chest</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronary Artery Bypass Donor</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Past issues of New Faculty Faces are available online at www.amc.edu/facultyfaces

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