Jefferson Urology Residency Changing to Five Years

Traditionally, urology residency programs consisted of two years of general surgery followed by four years of urology training. For the last 10-15 years, the trend has been to shorten this total length of training time to five years by eliminating the second year of training in general surgery. After many years of deliberations, the Department of Urology has applied for and received approval from the Residency Ruling Committee (RRC) to reduce its training program from six to five years.

“Getting residents through five years versus six years will allow residents to get into practice or fellowship sooner,” says Dr. Patrick Shenot, Deputy Chair and Residency Program Director.

Shortening urology residency programs began in the 1990s when the government changed funding of graduate training resulting in hospitals, making it more challenging to fund residency programs at a time when there is a growing shortage of urologists. As a result, urology departments recognized that shortening total training times would help in mitigating a growing shortage of urologists.

The recent Jefferson decision to reduce the number of residency years is consistent with more than 90% of all other U.S. training programs that are structured to provide one year of general surgery followed by four years of urology. Dr. Shenot is confident that the change will not compromise the quality of the training.

“The quality of our trainees’ experience will be enhanced by this adjustment,” states Dr. Shenot. “Quality is something that will be managed to make sure our residents are competent in their practice and are more focused on what urology should involve. We’re training smarter rather than longer.”

Residents, who will start in July of 2019, will be the first to participate in the revised five-year program. Due to this change Jefferson will not participate in the 2018 match.

Our Second Practice Location Opens in New Jersey

The Department of Urology has opened a second New Jersey practice located in Northfield, N.J. In May 2017, Dr. Mark Mann, assistant professor of urology, (pictured) along with a medical assistant, began seeing general urology patients and looks forward to expanding the number of Urology providers as the practice grows. The facility includes three exam rooms (one available for procedures) and imaging and radiation rooms. Future expansion includes providing biopsies and other urological procedures.

The office is located at 801 New Road (Route 9) in Northfield and appointments can be made by calling 215-955-1000. Our first Jefferson Urology New Jersey office opened in Burlington in 2016.

Jefferson Urology, a 2017-18 Top Specialty

The U.S. News & World Report 2017-18 annual Best Hospitals rankings had lots of good news for Jefferson. The Department of Urology was again nationally ranked at number 27 out of more than 1,400 Urology Departments in the United States and was the top adult urology program in the Philadelphia region. The Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center was also highly rated at 20. Thomas Jefferson University Hospital is listed on the very elite top 20 U.S. News & World Report’s Honor Roll and is noted to be the 16th Best Hospital in the country with 11 specialties ranked nationally. Congratulations to our Pediatric Urology colleagues at the Nemours Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, which is also recognized as a top hospital for children’s Urology care in the recent rankings. U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals program recognizes hospitals that treat the most challenging patients, and evaluates each hospital’s use of advanced technologies, safety, outcomes and capacity to overcome other medical issues.
Welcome to Dr. Paul H. Chung to the Department of Urology. Dr. Chung has recently completed a Fellowship in GU Trauma at the University of Washington. He is a 2011 graduate of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College and completed his urology training at UT South West in Dallas. Dr. Chung will start at Jefferson in September and specialize in reconstructive urology and also attend to general urology patients.

Best wishes to Dr. Kelly Healy, who has been a member of our faculty for the past six years. Dr. Healy joined our faculty after completion of an endourology fellowship at Jefferson. Dr. Healy has accepted a position in the Department of Urology at Columbia beginning this fall. Drs. Scott Hubosky and Mark Mann will assume the care of the majority of her patients.

Congratulations to former Jefferson urology resident Dr. Michael Erhard on his appointment as Nemours Enterprise Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Florida. After completing his urology training at Thomas Jefferson in 1995, he completed his pediatric urology fellowship in 1997 at the University of Florida, a joint fellowship with Nemours in Jacksonville. Dr. Erhard became a full-time Nemours associate following the completion of his fellowship in 1997. He earned an MBA in 2003 and has held numerous leadership positions at Nemours.

Congratulations to former Jefferson urology resident Dr. Michael Erhard on his appointment as Nemours Enterprise Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Florida. After completing his urology training at Thomas Jefferson in 1995, he completed his pediatric urology fellowship in 1997 at the University of Florida, a joint fellowship with Nemours in Jacksonville. Dr. Erhard became a full-time Nemours associate following the completion of his fellowship in 1997. He earned an MBA in 2003 and has held numerous leadership positions at Nemours.

Dr. Perry Weiner, Director, Men’s Health, recently spoke about prostate health, including early cancer diagnosis and PSA testing with Radio 1400AM WURD co-host Toni Staten of the Laborer’s Health and Welfare Fund and Union in Philadelphia. Dr. Weiner also fielded questions from call-in listeners about men’s health.

Congratulations and welcome to Dr. Madhukar “Mathew” Thakur on his joint appointment as Professor of Urology. Dr. Thakur is an expert on radio-pharmaceuticals for medical imaging and has worked closely with Drs. Gomella and Trabulsi in developing novel PET imaging and shed tumor cell detection using the VPAC molecule platform. Dr. Thakur has been serving as a professor of radiology and radiation oncology and a faculty member at Jefferson since 1982. He had received 10 prestigious national and international awards, including the Gasson Award, the highest recognition offered by the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI), for “outstanding contributions to radio-pharmaceutical science and devotion to the practice and promotion of nuclear medicine.” He was elected president of three international societies and is founder of the International Society of Radiolabeled Blood Elements (ISORBE).

Co-authors Dr. Demetrius H. Bagley, Maryann Sonzogni, RN, BSN, Bridget Weissinger, CST, and Dr. Kelly A. Healy showcased the multifaceted Urology Inter-Professional Education (IPE) Program at the 9th Annual Jefferson Faculty Days Forum. This one-day forum, themed “Building A Community of Educators: Learning from Each Other,” featured presentations.
by and for Jefferson and Philadelphia University faculty. During a moderated poster session, Dr. Bagley shared the department’s IPE Program, including the Urology Symposium in Avalon, non-physician Journal Club and lecture series. Through participation in the Jefferson Faculty Days Forum, the Urology interdisciplinary team is able to demonstrate the benefit of collaborative practice.

**Dr. Daniel Verges** (4th from left) recently completed his year as the C.R. Bard-Bagley Fellow in Endourology and Minimally Invasive Urologic Oncology. Working alongside Dr. Brent Yanke (also an alumnus of this fellowship) as a senior urology resident, Dr. Verges had the opportunity to further develop his clinical skills and working relationships with Jefferson faculty and residents.

Dr. Verges spent the year heavily focused on hands-on inclusion in cases and patient management, with time allotted for self-directed learning and discovery within minimally invasive urology. Under the tutelage of Drs. Costas Lallas, Edouard Trabulsi and Scott Hubosky, he performed 266 cases, including 65 endourology cases for nephrolithiasis and upper tract urothelial carcinomas; 67 robotic prostatectomies; 33 radical nephrectomies; 34 partial nephrectomies; 4 nephroureterectomies; 18 radical cystectomies; 13 adrenalectomies; and 32 miscellaneous open and robotic cases.

During this tenure, Dr. Verges served as a visiting professor at his alma mater, SUNY Downstate Medical Center Department of Urology, where he spoke about endourology and the fellowship application process. Additionally, he wrote three urologic textbook reviews for Doody’s Review Service; prepared didactic presentations on laparoscopic and robotic surgery for Jefferson’s urology residents; and developed, with Dr. Lallas, the Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals Department of Urology Basic and Advanced Robotic Surgery Training Curricula, which incorporates virtual reality surgical simulation via the RobotiX Mentor platform (3D Systems).

In August, Dr. Verges began working with the urology group at St. Luke’s University Health Network in the Lehigh Valley, PA.

---

**Dr. Edouard Trabulsi** (pictured third from left) recently served as a visiting professor for the Department of Urology at the Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, VA. Dr. Trabulsi had the opportunity to address the residents and fellows, discussing challenging oncologic cases. He spoke on innovative research originating at Jefferson, “VPAC PET imaging for Assessment of Urologic Malignancy,” as well as “Postoperative Radiotherapy after Prostatectomy and the use of Genomics.” He also had the opportunity to speak at the Tidewater Urological Association, discussing the topic of “Enhanced Ultrasound Modalities for Prostate Cancer Detection.”

---

**Dr. Mark Mann** (pictured left with radio host Bob Burns) was a special guest on the Bob Burns and Don Williams Talk Show on Radio 1400AM this past spring. Dr. Mann discussed the urology program at Jefferson, LUTS, prostate cancer survivorship and kidney stones, among other topics. He also answered questions from callers who phoned in to the program.
SKMC Senior Urology Awards

Senior Awards
Department of Urology faculty present the Grasso Award each year to an Outstanding Graduating Urology Medical Student. The award is given at the Class Day activities of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College. This year there were co-awardees. Congratulations to this year’s recipients: Drs. Masaya Jimbo (left) receiving his award from Drs. Costas Lallas and Patrick Shenot, and Kuojung (Gordon) Lu receiving his award from Dr. Costas Lallas.

A series of Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) Resident & Fellow Live Forums are presented by the AUA in partnership with the Society of Urologic Oncology (SUO). The inaugural all-day program was held at the 2017 AUA meeting in Boston with four additional programs scheduled across the United States later this year. Dr. Gomella, current SUO President, and Dr. Trabulsi, SUO Board Member at-Large, are participating in this national program. The initiative’s goal is to improve the urology resident’s and fellow’s ability to care for patients with CRPC.

Residents Present at SUFU Meeting in Arizona
Dr. Whitney Smith (pictured) recently attended the SUFU 2017 Winter Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, where she, along with Dr. Andrew Margules, presented several posters on pediatric vesicostomy preservation into adulthood, telemedicine in the female urology population, and Holmium Laser Enucleation of the Prostate (HOLEP).
Department News

Department of Urology Now Hospital Based

On June 28, 2017, the Department of Urology transitioned to become a hospital-based department following the trend of most other JUP/SKMC-based departments. This administrative change allows more of the extensive TJUH System resources to be available to patients in the Urology outpatient setting and affords participation in the government 340B program, which enables covered entities to stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services. This was a tremendous effort spearheaded by Marlene Vallett and Scott Bowes with incredible support from the department’s 833 outpatient staff and the TJUH conversion team. In recognition for all of the hard work to make this happen, the Department said, “Thank You” to its staff and conversion team members with a “340B Luncheon.” TJUH President Rich Webster also stopped by to express his thanks. Pictured are Dr. Scott Hubosky and Marlene Vallett.

Service Awards

Several faculty and staff members celebrated anniversaries with Thomas Jefferson University over the past year. They included Barbara Devine (30 years), Dr. Pat Shenot (25 years), Denise Tropea (20 years), Dr. Jeanne Llenado (15 years) and Dr. Scott Hubosky (10 years). Congratulations and thanks to all for their long-term dedication to Jefferson and the Department of Urology.

1 Pictured left to right are: Drs. Jeanne Llenado, Leonard Gomella, Patrick Shenot and Scott Hubosky.

2 Department of Urology’s Administrator Scott Bowes (left) and Department Chair Dr. Leonard Gomella present Denise Tropea an award for her 20 years of service to Thomas Jefferson University.

3 Barbara Devine is recognized by Dr. Leonard Gomella for her 30 years of service to the department.

Jefferson Urology Network News

The Jefferson Urology Network was established in 2014 to create strategic alignments through clinical affiliations with community specialty Urology practices in the Delaware Valley. The program, part of other Jefferson Specialty Network programs, provides seamless access to tertiary and quaternary care for complex care and treatment for community-based specialists. In addition to increased access for community Urologists to Jefferson educational programs, the network helps facilitate patient care coordination between Jefferson Urology and community urology practices. Current members of our Urology Network include practices in Scranton and Pennsville, as well as at the Aria Jefferson Health locations.

Congratulations to our Jefferson Urology Network partner Dr. Cadence Kim (Aria) on her election as President of the Philadelphia County Medical Society.
Dr. Michael L. Blute, Sr., Chief, Department of Urology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Walter S. Kerr, Jr., Professor of Urology and Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, served as the Department of Urology 2017 David M. Davis Visiting Professor. Dr. Blute has distinguished himself as an internationally recognized surgeon and physician-scientist after many years of distinguished service at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. In 2012, he became Chief of the Department of Urology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Dr. Blute’s lectures included several on his well-known areas of expertise: “Managing RCC Primary with Metastases and Metastasectomy” and “Maximizing Perioperative Management of the IVC Improves Safety of Radical Nephrectomy and Tumor Thrombectomy.” In addition to the residents presenting interesting visiting professor cases, Dr. Blute had the opportunity to present “What Would You Do?” residents challenge cases.

The D.M. Davis Graduation Banquet was held that evening at the historic Brandywine River Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, PA. Dr. Tricia Gomella hosted the event that featured a fun, themed evening surrounding the famous Jamie Wyeth painting, Portrait of a Pig. The evening celebrated the graduation of our three chief residents and an endourology fellow: Dr. Kymora Scotland will be heading to Vancouver, BC, as an endourology fellow; Dr. Amar Raval will be returning to Florida to join a private practice; Dr. Patricia Zahner will begin a fellowship program in pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery at the Cleveland Clinic; and Dr. Daniel Verges, Bard Fellow in Endourology, will enter a private practice in Bethlehem, PA. The Department also honored our colleague Dr. Margaret Schwedler, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, on her retirement. Dr. Schwedler provided our Endourology unit with many years of outstanding patient care.

Traditional Jefferson Urology graduation gifts: the bobble heads.
The Department of Urology had the privilege of welcoming visiting speaker Dr. John R. Asplin for Grand Rounds on May 18, 2017. Dr. Asplin is the Medical Director for Litholink Corporation and also Clinical Associate of Medicine in the Section of Nephrology at the University of Chicago. He is an internationally known expert in metabolic stone disease. Through an interactive case-based approach, Dr. Asplin addressed metabolic evaluation and management of kidney stones. Our colleagues from the Jefferson Division of Nephrology joined us for this engaging presentation.
Meeting News

The 112th AUA Annual Meeting was held May 12-16 in Boston, MA. This annual meeting is the largest gathering of urologists and urologic health care thought leaders from around the world, who provide news and information on the very latest advancements in urologic medicine. Jefferson Urology was well represented at the annual meeting; our faculty participated as presenters in major plenary sessions, moderators of poster and podium sessions and in several AUA Office of Education instructional courses. Dr. Gomella, who is currently serving as Society of Urologic Oncology President, officiated the major SUO scientific session at the AUA. He introduced the society’s Whitmore lectureship and presented the SUO annual awards.

AUA 2017 Boston

Jefferson Urology
Scientific Programs

Drs. Gomella and Trabulsi: SUO-AUA Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) Live Forum for Urology Residents and Fellows

Drs. Lallas, Trabulsi and Anne Calvaresi: (002IC): Chemotherapy and Immunotherapy Options for Genitourinary Malignancies.

Dr. Trabulsi, et al. (MP08-16): Use of duplicate axial imaging in newly diagnosed prostate cancer—trends across the Pennsylvania Urologic Regional Collaborative (PURC)

Dr. Glassman, et al.: “Patient Satisfaction with the Use of Telemedicine in the Management of Prostate Cancer” (AUA Key Abstract Media Presentation)

Dr. Trabulsi, et al. (Course 0101C): Multiparametric Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Prostate Cancer

Drs. Glassman, Puri, Weingarten, Hollander, Stepchin, Trabulsi: PD09: “Patient Satisfaction with the Use of Telemedicine in the Management of Prostate Cancer”

Dr. Gomella (Moderator) PD10: Prostate Cancer: Localized: Surgical Therapy I

Dr. Lallas (Moderator) MP16: Kidney Cancer: Advanced (including Drug Therapy) II

Dr. Gomella (Invited Speaker): American Society For Men’s Health 2017: “Molecular Markers in Prostate Cancer”

Dr. Das: “Laser Enucleation of the Prostate” Science and Technology Theatre

Dr. Gomella: Presidents SUO Welcome and State of Affairs; Whitmore Lecture and Awards Introductions

Dr. Healy: Point–Counterpoint Debate: Upper Pole Calyceal Diverticulum

Dr. Deborah Glassman participated in the 2017 AUA Press Program for the AUA 2017 Annual Meeting. The abstract, “Patient Satisfaction with the Use of Telemedicine in the Management of Prostate Cancer,” was one of the 30 selected from more than 3,000 abstracts. This elite group of abstracts undergoes a rigorous selection process, including review by a panel of Public Media Committee members and AUA Communications Department staff. As part of this honor, Dr. Glassman spoke about Jefferson’s abstract to journalists at the meeting’s press session. The abstract evaluated patient satisfaction with telemedicine at various stages of prostate cancer management.
Our newest faculty member reconstructive Urologist, Dr. Paul Chung (SKMC 2011), with current SKMC students Brian Calio and Joseph Baiocco, who both completed a year of research at the Urologic Oncology Branch of the NCI. Brian Calio will be doing research in the Department of Urology over the next year as our Bard Research scholar.

Former Jefferson Urology fellows Drs. Mo Ismail (Chief of Urology, Wilmington VA), Nir Kleinmann (Sheba Medical Center, Israel), Jay Singh (Newburgh, NY), David Rivas (Janssen Pharmaceutical), Taha Abo-Almagd Abdel-Meguid (King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia), Ryuta Tanimoto and Toyohiko Watanabe (Okayama University, Japan).

Additional past Jefferson Urology Fellows included: Drs. Yew Lam Chong (Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Singapore), Ray Pak (Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville), Kelly Healy (Jefferson) and Ehab Tawfiek (Minia University, Egypt).

Anne Calvaresi with Drs. Doug Kelly, Costas Lallas, Ed Trabulsi and Ryan Mark.

Drs. Ken Brownstein, Ed Trabulsi, Jay Zink, Steve Strup and James Brown: Former residents Dr. Jay Zink is in private practice in Seattle, and Dr. Steve Strup is currently Chair of Urology at the University of Kentucky; Dr. James Brown, who served as a Visiting Fellow at Jefferson, is Professor of Urology at the University of Iowa.
Community Events News

Gary Papa Run 2017

Team Jefferson Kimmel Cancer Center was on hand for the 15th Annual Gary Papa Father’s Day Run for prostate cancer. The Department of Urology and the Kimmel Cancer Center were major sponsors of the event. More than 35 SKMC students, staff and friends participated in the team Jefferson 5K and 10K runs led by Captain Dr. Costas Lallas. Thirty other faculty, staff members, friends and families of the Departments of Urology and Medical Oncology were in attendance to support our SKCC information booth located in Eakins Oval.

Jefferson Urology Participates in the Annual BCAN Walk/Run

On Saturday, April 29, members of the Department of Urology donned their walking and running shoes to participate in the annual Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network Walk/Run. The team joined hundreds of fellow participants to raise awareness of bladder cancer and support its research. Drs. J. Ryan Mark (pictured left) and Mark Mann were among the participants. Dr. Jeannie Hoffman-Censits served as team leader for the event.
Recent Publications
January to June 2017


The Role of Therapeutic Layering in Optimizing Treatment for Patients with Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (RADAR II). *Urology*, 2017 June; 104:150-159.


Jefferson Urology Update

Editorial Directors:
Dr. Leonard Gomella
Trish Shea

Layout and Design:
Trish Shea

Contributors:
Dakores Shupp Byrne, Leonard Gomella, Scott Bowes, Edouard Trabulsi, Jean Hoffman-Censits.

For more Departmental information and newsletters archives visit: www.jefferson.edu/university/jmc/departments/urology/newsletters

This issue and recent newsletters are also available at: issuu.com/jeffersonurology
UPCOMING EVENTS

September 14 - 17, 2017
75th Annual Meeting Mid-Atlantic Section AUA
Amelia Island, FL

September 23, 2017
8:00-9:00 p.m.
Avalon, NJ
Urology Symposium in Avalon

Saturday, November 18, 2017
Urology In-Service Exam

November 29-December 1, 2017
Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel
Washington, DC
18th Annual Meeting of the Society of Urologic Oncology

February 27-March 3, 2018
Hilton Austin, Austin, Texas
SUFU 2018 Winter Meeting

2017 Brownstein Lecture

Wednesday, November 15 - Thursday, November 16, 2017
Peter N. Schlegel, MD, FACS
James J. Colt Professor of Urology
Urologist-in-Chief
New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center
New York, NY