

## GENERAL SURGERY



**WE ARE THRILLED THAT YOU HAVE INQUIRED ABOUT OUR PROGRAM!** This residency is a traditional five-year general surgery program designed to allow the motivated trainee the opportunity to enter practice as a board-eligible general surgeon or to compete successfully for fellowship training upon graduation. We are currently accredited by the ACGME to graduate three chief residents per year. Our small size offers the unique advantage of fostering closer relationships between residents and faculty in addition to accommodating the flexibility necessary to facilitate trainees' attainment of career goals.

Two 400-bed hospitals in Kalamazoo, each with a Level 1 or 2 Trauma Center, plus the resources of Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (WMed) outpatient clinics, form the clinical context for our residents in this community-based program. The combination of our four full-time faculty plus the diversity of an active, committed community faculty provide the basis for in-depth academics and clinical experience. Our goal is to produce well-rounded general surgeons with the practical experience to manage the gamut of surgical disease and the tools necessary to evaluate and assimilate new information. Experiencing a balance of autonomy and supervision, in addition to participating in continuity of care in the WMed and community faculty clinics, provides our graduates with the confidence and humility to deliver safe and quality surgical care.

Beyond the hospital setting, Kalamazoo is a well-kept secret with regard to livability, access to indoor and outdoor entertainment, and dining. Our proximity to Chicago and Detroit allows big city opportunities and travel access within two to three hours' drive. No matter the size or shape of your family, there are excellent educational, living, and entertainment opportunities here. We appreciate your interest and urge you to contact us and plan a visit. Please send us your application materials, visit our website at [med.wmich.edu](http://med.wmich.edu), or call us at (269) 337-6260. We wish you the very best on your educational journey and look forward to meeting you soon.

Sincerely,  
**Earl M. Norman, MD, FACS**  
*Chair, Department of Surgery  
Western Michigan University  
Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine*

## EXCELLENCE IN GENERAL SURGERY

### THE CURRICULUM

In addition to patient care, formal rounds, conferences, basic science lectures, and journal clubs, bioskills sessions will augment your education. Teaching other residents and medical students is also an integral part of your academic experience. Upon completion of the five-year curriculum, you will be a confident general surgeon ready for practice or further education in a subspecialty fellowship.

During your intern year, more than half of the rotations are spent on the academic general surgery services at either Borgess Medical Center or Bronson Methodist Hospital. The remaining rotations provide you with a comprehensive foundation of knowledge important for further surgical study.

As the categorical track continues, you will take rotations that provide exposure to all of the essential elements of general surgery and its subspecialties. During the mid-level years, a wide range of electives is available in order to supplement experience in your areas of interest. The fifth year is mostly dedicated to general surgery, with significant clinical and administrative responsibilities.

During your course of study, you will be encouraged to participate in ongoing research studies conducted by the faculty. Additionally, we have a fully-staffed Department of Clinical Research in order to help facilitate research projects.

### CONFERENCES

Several lecture series and formal rounds provide you with advanced education in the basic and clinical sciences fundamental to the practice of general surgery.

	Wednesday	Thursday*
<b>A.M.</b>	Trauma Grand Rounds	Morbidity and Mortality Grand Rounds Journal Club (quarterly) SCORE Lectures Oral Board Review GI Tumor Board

\*Simulation, Ultrasound, and Bioskills Lab occurs one Thursday each month in lieu of conferences.

### ROTATION SCHEDULE

YEAR 1	
General Surgery	8 blocks
ENT	1 block
Pediatric Surgery	1 block
Plastic Surgery	1 block
Trauma/Surgical Critical Care	2 blocks

YEAR 2	
General Surgery	7 blocks
Breast Surgery	1 block
Endoscopy & Research	2 blocks
Trauma/Surgical Critical Care	2 blocks
Vascular Surgery	1 block

YEAR 3	
General Surgery	8 blocks
Bariatric Surgery	1 block
Pediatric Surgery	1 block
Surgical Oncology	1 block
Thoracic Surgery	2 blocks

YEAR 4	
General Surgery	7 blocks
Breast Surgery	1 block
Transplant Surgery	1 block
Trauma Surgery/ACS	2 blocks
Vascular Surgery	1 block
Elective	1 block

YEAR 5	
General Surgery	9 blocks
Surgical Oncology	1 block
Trauma Surgery/ACS	1 block
Elective	2 blocks



## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

We accept applications through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS). Completed applications are reviewed by our recruitment committee for interview selection and must include the following items:

- ERAS application
- Medical school transcript
- USMLE score reports
- Dean's letter
- Letters of recommendation (3)

**The application deadline for the academic year is December 1.** Because we offer a limited number of interview slots, we encourage students to apply early. Applicants selected to interview will be contacted by the residency program coordinator for general surgery. Our website—[med.wmich.edu](http://med.wmich.edu)—offers more information regarding minimum requirements for applicants.

## THE RESIDENTS

We are proud of our residents and could only characterize them as excellent. As individuals, they are unique. As a team, they are strong. What they all have in common is the desire and ability to become highly qualified general surgeons. Because our residents come from diverse backgrounds with many talents and interests, they have much to offer one another and add richness to our program. We value having a complement of residents who work well together both as professionals and as peers.

## THE INTERVIEW

Interviews are held on selected Fridays in November and December.

Our interview day begins with a breakfast and introduction to WMed and the Kalamazoo community. Throughout the day, applicants interview with the program director and faculty, meet and have lunch with the residents, and tour Borgess Medical Center and/or Bronson Methodist Hospital.

From experience with our own medical students, we know that budgets can be limited. To help offset some of your interviewing expenses, WMed is pleased to provide overnight hotel accommodations and some meals during your visit.

We think you will agree that Kalamazoo is a great place to live, and that WMed is a great place to learn. We look forward to hearing from you!

## THE FACULTY

### ■ Earl M. Norman, MD, FACS

*Chair, Department of Surgery*  
 Medical School:  
 Temple University School of Medicine  
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Residency:  
 Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center  
 General Surgery  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 Special Interests:  
 Complex Hernia, Head and Neck Surgery

### ■ Saad A. Shebrain, MD, FACS, MMM, FICS

*Program Director, Department of Surgery*  
 Medical School:  
 University of Cairo  
 Cairo, Egypt  
 Residency – General Surgery Internship:  
 University of Illinois  
 College of Medicine at Chicago  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 Residency – General Surgery:  
 Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
 Torrance, California  
 Fellowship:  
 Minimally Invasive, Foregut,  
 and Bariatric Surgery  
 University of Washington Medical Center  
 Seattle, Washington  
 Special Interests:  
 Minimally Invasive Surgery, Foregut Surgery

### ■ Lisa A. Miller, MD, FACS

Medical School:  
 University of South Dakota  
 Sanford School of Medicine  
 Vermillion, South Dakota  
 Residency:  
 Michigan State University  
 Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies  
 Kalamazoo, Michigan  
 Special Interests:  
 Breast Surgery, Acute Care Surgery,  
 Hidradenitis Care

### ■ Gitonga Munene, MD, FACS

Medical School:  
 Northwestern University  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 Residency:  
 Georgetown University Hospital  
 Washington, DC  
 Fellowship:  
 Surgical Oncology  
 Tom Baker Cancer Centre  
 University of Calgary  
 Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
 Special Interests:  
 Upper GI and Biliary Tract Cancer,  
 HIPEC Treatment of Peritoneal Cancers



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## THE FACULTY

Our full-time general surgery faculty members are highly experienced teaching physicians with years of combined clinical and educational experience at various institutions, including the University of Illinois, Rush-Presbyterian-St.Luke's Medical Center, Georgetown, and UCLA. You will come to know these faculty well and enjoy one-on-one interaction with them as one of only 18 residents.

You will also benefit from close working relationships with practicing surgeons in the community. These clinical faculty represent experience from more than a dozen different training centers across the US and Canada. All eagerly impart their rich backgrounds to the program.

In addition to the full-time and community general surgeons, several local specialists who are boarded in their fields provide rotations in colorectal surgery, neurosurgery, pediatric surgery, plastic surgery (burns), thoracic surgery, and urology.

With the depth and variety of surgeons and specialists in Kalamazoo, the mid-sized community is able to offer quality programs normally found only in the largest metropolitan areas: a burn unit, Level 1 and Level 2 trauma care, open heart surgery, and laparoscopic surgery.

## THE COMMUNITY FACULTY

### General Surgery

Gerson Araujo, MD  
David Bartholomew, MD  
Phillip Borozan, MD  
John Collins, MD  
Mark Dittenbir, MD  
Christian Ertl, MD  
James McLaren, MD  
Brandon Minnick, DO  
Sean O'Brien, MD  
Daniel Stewart, MD

### Bariatric Surgery

Alain Elian, MD  
Stuart Verseman, MD

### Breast Surgery

Daniel Barnas, MD  
Nancy Kalinowski, MD

### Colorectal Surgery

Sridhar Chalasani, MD  
Michael Chen, MD  
Maria House, MD  
Edward Itawi, MD

### Endoscopy

Brij Dewan, MD

### ENT

L. Steven Szeles, MD

### Gynecology Oncology

Anna Hoekstra, MD

### Medical Ethics, Humanities, and Law

Tyler Gibb, PhD  
Michael Redinger, MD

### Orthopaedic Surgery

Karen Bovid, MD  
Keith Kenter, MD  
Joseph Weistroffer, MD

### Pediatric Surgery

Marc Downing, MD  
Michael Leinwand, MD  
Jennifer Timmons, MD

### Plastic/Burn

Raghu Elluru, MD  
Scott Holley, MD  
Steven Nitsch, MD

### Surgical Oncology

Gitonga Munene, MD

### Thoracic Surgery

Alphonse DeLucia III, MD  
David Martin, MD  
Nathan Mollberg, DO  
Jerry Pratt, MD

### Transplant

Marwan Abouljoud, MD

### Trauma

William Curtiss, MD  
Scott Davidson, MD  
Steven Khalil, MD  
James Kraatz, MD  
Sheldon Maltz, MD  
Thomas Rohs, MD  
Oreste Romeo, MD  
Jon Walsh, MD

### Vascular

Syed Alam, MD  
Krishna Jain, MD  
Daniel Johnston, MD  
Wade Kang, MD  
John Munn, MD  
Mark Rummel, MD  
Sarat Vaddineni, MD