

APRIL 2025

# ACADEMIC INSIDER



**DHRHealth**

Graduate Medical  
Education

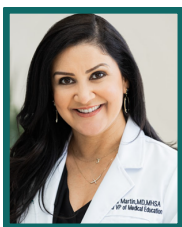
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- RESOURCES



**DHRHealth**

## UNDER THE DIRECTION OF



**Jessica Martin, MD, MHSA**

**Senior Vice President of Medical Education  
Designated Institutional Official**

## Huge Thank You to Dr. D'Acolatse & Dr. Almeda!



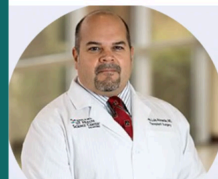
**Dr. Naomi J. D'Acolatse**  
DHR Health-Family Medicine



**Dr. Rajeev Raghavan**  
HCA Houston (Kingwood)-  
Internal Medicine



**Dr. Mike Liang**  
HCA Houston (Kingwood)-Surgery



**Dr. Jose L. Almeda**  
DHR Health-Surgery



**Dr. Shane Jenks**  
HCA Houston-Emergency Medicine



**Dr. Kimberly Pilkinton**  
University of Houston

Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

A big Thank You to **Dr. D'Acolatse** and **Dr. Almeda** for their *participation in the Transition to Residency Course via Teams with the University of Houston medical students*. They took the time to connect with future residents, offering thoughtful advice answering questions on how to transition and succeed in residency.

Their support and willingness to share their expertise provided invaluable insights to the newly matched students. We're grateful for their commitment to mentoring the next generation of doctors.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

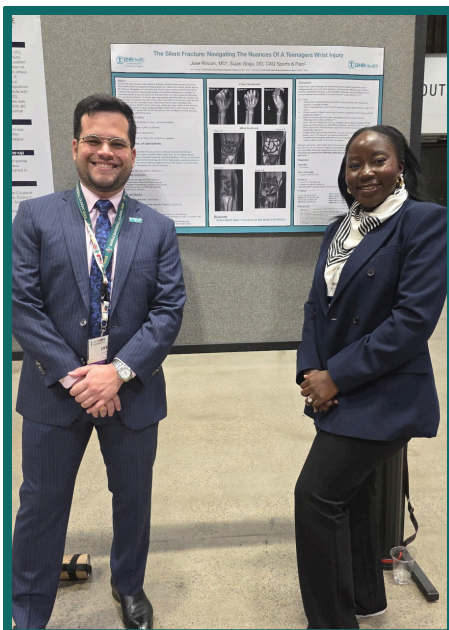
### EMERGENCY MEDICINE



**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**, PGY-2 resident **Dr. Hakim** presented at the **Texas College of Emergency Physicians (TCEP)** hosted by **CONNECT 2025 & Hill Day**, from April 13 - 15 at the **Texas Medical Association building in Austin, TX**.

Nearly 230 emergency medicine professionals - including physicians, residents, fellows, and medical students - came together from across the state for a week focused on advancing emergency medicine through education, collaboration, and innovation.

### FAMILY MEDICINE



**FAMILY MEDICINE** PGY-2 residents Dr. Doreen Andisi Asena and Dr. Jose Rincon presented at the **2025 American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) Annual Meeting in Kansas City**.

**Dr. Rincon** presented *"The Silent Fracture: Navigating the Nuances of a Teenager's Wrist Injury,"* and **Dr. Asena** presented *"An Intriguing Case of Unilateral Symptoms with Bilateral Limb Involvement in a Young Individual."*

We are proud to have them represent the DHR Health Family Medicine Residency Program and showcase the meaningful work our residents are doing. Special thanks to their **faculty sponsor, Dr. Gogu**, for providing mentorship and guidance throughout the process."



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### GENERAL SURGERY



The **GENERAL SURGERY** Residency Program is honored to spotlight our esteemed **Program Director, Dr. Jose Almeda, and Dr. Miguel Liria, an exemplary PGY-2 resident, who recently had the privilege of presenting at the Texas Surgical Society Meeting in Austin, Texas.** Together, they delivered an insightful and comprehensive session on pancreaticoduodenectomy with major vascular reconstruction utilizing a mesenteric approach.

Also, we are pleased to announce that PGY-4 resident, **Dr. Juanita Rodriguez, will serve as the Administrative Chief Resident for the General Surgery Residency Program during the 2025-2026 academic year.** We look forward to her leadership and the contributions she will make to the program!



### INTERNAL MEDICINE



The **INTERNAL MEDICINE** resident PGY-2 resident, **Dr. Panneflek, was accepted to the American College of Cardiology Leadership Cohort.**

This competitive program identifies and cultivates emerging leaders in the field of cardiology, offering them advanced training, mentorship opportunities, and the chance to contribute to impactful initiatives within the ACC. **Dr. Panneflek's selection reflects her exceptional commitment to clinical excellence, leadership potential, and dedication to advancing cardiovascular care.**

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### UROLOGY

This month our **UROLOGY** Residency had their **ACGME site visit for Continued Accreditation**. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our exceptional residents and faculty for uniting to highlight the program's dedication to excellence.

Additionally, our Urology residency program is proud to highlight the outstanding scholarly activity participation of our residents and faculty at the **2025 American Urological Association (AUA) Conference** in Las Vegas, Nevada this month.

**Dr. Veronica Rodriguez**, PGY-5 Chief Resident, presented her abstract on ***"Laparoscopic-assisted abdominoplasty: Modifications to the Monfort technique using a hybrid approach in prune belly syndrome,"*** in a Video Session. Dr. Rodriguez also had the distinct honor of being selected by the AUA to lead a discussion at the "Matching for Internationals" forum. Our PGY-4 resident, **Dr. Octavio Herrera**, presented his abstract on ***"Robotic-Assisted Uterine-Sparing Vesicocervical Fistula Repair,"*** in a Video Session. Lastly, one of our Core Faculty members, **Dr. Gustavo Villegas**, presented a Poster Presentation on ***"SNM Lead Sensing: Sacral Evoked Responses Across Standard Therapy Programs."***





# FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

During the month of April, The DHR Health **BARIATRIC SURGERY** Fellowship Program, experienced a behavioral medicine rotation. This psychiatry rotation, provided invaluable insight into the psychological factors that influence patient outcomes before and after surgery. ***Dr. Paige had the privilege of working with Dr. Guadalupe Sharpe, where she gained firsthand experience in the psychiatric aspects of bariatric care.***

“Through this rotation, I developed a deeper understanding of patient behavior, motivation, and coping strategies, which I believe will strengthen my ability to deliver holistic, patient-centered care. ***After my time with Dr. Guadalupe Sharpe, I feel much better equipped to identify high-risk patients, facilitate appropriate referrals, and contribute to improved surgical outcomes and long-term patient satisfaction***”. – Dr. Maya D. Paige

## BARIATRIC SURGERY



## SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

This month, our very own **SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE**, **Fellow, Dr. Gabriel Toma**, and **Program Director, Dr. Jeffrey Skubic**, had the **incredible opportunity to attend the prestigious Mattox Conference in Las Vegas**. Dr. Skubic was invited to share his expertise with the broader medical community by presenting two compelling lectures: ***"Management in Situ: What Trauma Patients Can Stay in the Rural Hospital"*** and ***"Emergency General Surgery in the Pregnant Patient."*** He was also selected to participate as a panelist in the Rural Case Panel, where he contributed valuable insights to the field.



While Dr. Toma gained a wealth of knowledge as a first-time attendee of the conference, he also had the privilege of meeting **Dr. Kenneth Mattox**, a world-renowned trauma surgeon and the namesake of our very own DHR Trauma Unit. What an unforgettable experience!

We're incredibly proud of our team for representing DHR Health on such an important stage and continuing to push the boundaries of trauma and critical care.

## RGV GME Consortium Psychiatry Residency Program

We are pleased to announce that the **RGV GME Consortium Psychiatry Residency Program** has been granted **Initial Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)**, a key milestone that signifies national recognition of the program's quality and readiness to begin resident training.

This accreditation affirms the Consortium's commitment to addressing critical mental health workforce needs in the Rio Grande Valley by developing a high-quality training program that prepares physicians to deliver evidence-based, patient-centered psychiatric care. ***The Psychiatry Residency Program will offer comprehensive clinical experiences across a diverse range of settings, including inpatient, outpatient, emergency, and community-based environments, ensuring a well-rounded and culturally responsive education.***

The program is expected to **welcome its inaugural class of residents in July 2025**, who will benefit from the mentorship of experienced faculty, interprofessional collaboration, and an emphasis on community mental health needs unique to the border region.

With this achievement, ***the RGV GME Consortium continues its strategic expansion of graduate medical education in South Texas***, reinforcing its dedication to improving health outcomes through education, service, and innovation.

For more information about the program or application details, please visit <https://dhrhealth.com/education/graduate-medical-education/>





# GME GRAND ROUNDS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



Graduate Medical Education Grand Rounds

**GME Grand Rounds Wednesdays Noon**  
**DHR Health, South Tower, 2nd floor Classroom**

**May 2025**



**Practice Management** **May 7, 2025**  
**Life After the Party: Beta Blocker Use in Cocaine Abuse**

Jennifer Narsh, PharmD.  
DHR Health PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident



**University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta** **May 7, 2025**  
**College of Medicine - Title - TBA**  
**Virtual Wednesdays @ 5:30pm**

Dr. Brian C Reed  
Chair of Clinical Sciences Department  
UH Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine



**Well-Being** **May 14, 2025**  
**Fatigue Mitigation Strategies**

Dr. Jennifer L. Ortega, DPC, LPC-S, CPC, CCATP, Core Faculty  
John Reilly, MD PGY5 DHR Health General Surgery Resident  
Peter Dixon, MD PGY5 DHR Health General Surgery Resident



**Practice Management:** **May 21, 2025**  
**Steroid Overuse in Critical Care: An Inflamed Situation**

DaniElle Nares, PharmD  
DHR Health PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident



**Well-Being** **May 28, 2025**  
**Civility and Conflict: Challenges for Healthcare**

David Teegarden, MD  
Healthcare Consultant

## DHR Health GME Well-being Services

We at GME Cares are now offering well-being support services for those in Graduate Medical Education. Our **GME Behavioral Health Specialist, Dr. Jennifer L. Ortega**, is available for all GME Residents, Fellows, Faculty, and Staff who are in need of support and guidance.

**GME CARES** hopes that Dr. Ortega can be your **first line of support** when dealing with mental, emotional, and professional concerns. However, should you need further specialized care, Dr. Ortega will refer you to our Comprehensive Behavioral Health Care partners or other support services for further assistance.

Dr. Ortega is available **Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm** for in-person and virtual support sessions.

All support services with Dr. Jennifer L. Ortega are **confidential**.

### Support Services Offered:

- Individual and Group Support Sessions
- Consultation & Life Coaching
- Didactics
- Wellness Retreats & Workshops
- Grand Rounds
- Balint Group



*"Dr. Ortega is an exemplary mental health therapist, knowledgeable educator and a beacon for compassionate care. Her graduate medical education wellbeing services enhanced my residency experience by promoting resilience through insightful lessons and activities. Her work rejuvenated my mind through reflections, group bonding activities, deep discussions and self-care tasks that taught me adaptive coping strategies and skills to approach patient care. I highly recommend her support services because she is one of the best I know." - Morayo Ejiofor, MD*

**For More Information or To Schedule an Appointment:**

**Email:** [jennifer.ortega@dhr-rgv.com](mailto:jennifer.ortega@dhr-rgv.com)

**Cell:** 956-358-4895



## WELLNESS SUPPORT

The Comprehensive Behavioral Health (CBH) Department at DHR Health provides free, confidential mental health support, resources, and access to appropriate tools for self-screening for every resident. Counseling services provided to residents and faculty are available Monday - Friday from 8 AM - 8 PM and on weekends from 9 AM - 6 PM.

Call **956-362-2732** or the 24/7 registration department at **956-362-2755** to schedule an appointment.

### White Coat Dry Cleaning

- Alternate Fridays - Drop off/Pickup

### "DM the DIO" DROP BOXES:

- Located in classrooms and call rooms; encouraged to drop any confidential messages

### DHR WORKPLACE SAFETY:

- <https://app.convercent.com/enus/Anonymous/IssueIntake/LandingPage/Oc318ea9-5439-ea11-a972-000d3ab9f062>

### RLDATIX SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT:

- <https://srm.rldatix.com/landing/DHR/>

### CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING PORTAL:

- <https://www.dhrhealth.com/education/graduate-medical-education/confidential-reporting/>

### SECURITY PHONE NUMBER: **956-739-0717**

- ACGME IR: III.B.7.d).(5) - safety and security measures appropriate to the clinical learning environment site

**COVID-19/SICK-DAY PROTOCOL:** All staff shall notify Employee Health as soon as they receive a positive test result or request a sick day. Staff may may not return to work until cleared by Employee Health.

Clearance includes submission of your "Medical Clearance Certificate" to your program coordinator.

- Phone: **(956) 362-3655**
- Email: [EmployeeHealth@dhr-rgv.com](mailto:EmployeeHealth@dhr-rgv.com)



## Quality Improvement Form

## **DHR Health - Institute for Research and Development IRB Office**

Human Subject Research or Quality Improvement Project:  
One-on-One Sessions

- QIP
- Case Report / Case Series
- Research Protocol Development
- IRB Submission



SCAN TO SCHEDULE

For more information, please  
call/email Liz Elias-Calles Cabanillas

Phone: 956-362-2379  
Email: [lcalles@dhr-rgv.com](mailto:lcalles@dhr-rgv.com)