

Faculty Biographies



Marie R. Baldisseri, MD, MPH, FCCM

Dr. Baldisseri is a Council Member for the Society of Critical Care Medicine, a Professor of Critical Care and Neurocritical Care at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and Co-Director, Neurovascular ICU, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Rhonda S. Cadena, MD, FCCM

Dr. Cadena is board certified in emergency medicine and neurocritical care. She has a particular interest in stroke and the management of critically ill neurological patients. She is the editor-in-chief for a peer reviewed stroke supplement and serves on the leadership committee for the neuroscience section of the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Cadena is a fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine (FCCM) and the Neurocritical Care Society (FNCS). She received her medical degree at Southern Illinois University and completed residency and a fellowship at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Cadena has 2 children and enjoys spending time on Lake Norman, going out to dinner, and traveling.



Rana Moosavi, MD

Dr. Moosavi is a Neurocritical Care and Epilepsy physician and Clinical Neurology faculty at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, California. They are a Neurocritical Care fellowship completed at Duke University and Epilepsy fellowship at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson.

Faculty Biographies



Neha S. Dangayach, MD, MSCR

Dr. Dangayach is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery. Dr. Dangayach serves as the Research Director for Neurocritical care and Recovery; Systems Director for Neuroemergencies Management and Transfers (NEMAT) for the Mount Sinai Health System. She is also a Co-Director of the Mount Sinai Hospital's busy NSICU and collaborates with a compassionate team to provide world-class patient-centered Neurocritical Care. As a health services and outcomes researcher, she focuses on systems of care for hemorrhagic stroke, understanding the roles of resilience and spirituality in critical care recovery and social media in medicine. At Mount Sinai, both programs she established seek to advance knowledge about the continuum of critical care: a longitudinal cohort to understand the impact of inter-facility transfers (IFTs) for Neuroemergencies in a large complex urban health system (NEMAT) with continuous QI and the Mount Sinai Critical Care Recovery Program (MSCCRP) with a multidisciplinary team from several ICUs, critical care pharmacists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, spiritual care, nursing to humanize the ICU and run a telehealth critical care recovery clinic. The NEMAT lab focuses on developing innovative solutions for preventing fragmentation of care for neuroemergencies, leveraging clinical data science and improving patient centered outcomes.



Sudhir Vishwas Datar, MBBS

Sudhir Datar, MBBS is an assistant professor of Neurology, section of Neurocritical care at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In addition to patient care, Dr. Datar enjoys teaching and research and has been part of several research projects. Dr. Datar is a Clinical Skills and iCRIT coach for the medical school, teaching first year and second year students, integrative thinking and bedside skills. In addition, Dr. Datar is an associate program director for the residency program, helping to train a group of amazing residents.

Faculty Biographies



Nicole Davis, PharmD, BCCCP

Dr. Nicole Davis, originally born and raised in Honea Path, South Carolina, graduated from the South Carolina College of Pharmacy in 2016. After moving to New York City for residency, she loved it so much she wanted to stay and was able to stay with Touro College of Pharmacy as faculty after completing her PGY-2. Dr. Davis is very excited to be a part of Touro College of Pharmacy as well as with The Mount Sinai Hospital as a critical care specialist. Her interests include neurocritical care, medical ICU, as well as advanced emergency life support.



Ariane Lewis, MD

As the director of NYU Langone's Division of Neurocritical Care, Dr. Lewis treats patients who are critically ill due to brain, spine, and nerve conditions. Some patients are admitted to the neurointensive care unit to manage blood pressure after a stroke. Others have difficulty breathing due to a complication of myasthenia gravis, a condition that causes muscle weakness, or Guillain-Barré syndrome, a disorder in which the immune system damages nerves. Still others may experience weakness due to spinal cord compression or persistent seizures, known as status epilepticus. Their interests include quality improvement in neurocritical care and social, ethical, and legal issues related to end-of-life care. At NYU Langone, they are a member of the Ethics Committee. They are also a member of the Ethics, Law, and Humanities Committee—a joint committee of the American Academy of Neurology, American Neurological Association, and Child Neurology Society—and a past chair of the Neurocritical Care Society's Ethics Committee.

Faculty Biographies



Shraddha Mainali, MD

After completing her neurology residency from The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Shraddha Mainali, MD, joined The New York Presbyterian Hospital, Weill-Cornell Medical College in New York for a Vascular Neurology fellowship. She subsequently completed a second fellowship in Neurocritical Care from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Dr. Mainali is currently an assistant professor at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in the Department of Neurology, Division of Stroke and Neurocritical Care and serves as the director of Neurovascular Ultrasound Lab. She is also the medical director of stroke program at the Springfield Regional Medical Center, an affiliate of The Ohio State University. She is the OSU hub Co-PI of SIREN (The Strategies to Innovate Emergency Care Clinical Trials Network) and leads multiple stroke and TBI-related trials. Her primary research interest is in the study of acute large vessel occlusion strokes with specific focus in cerebral collateral circulation. Dr. Mainali is an active member of the Neurocritical Care Society (NCS) and serves on the Currents Editorial Board. She is also a reviewer for Neurocritical Care journal.



Kristine O'Phelan, MD

Dr. O'Phelan is a Professor of Clinical Neurology. She is also Chief of the Neurocritical Care Division and has been at The Miller School of Medicine since 2008. She received her medical school training at Boston University School of Medicine, completed her residency in Neurology at the University of Miami/ Jackson Memorial Hospital and received her fellowship training in Neurocritical care and neurotrauma in the division of Neurosurgery at UCLA. Her major subspecialty interests are critical care of neurotrauma, multimodal monitoring, subarachnoid hemorrhage and other neurosurgical illnesses. Her primary research interests are cerebral metabolism and blood flow, intracranial monitoring, and neurotrauma.

Faculty Biographies



Deepa Malaiyandi, MD

Dr. Malaiyandi graduated from St. George's University SOM in Grenada, West Indies. She went on to complete her Neurology Residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin and her Neurocritical Care Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh. She served as an Assistant Professor of Neurology at the University of Texas Medical Branch and an Assistant Professor of Critical Care Medicine and Neurology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center where she also served as the Director of the Neurovascular Intensive Care Unit at UPMC Altoona Hospital. Currently she is an Assistant Professor of Neurology, Internal Medicine, Anesthesiology and Surgery, the Neurocritical Care Division Director, and the Ethics Curriculum Director for undergraduate medical education at the University of Toledo COMLS. Dr. Malaiyandi has been a member of the Neurocritical Care Society since her second year of residency and has been a member of Trainee, ENLS Simulation Sub-, and Ethics Committees. She served as Chair -Elect of WINCC and currently serves as the INCC Committee Chair. In her role on the Currents Editorial Board, she is the Co-Editor of the INCC Corner.



Olabisi Sanusi, MD

Dr. Olabisi Sanusi specializes in caring for adults with skull base pathologies and brain tumors. She advanced her neurosurgical training with a skull base fellowship here at OHSU. Dr. Sanusi grew up in Nigeria and was raised by immediate and extended family alike. She chose to become a physician after her grandmother died from cancer. Dr. Sanusi received her medical degree from Pennsylvania State College of Medicine and was inducted into the medical honor society Alpha Omega Alpha for her high academic achievement and exemplary nature. During medical school, she was fascinated by neuroanatomy and neurophysiology. She chose disorders of the skull base due to the deep satisfaction derived from helping patients with various brain pathologies. Dr. Sanusi's research focuses on improving patient clinical outcomes.

Faculty Biographies



Christa O'Hana S. Nobleza, MD, MSCI

Dr. Nobleza, received her degree in Doctor of Medicine in the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center after achieving a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy from the University of the Philippines College of Allied Medical Professions. She then completed her Neurology residency at the University of Connecticut. She finished her Neurocritical Care Fellowship in Johns Hopkins University. She formerly held the roles of Neuroscience Intensive care division head, the Director of the Neurocritical Care Fellowship program and the Medical Director of the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center during her first five years as an attending. She is currently the Medical Director of the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee Neurocritical Care service, and is an Associate Professor of University of Tennessee Health Sciences Department of Neurology. She has been a strong advocate for innovative education and simulation, mentorship, inclusion and diversity in her career. Her research interests include brain-multiorgan cross-talk, cerebrovascular diseases, obstetric neurocritical care, healthcare quality improvement and patient outcomes.



Aarti Sarwal, MD, FAAN, FNCS, FCCM

Dr. Sarwal is the Medical Director/Section Chief, Neurocritical care, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, Winston Salem, NC. She is the Co-director of the Medical School Integrated Ultrasound Curriculum at Wake Forest School of Medicine. Her personal research interest focus on diagram ultrasound, ventilator induced muscle dysfunction, use of neurosonology for assessing cerebral hemodynamics and point of care applications of ultrasound in the intensive care unit specially neurocritical care unit.

Faculty Biographies



Casey Olm-Shipman, MD

Dr. Olm-Shipman is an assistant professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery and is Director of Quality Improvement for the Department of Neurology. She graduated from Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine, where she also completed her Master's in Quality Improvement in Healthcare Systems. Dr. Olm-Shipman completed her residencies in Neurology/Child Neurology, with fellowships in Neurocritical Care and Acute Stroke at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital at Harvard Medical School. She chairs the NSICU QI Committee, co-leads the Neurosciences Quality Improvement Council, and is director of the Clinician Leadership in Quality and Safety Scholarly Concentration for medical and nursing students at UNC. Additionally, Dr. Olm-Shipman is the Director of Health Systems Science for UNC Graduate Medical Education.



Nikhil Patel, MD

Dr. Patel is board certified in psychiatry and neurology with a subspecialty in neurocritical care. He received his medical degree at Albany Medical College and completed his residency and fellowship at the University of Maryland.



Dionne Swor, MD

Dr. Swor is a neurologist in Winston-Salem, NC specializing in neurology (brain & spinal cord disease). She graduated from Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2012 and has 10 years of experience.

Faculty Biographies



Erick Tarula, MBA, MD

Dr. Tarula specializes in neurocritical care with special interest in stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage, status epilepticus and traumatic brain injury. His teaching interests include resident and medical student acute care neurology for the intensive care unit (ICU) and the emergency department (ED).



Christa Swisher, MD, FNCS, FACNS

Dr. Swisher is board certified in neurocritical care, general critical care and continuous EEG monitoring (a test to detect electrical activity in the brain). She chose to specialize in neurocritical care because she has a passion for both neurology and critical care. She feels neurocritical care is a rapidly changing field with novel therapeutic treatments that have changed the lives of so many of her patients. Dr. Swisher received her medical degree at Case Western Reserve University and completed residency at Duke University. She completed a fellowship at Duke University. She is involved in research studying nonconvulsive seizures, status epilepticus (when a seizure lasts longer than 5 minutes), continuous EEG monitoring and quantitative EEG monitoring. Dr. Swisher is married to a sports orthopedic surgeon, and they have 2 children. She and her husband enjoy CrossFit. As a family, they enjoy vacationing, going out to dinner, seeing musicals, and exploring all that Charlotte has to offer.

“I believe all critically ill patients deserve to be cared for by providers who are compassionate and committed to excellent clinical care while maintaining communication with the patient and their families, so they understand what is happening and why.”