

In Ignotis “Into the Unknown”

Message from the Chair

Dear colleagues,

It's clear that many of us share a growing unease with the current direction of healthcare and medical research. This sentiment, amplified by the recent shifts within the Department of Health and Human Services, highlights a critical question: how did we arrive at a point where a significant portion of our society questions whether the healthcare system truly serves their best interests? I believe a core issue lies in a perceived breakdown of communication. Perhaps we've become too clinician-focused, neglecting patient convenience, or perhaps we haven't effectively conveyed the profound benefits of medical research. Concerns about the influence of "Big Pharma" and our collective struggle to simplify complex medical concepts have only deepened this divide.

This situation, particularly in light of recent actions by the Health Secretary—including personnel changes at vital agencies and a controversial reorientation of public health priorities—serves as a stark reminder. It's a critical opportunity for us, as a department committed to both excellence in care and pioneering research, to re-evaluate our communication strategies. Let's explore how we can better engage with the public, utilizing platforms they frequent and language they understand, all while respecting individual choices, even when those choices appear to diverge from scientific consensus.

Despite these challenges, I remain incredibly optimistic about our collective ability to bridge this gap. Let's embrace this crisis as an opportunity to strengthen our connections with our community and ensure our dedication to patient well-being and that scientific advancement is universally understood and appreciated.

Peer Reviewed Publications

- 1) **Weaver C.** Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections. *Med Clin North Am.* 2025 May;109(3):625-640. doi: 10.1016/j.mcna.2024.12.005. Epub 2025 Jan 22. PMID: 40185551.
- 2) **DeBiase JM.** A Clinical Review of Prosthetic Joint Infections. *Med Clin North Am.* 2025 May;109(3):615-623. doi: 10.1016/j.mcna.2024.12.003. Epub 2025 Jan 30. PMID: 40185550.
- 3) Phillips SA, Sill JD, **Qayyum R.** Interventions to reduce readmissions after pneumonia hospitalization: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Hosp Med.* 2025 May 14. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 40369830.
- 4) Shekhar S, Tessa Tonleu J, **Okigbo CC**, Leka H, Kim AE, Purse BP, Hirsch KR, Stolze BR, McGrath JA, Smith-Ryan AE, Soldin SJ, Hall JE. Thyroid axis adaptations to moderate short-term energy restriction in healthy, young women. *Eur J Endocrinol.* 2025;192:568-576. PMID: 40265345.
- 5) Grubb KJ, Gada H, Fraser D, Rodes-Cabau J, Nazif TM, Mittal S, **Talreja D**, et al. Global Results From the Optimize PRO Study: Standardized TAVR Technique and Care Pathway. *J Soc Cardiovasc Angiogr Interv.* 2025;4:103515. doi: 10.1016/j.jscv.2025.103515.
- 6) Song J, Morgan AA, **Ahn J**, Li WF, Chang Y, Chang YC, Fahimuddin M, Chi KY, Wu LW, Chiang CH. Validating Khorana Risk Score in gastric cancer patients on immune checkpoint inhibitors and chemotherapy. *Immunotherapy.* 2025;17:419-424. PMID: 40336190.
- 7) **Priessnitz JK**, Kuzel T, Ackerman L, Nicolasora N. Drug-Induced Leukocytoclastic Vasculitis From an Unreported Source: Daptomycin. *Cureus.* 2025;17:e82490. PMID: 40385906.

Published Abstracts, Posters, & Presentations

- Gada T, **Talreja D**, et al. *30-Day and 1-Year Outcomes from the Optimize PRO TAVR Care Pathway Evolut FX System Addendum Study.* JACC Cardiovasc Interv. Presented at New York Valves, June 2025.
- **Bulchynskaya T, Kovalenko I** presented a poster titled "*Neurobrucellosis-Induced Catatonia: A Rare Neuropsychiatric Manifestation of Brucella Infection*" at ACP National in April 2025.
- **Bulchynskaya T, Kovalenko I** presented a poster titled "*A Rare Multisystem association: A Case of Recurrent Pancreatitis in a Patient with Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (aHUS) and Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS)*" at ACP National in April 2025.
- Gerwe C, Wallace A, **Fanning L.** *Designing Realistic Case Studies for Simulation-Based Peer Support Training in Residency.* Poster presentation at Educational Scholarship Day 2025 on 7 May 2025
- Kerry J, **Kannarkat MJ**, Robinson J. gave an oral presentation at Educational Scholarship Day 2025 on 7 May 2025; PREPARE – a Prematriculation Program for Incoming M1 Medical Students.
- Dahlberg J, **Fanning L**, Gerwe C gave an oral presentation at Educational Scholarship Day 2025 on 7 May 2025; Examining the Personality Characteristics that Predict Well-Being Among Medical Professionals.



MACON & JOAN BROCK VIRGINIA HEALTH SCIENCES
Eastern Virginia Medical School
 AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY



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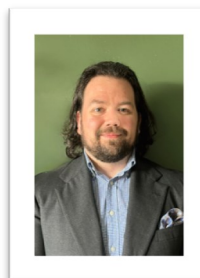
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Researcher Spotlight — Kyle Admire, MD

Please tell us about yourself

I am currently a second year Pulmonary & Critical Care fellow here at EVMS/ODU. Additionally, I am participating in the AIRE program which will allow me to also complete a sleep fellowship during my three years. Outside of work, most of my time is dedicated to my fiancée, our three cats, and two dogs. Recreationally, I enjoy cooking, renovating my house, and competing in powerlifting.



Describe the studies you are currently working on Right now

I have quite a few irons in the fire. We just completed a study regarding a novel biopsy technique to improve the yield for sampling lymph nodes using endobronchial ultrasound. We are currently running a study looking to improve the efficiency in our intensive care units by confirming central venous catheter placement using point-of-care echocardiography rather than chest radiographs. Additionally, I am just beginning a project looking at the real-world incidence of checkpoint inhibitor-induced sarcoid-like reactions and another looking at the changes in COPD diagnoses as different societies have published competing criteria for diagnosis. As is typical, I'm also working on a host of case reports and series, of which I'm most excited for a large review on right atrial pathologies.

Can medical students and residents get involved in your research? If so, how will they be involved?

Certainly! Depending on the project, there are opportunities for others to help with drafting IRB proposals, survey creation, data collection & interpretation, and/or drafting manuscripts and presentations. In addition to the projects above, there are others that I'm in the process of synthesizing. I welcome any medical students or residents interested in getting involved to reach out to me via email.

What were your research interests and what have you learned from them ?

During medical school, my focus was cancer research, specifically early detection. This experience taught me the value of persistence and flexibility. I later shifted gears toward researching systems improvement and education, which refined my problem-solving skills and teaching style, respectively.

Who were/are your favorite mentors/collaborators and tell us what you enjoy working with them and/or what have you learned from them?

Oleg Alekseev was my first research mentor and what I enjoyed most about working with him was his infectious passion for research and teaching. Drs. Sill and Qiao within the pulmonary and critical care department here at EVMS/ODU have been instrumental in helping me hone my skills in writing and project development which are crucial as I begin the transition into to the next phase of my career.

"Evidence-based medicine isn't just about following protocols—it's about continuously questioning, testing, and improving them."

Media Highlights, Awards, Services, Announcements

- **Johnson DA** has a media publication on highlights of Digestive Disease Week (DDW) 2025, 10 Actionable, Easy Interventions for GI Conditions on May 16th, 2025. Watch the clip [here](#)
- **Niknejad B** represented the department at the American Geriatrics Society conference in Chicago on May 9, 2025.
- **Schreiter B** presented as Co-Chair for the Site Process Improvement, Networking, and Support (SPINS) committee at the Alzheimer's Clinical Trials Consortium (ACTC) on May 9, 2025.
- **Okhravi HR** represented the department at the Alzheimer's Association table during a recent event.
- **Telraje D** served as faculty presenter on Complex TAVR Procedures at EuroPCR in May 2025
- **Telraje D** presented on HCM at Sentara Cardiology Grand Rounds in May 2025.
- **Sentara's 2025 Young Investigator Forum** is accepting submissions for cardiovascular research presentations, due by July 25, 2025
- **Sentara Mid Atlantic Conference: Concepts in Cardiology 2025**, September 20, 2025
- **ABMS VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2025-2026**, early-career award of 15,000. Proposals due by June 23, 2025.
- EVMS Internal Medicine **Research and Discovery Day**, June 13, 2025
- Department of Medicine **Summerfest**, June 21st, 2025 at Lafayette Park. All faculty, residents, and fellows are invited with their family. Lookout for an email invite!

June 2025 Reminders:

Medicine Grand Rounds:

Wednesday, 12-1 p.m.

6/4/25—Dr. Cyrus Askin,

Blumrick, Macon & Joan

Brock VHS, EVMS @ ODU

Research Events:

Hybrid: 5:00-6:00 p.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room & Zoom

6/10/25

Research Workshop

Topic: RCT Study Designs

6/24/25

Research Journal Club

TBD

Research Office Hours

Fridays, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

