Rothman, Wanderer present at XGM

Brain Rothman, MD, and Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, will present during the Expert Group Meetings (XGM) Epic from Monday, April 29 to Friday, May 10.

Rothman’s Presentation

Rothman’s presentation is titled “Periop Flightboards in Every OR.” The presentation demonstrates Vanderbilt’s successful OR Flightboard implementation using Epic Monitor across more than 90 OR locations. “This was a ‘big bang’ implementation. At that time, I don’t believe the Epic flight board had been implemented simultaneously in that many locations,” said Rothman. “Our implementation wasn’t perfect at first, but we got it to work seamlessly in a reasonable amount of time.”

“Our teams prepared extremely well for the implementation,” Rothman explained, “and there is only so much that can be done before you just have to turn the system on. It is the team’s response after the system is turned on that matters. Our build team went above and beyond.”

OR Flightboards positively impact patient care and contribute to patient safety throughout the intraoperative period. The presentation will discuss how this tool improves care team work flows, patient safety, and the necessary build for a successful implementation. The presentation focuses on the real-time electronic timeout feature, in particular, that electronically supports required pre-incision timeouts to improve patient safety and decrease the likelihood of wrong surgeries.

Rothman explained that VUMC worked with Epic to get an electronic timeout with a design element that helped implement it. Electronic timeout is the right thing to do in a perioperative space, and Epic provides a tool to do that. The World Health Organization (WHO) has said that timeouts before surgery are important.

“We partner with Epic,” he said. “They do site visits where they come to our office.” VUMC and Epic collaborated to have Saga, VUMC’s website, work together with Haiku, a mobile application. Another thing they have worked on with Epic has been document mass transfer protocols.

Wanderer’s Presentation

Wanderer’s presentation at XGM, titled “Procedure Path and Enhanced Recovery After Surgery: A Path to Opioid-Free

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Message from the Chair

Spring is here and the Department of Anesthesiology has already done so much since the beginning of the year.

To start, we had the Dr. Bradley E. Smith Endowed Lectureship and the Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship. Both speakers for these events were insightful, and we were honored to host them.

We also had our annual Vanderbilt International Anesthesia Fundraiser, which raises money for our anesthesia providers to go to Kenya and other countries with health disparities and teach safe anesthesia. We raised almost twice as much as we did last year.

We are also getting ready to welcome a new class of residents along with the new chief residents for 2019 through 2020. New residents means new beginnings, just like Spring. The Department looks forward to working with them.

Brian Rothman, MD, and Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, are headed to the Expert Group Meetings for Epic to give presentations about how VUMC has implemented Epic programs to improve the quality of our patient care. This is a testament to how much our Department and faculty make a difference in and have an impact on the medical center as a whole and the entire Epic program.

I look forward to seeing what else the Department accomplishes in the upcoming months.

Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship

Randall Flick, MD, MPH, was the featured speaker at the Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Anesthesiology. The reception was held on Thursday, April 4, 2019, and the lecture was presented on Friday, April 5, 2019. The title of his lecture was “Anesthetic Related Neurotoxicity in Young Children: GAS, PANDA, & MASK.”

Dr. Bradley E. Smith Endowed Lectureship

On Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, David Warner, MD, gave the Dr. Bradley E. Smith Endowed Lectureship on Medical Professionalism. The title of his lecture was “Professionalism Writ Large: Amplifying Your Influence.”
Anesthesia,” describes the tooling that VUMC has put together to support our enhanced recovery after surgery protocols. “This is helping with reduction in length of stay, reduction of intraoperative opioids, and reduction of opioids prescribed at discharge,” Wanderer said. He explained that the most engaging presentations demonstrate novel use of Epic’s functionality as well as share the results that have been obtained with the help of those tools.

In keeping with that approach, he will also discuss VUMC’s enhanced recovery after surgery implementation and results. The Department of Anesthesiology’s Perioperative Consult Service team provides regional anesthesia and/or multimodal analgesia for patients prior to certain procedures and input on medical management, from decision to operate through discharge. “We developed robust informatics support for that service in our legacy system, and then I invested time before Epic Go Live rebuilding that function in our eStar system,” he said.

“I became certified as a physician builder and learned system architecture to create tools within eStar that provide services to the perioperative consult service team and regional anesthesia team.”

A lot of complex configuration is possible within Epic, and Wanderer will be showing off tools within Epic that made the perioperative configuration possible. Epic’s tools can be used in different ways at different institutions. “We are able to learn from other institutions and share what we’ve learned at XGM so we can make our respective electronic health records function better.” Wanderer also leads VUMC’s Physician Builder Program and serves on Epic’s Anesthesia Specialty Steering Board, where he provides feedback on new features under development, highlighting areas for improvement.

**Summary**

Rothman said that working with Epic on special projects reflects the innovative culture of VUMC.

According to Wanderer, “VUMC is unique because the institution has really committed to involving clinicians with system design and optimization. “We have support from Dr. Balser for growing our physician builder program which, in the long run, will help us optimize our eStar system across all of our clinical programs.”

Anesthesiology Department Chair Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD, said it is truly amazing to see how much the Epic implementation at VUMC has changed and improved over the past year, due to the hard work of numerous people like Rothman and Wanderer. “Epic is so important to the quality of care here at VUMC, and they continue to lead developments that lock in the quality of care we expect.”

There is an urgent need to identify reliable predictors of opioid responses to develop personalized opioid therapy for chronic pain management. A goal is to target opioid therapy to patients most likely to benefit from treatment with few side effects and low risk of opioid misuse.

Stephen Bruehl, PhD, and colleagues previously established an inverse correlation between levels of endogenous opioids (EOs), natural brain chemicals with pain-relieving properties, and analgesic responses to morphine.

Their latest study, published in the March issue of the journal *Pain*, tested whether circulating endocannabinoids, which stimulate the same brain receptors turned on by the active ingredient in marijuana, directly influence opioid analgesic responses or interact with EO function.

While they did not find that endocannabinoids directly affect morphine responses, they did find that the inverse association between EO activity and the analgesic and subjective effects of morphine was strongest in those with low endocannabinoid levels. These findings may assist in developing approaches in personalized pain medicine to predict opioid analgesic responses in patients.

This research was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health (DA037891, AA026186, GM108554, TR002243).
Department Spotlight: Celebrating Departmental Accomplishments

Congratulations to our inaugural Perioperative Medicine Fellow, Christine Abboud, MD.

Randall Brenn, MD, won the Best in Show Award from the Society for Technology in Anesthesia for his abstract entitled “Endoatrachael Tube Intrafcuff Pressure is Not Equal to Tracheal Wall Pressure on a Simulated Trachea.”

Andrew Franklin, MD, MBA, has been appointed to a three year term as Secretary of the Pediatric ERAS Society.

Andrew Franklin, MD, MBA, was elected president of the Tennessee Society of Anesthesiologists.

Andrew Franklin, MD, Steve Hyman, MD, and Paul St. Jaques, MD, attended the Association of Anesthesia Clinical Directors Perioperative Management Summit in San Antonio, Texas. St. Jacques completed his term as president and assumed the role of immediate past president. Franklin gave a presentation on demonstrating value in pediatric anesthesiology, and Hyman gave an update on physician burnout.

Elisabeth Hudson has been appointed to serve on the Association of Anesthesiology Program Administrators and Educators Council.

Heather Jackson, MSN, RN, APRN-BC, reports that her manuscript entitled “A Scoping Review of Acupuncture as a Potential Intervention for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)” was recently accepted for publication in Medical Acupuncture.

Walter Lee, CRNA, assumed the role of Lead Pediatric CRNA.

Justin Liberman, MD, has been appointed Associate Quality and Patient Safety Director.

Jordan Miller, CRNA, assumed the role of Senior Quality and Patient Advisor in the Department of Anesthesiology.

Amy Robertson, MD, was acknowledged for her contributions to the American Society of Anesthesiologists Self Education and Evaluation Continuing Medical Education Program.

Brian Rothman, MD, and Bridget Loveless will give a presentation for the upcoming Perioperative Advisory Council (Periop) at Epic XGM in May. Their presentation is titled “Flightboards and Their Impact In Every OR.”

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, Ban Sileshi, MD, delivered a talk entitled "Educational Capacity Building in Low Resource Settings: A Department’s Approach" in Eskind Biomedical Library.

Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, has been asked to serve as the Vice Chair of the Anesthesia Quality Institute Data Definitions Committee.

Chris Canlas, MD, was named interim Ambulatory Division Chief.

Letha Mathews, MBBS, was named Neuro-anesthesiology Division Chief.

Michael Pilla, MD, was named Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology Division Chief.
On Tuesday, March 5, Denise De La Torre attended INSPiRE Research Coordinator Training at the Research Triangle in North Carolina.

Tom Stewart, PhD, and Robert Freundlich, MD, met with Congressman Jim Cooper and his staff in Washington D.C. to discuss increased NIH funding for clinical and translational research, as well as to advocate for reauthorization of PCORI.

A retirement celebration was held for B.J. Barker, CRNA, on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019.

A retirement celebration was held for Barb Doring, CRNA, on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

Send us your news for inclusion in department publications: Weekly Update, Anesthesia Monitor & Blog anesthesiology.communications@vumc.org
Chief Residents of 2019-2020

Lucy Brunker, MD
Bennett Roman, MD
Katherine Williams, DO
NEW DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Donna Bundrick
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

EDUCATION:
BSN, University of North Carolina, Florence AL (1977)

FUN FACT:
Terrible golfer but an excellent world traveler.

Sonja Carter
Senior Administrative Assistant
Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology
Neuroanesthesiology

Lindsay Dickson
Associate Program Manager Administration

Richard Doehring
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

EDUCATION:
BS, Communications and Advertising, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (2006)

FUN FACT:
I am a huge Disney fan and visit the parks frequently. I am also a certified Disney Travel specialist and love helping others plan trips to Disney.

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Recent Publications


We provide uncompromising quality in clinical care, research and education. We are:

Compassionate: Offering exceptional perioperative care and pain management to a complex population.

Creative: Advancing the frontiers of science, healthcare and technology.

Committed: Equipping future leaders with solid education and training, both here and abroad.

Collaborative: Working across Vanderbilt University Medical Center and beyond to achieve measurable outcomes.

Warren S. Sandberg, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Executive Committee

Brian J. Gelfand, MD
Associate Vice Chair, Educational Affairs

Matthew McEvoy, MD
Vice Chair, Educational Affairs

Pratik Pandharipande, MD, MSCI
Associate Vice Chair, Faculty Affairs
Chief, Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine

Mark Rice, MD
Executive Vice Chair, Clinical Affairs

Amy Robertson, MD
Vice Chair, Clinical Affairs

Edward Sherwood, MD, PhD
Vice Chair, Research

Matthew Weinger, MD
Vice Chair, Faculty Affairs

Division Chiefs

Jeanette Bauchat, MD
Chief, Obstetric Anesthesiology

Eric Delpire, PhD
Director, Basic Science Research

Christopher Canlas, MD
Interim Chief, Ambulatory Anesthesiology

Brent Dunsworth, DNP, MBA, APRN, CRNA
Chief CRNA

David Edwards, MD, PhD
Chief, Pain Medicine

Alexander Hughes, MD
Interim Chief, Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology

Jill Kilkelly, MD
Chief, Pediatric Anesthesiology

Eric Delpire, PhD
Director, Basic Science Research

Mias Pretorius, MBChB, MSCI
Chief, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

Ann Walia, MBBS
Chief, Veterans Affairs Anesthesiology Service

Letha Mathews, MBBS
Chief, Neuroanesthesiology

Liza Weavind, MBChB, MMHC
Associate Chief, Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine