

Department of Urology

**UB** University at Buffalo The State University of New York

| FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024 |

## Department of Urology

K. Kent Chevli, MD- Chairman  
Teresa Danforth, MD- Program Director  
Matthew Brennan, DO- Associate Program  
Director



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## Message from the Chairman

K. Kent Chevli, MD



I hope all had an enjoyable holiday season with family and are looking forward to the start of the New Year. As we begin 2024, I am delighted to share with you noteworthy updates and achievements within our department.

We are proud to announce that one of our faculty members, David Abramowitz, M.D., was invited this past November to give Grand Rounds at the University at Buffalo Plastic Surgery Residency on Gender Affirming Surgery with a focus on Genitourinary Reconstruction. Dr. Abramowitz presented relevant history, current research as well as his own personal surgical experiences. This has fueled interdepartmental collaboration with the Plastic Surgery Department as well as promoted interest and education for the next generation of gender affirming

surgeons training in Buffalo.

For the second year in a row, we were able to fund a morning for the residents to host a cadaver lab at the Jacobs School, that provided residents with hands-on experience and education to enhance their skills and knowledge needed to practice urologic procedures they will encounter in not only their training but in their everyday practice. It allowed the residents to practice techniques and gain confidence with real-time feedback from our department attendings. The success of this event encourages us to plan similar enriching experiences in the future.

Interviews for our upcoming 2024 residency class have concluded. We are elated with the number of outstanding and accomplished individuals we had the privilege of interviewing this year. The eagerly awaited Match results will be released by the SAU on February 1st, 2024, and we look forward to sharing the results soon.

By staying at the forefront of medical advancements, we aim to enhance the quality of urological care, ensuring our patients receive the most effective and tailored treatments available. Our team is committed to advancing urological care and ensuring the best outcomes for our patients by offering new treatment options.

We are happy to announce that our resident's abstracts have been accepted at the Annual American Urology Association Meeting this year. The meeting is a chance to represent the University at Buffalo as well as the residents' accomplishments.

Our recent graduate, Dr. Kyle Waisanen has had yet another research publication. Our residency program has a strong connection with our alumni, and we continue to foster the connection.

Once again, I would like to express my gratitude for the hard work and dedication of our residents and staff. Your efforts have been instrumental in the continued success of our program. We look forward to continuing to provide our residents with the training and education they need to excel in their careers. Thank you for your commitment to our program and to the field of urology.

Wishing you and your families a happy and healthy 2024.

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## Urology Faculty Presents at Another Department Meeting



On November 30th, faculty member, Dr. David Abramowitz, was invited to give a presentation at the UB Department of Plastic Surgery's Grand Rounds. This lecture was held at ECMC.

Dr. Abramowitz's presentation, titled, "Genitourinary Reconstruction in Gender Affirming Surgery," went very well and helped educate the next generation of plastic surgeons on gender affirming surgery.

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## Department of Urology Presentations by Visiting Professors

**Dr. Dhiren Shah**, Radiation Oncologist, presented "**Radiation Therapy for Prostate Cancer**" at the Department of Urology Basic Science conference on Tuesday, November 14th.

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## Anatomy Lab



On December 14th, the residents, Drs. Rutkowski, Skomra and Spencer all attended a cadaver lab held in the Jacobs School Gross Anatomy Lab. The residents and faculty worked with three cadavers to learn different surgical techniques and to practice skills. Feedback was provided to the residents helping them gain confidence in their skill set.

Residents and faculty have another opportunity to participate in an upcoming cadaver lab that is scheduled for March.

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## Medical Student Interviews



The past couple of months have been busy for our department as we have conducted many interviews for our upcoming residency match. The results will be released on February 1, 2024. We know that this year the interview pool had exceptional candidates and we are just as eager to find out about the results. We are looking forward to introducing our newest residents to you.

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## Department Holiday Party





On December 7th, the Department of Urology held a holiday party at Moriarty Café on Elmwood Ave. in Buffalo. Residents, faculty, and their families gathered to celebrate the upcoming holiday season.

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## Resident Wellness

On November 30, 2023, residents met out for a breakfast wellness event. Residents enjoyed breakfast and each other's company during their time away from clinical duties.

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## Recent Expansions to the Department of Urology



Dr. Bodkin has completed training to provide patients with High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) therapy. HIFU is a precise therapy for treating prostate cancer. It uses ultrasound energy to heat and destroy targeted areas of prostate tissue. The physician, guided by advanced software merging MRI and real-time images, delivers HIFU energy while monitoring tissue reactions. The focused sound waves raise the temperature rapidly to 90° C, destroying the targeted tissue without harming healthy areas. This is the same process that is used when light is focused through a magnifying glass. HIFU allows physicians to treat a small amount of tissue, minimizing damage to surrounding areas and preserving normal urinary function. The therapy is effective for early stage, localized prostate cancer and recurrent cases with limited treatment options. HIFU has a lower risk of complications compared to surgery and radiation. It is non-ionizing, enabling repetition if necessary, and can be used as a salvage treatment option after previous interventions. Benefits include a short outpatient procedure, radiation-free treatment, quick recovery, minimal blood loss, and low risk of erectile dysfunction and incontinence.



Dr. Spencer has been the front-runner/pioneer in expanding Holmium Laser Enucleation of the prostate (HoLEP). Dr. Spencer has been doing HoLEP procedures since 2018 in Florida before bringing the procedure to Buffalo when he moved back here. The HoLEP procedure is a state-of-the-art surgery to help men who suffer from benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH). It is a minimally invasive procedure with no incisions that uses a special high-powered laser. The laser removed blockages from the prostate to allow men to urinate more easily. It is considered the “gold standard” for enlarged prostate surgery and offers better outcomes with faster recovery times for men.



Dr. Rutkowski has spearheaded new treatment options to provide our patients with by fully embracing the Great Lakes Cancer Care Collaborative (GLCCC) Advanced Prostate Cancer Clinic. The GLCCC Advanced Prostate Cancer Clinic has been serving patients since September 2022 and has seen 251 patients with 190 of those patients' choosing treatment. The GLCCC Advanced Prostate Cancer Clinic offers a full spectrum of care for prostate cancer patients and offers leading treatment options by using a multi-disciplinary approach in providing comprehensive care and collaborative treatment. The clinics are held at both Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital and Buffalo General Hospital, on alternating Thursday and Friday mornings.

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## AUA Accepted Abstracts



American  
Urological  
Association

We are pleased to announce that our residents have had their abstracts accepted at this year's Annual AUA Conference. Drs. Cook, Dinerman, and Hennig will be presenting their abstracts and representing the University at Buffalo. The conference will be held May 3rd through 6th in San Antonio, Texas. We encourage anyone that can attend to join us and support the Department of Urology.

Cook, Bryson, M.D., Tundo, Gina, M.D., Abramowitz, David, M.D. "Post-Operative Retrograde Urethrogram Does Not Predict Surgical Reintervention for Anterior Urethroplasty."

Dinerman BF, Baetzhold D, Chevli KK, Rutkowski J. "Treatment Initiation in Patients Undergoing Active Surveillance for Prostate Cancer."

AA Myneni, E Arbel, J Boccardo, F Hennig, M Brennan, K Noyes, AB Hoffman. "Challenges in management of gonadal torsion in New York State."

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## Alumni News



We are pleased to announce that our recent graduate Dr. Kyle Waisanen has been published in Cures Journal of Medical Science. We are very proud of the accomplishments that Dr. Waisanen has completed in residency with us and continues to complete in his endeavors after graduation.

[Waisanen, K, Parmar G, Iskhakov N, Baetzhold D, Lutnick E, Henning F, Saade K, Peterson M, Nader N, Chelvi K. Kent \(January 05,2024\) Evaluation of Educational Feedback in Urology Training: A Survey-Based Assessment of Trainees and Program Directors. Cureus 16\(1\): e51716.doi:10.7759/cureus.51716](#)

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## Urology Research Updates

### Ongoing Topics of Research

#### Clinical Topics

- Adult/Pediatric UTI recurrence
- Covid Effect on CaP biopsies in WNY
- Genetic/ Genomic markers for Prostate Cancer
  - Prostate Cancer Recurrence Outcomes
    - Prostate Cancer Screening
      - PSA after Urolift
    - Recurrent Ischemic Priapism
  - Urethral Sphincter Stimulation for SUI
- Urologic consults by degree of urgency and response time
- Unfavorable intermediate risk of prostate cancer and the value of advanced imaging
  - Active Surveillance conversion to treatment rates

#### Non-Clinical Topics

- Closing the gender gap in the urology residency Match
    - COVID-19 Impact on Physician Retirement Trends
  - Detection of prostate cancer with various imaging scans
  - Environmental impact of plastic waste in urology ORs
  - Feedback Mechanisms in Urology Training Programs
    - Female vs male surgical residents/attendings
      - Resident/Fellow readiness survey
  - Urethral complications with gender affirming surgery
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## CME Corner

Please use the links below to access current courses for CME credit:

[myCME Courses](#)

[Additional CME Credit Topics](#)

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If you have any news that you'd like to contribute to the next issue of the newsletter, please email them to Steve Crowe at [scrowe2@buffalo.edu](mailto:scrowe2@buffalo.edu).

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