

# ACADEMIC INSIDER



**DHRHealth**

Graduate Medical  
Education

## INSIDE:

- RESIDENCY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
- FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
- INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS
- GRAND ROUNDS
- GME EVENTS
- RESOURCES

## Congratulations to Internal Medicine on their success at TX ACP!



Congratulations to the **INTERNAL MEDICINE** residents who attended the **2024 Texas Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting** in Galveston on November 16th and 17th and came home champions! Our talented team of residents, including **Dr. Barbarawi, PGY-2, Dr. Hernandez Llamas, PGY-2, Dr. Panneflek, PGY-2, and Dr. Rubio Loya, PGY-1**, emerged as the **Texas ACP South Texas Champions for the Doctors Dilemma competition, 3rd place in Texas.**

Their outstanding teamwork and expertise led them to secure the prestigious first place in the South Texas Doctors Dilemma Jeopardy competition and an impressive third place overall for the state of Texas. ***This remarkable achievement is a testament to their hard work, knowledge, and commitment to excellence.*** Their success not only reflects their individual talents but also highlights the strength of the Internal Medicine residency program and the exceptional training being provided.



**DHRHealth**

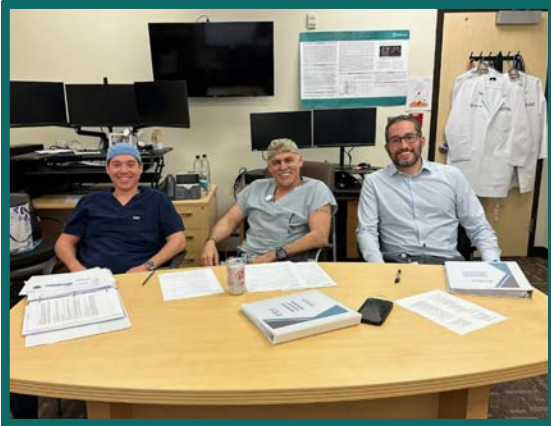
**UNDER THE DIRECTION OF**



**Jessica Martin, MD, MHA**  
**Senior Vice President of Medical Education**  
**Designated Institutional Official**

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



## DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY

The **DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY** Residency Program proudly hosted its very first residency interviews this November. The interviews were held in the evening from 5:00 to 10:00 PM, creating a focused and dedicated environment for engaging with prospective residents. Pictured are **Dr. Jorge Nadal, PGY-2, Dr. Samuel Serna Program Director, and Dr. Salvador Mendez, Core Faculty**, photographed after an intense four-hour session of interviews. We are incredibly proud of the dedication shown by our faculty and especially grateful for the leadership of Dr. Serna, whose guidance and preparation ensured the interviews were both professional and welcoming.

This remarkable team effort reflects the passion and drive that define our program. As we reflect on this momentous occasion, we are filled with pride and gratitude for the outstanding individuals who make up our program. Their collective efforts have laid a strong foundation for the future success of the **DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY** Residency Program, and we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of talented residents who share our commitment for excellence.



## EMERGENCY MEDICINE

The **EMERGENCY MEDICINE** Residency Program is thrilled to announce the exceptional achievement of **Dr. Ever Roa, PGY-2**, who recently presented at the prestigious **35th Annual Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) Conference** in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Roa captivated the audience with a compelling case study titled **"VV-ECMO Death Secondary to Diffuse Cerebral Edema as a Complication of Hypertriglyceridemia-Induced Pancreatitis with ARDS."**

This remarkable presentation delved into the intricate medical journey of a patient grappling with severe cerebral edema and ARDS, whose treatment with VV-ECMO following hypertriglyceridemia-induced pancreatitis showcased the complexities of managing metabolic complications in ECMO patients. **The EMERGENCY MEDICINE Residency Program takes immense pride in Dr. Roa's and faculty member, Dr. Andrew Phillip's, exceptional contribution to the medical community through their presentations at the ELSO Conference, highlighting the program's commitment to fostering excellence in emergency medicine education and research.**



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

### FAMILY MEDICINE



The **FAMILY MEDICINE** Residency **Program Director**, **Dr. Naomi D'Acolatse**, **Dr. Goyal**, **PGY-2**, **Dr. Drah**, **PGY-1**, and **Dr. Sadkh**, **PGY-1** demonstrated their commitment to community health by actively participating in the **DIA-BEAT-IT Community Health Fair** held in Weslaco, Texas. During the event, they collectively administered over 100 hemoglobin A1C (HbA1c) tests to members of the local community.

This initiative demonstrates the proactive approach taken by our residents to promote awareness and early detection of diabetes, a prevalent health concern in our community. *Their dedication to serving the community and promoting wellness reflects a commendable commitment to improving the overall health and well-being of individuals in the RGV.*

**PD, Dr. D'Acolatse**, **Dr. Rincon**, **PGY-2**, and **Program Coordinator, Lily Granados**, attended the **2024 Annual Session and Primary Care Summit** in The Woodlands, Texas. This conference provided a learning experience for our healthcare professionals to engage in educational workshops, share insights, network and collaborate on the advancements in Family Medicine and primary care.



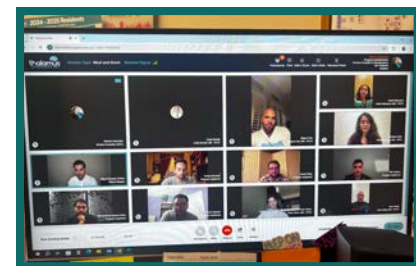
### GENERAL SURGERY



The **GENERAL SURGERY** Residency Program recently took a well-deserved day off for **well-being**, opting for a fun day of shooting at the **Coyote Arms shooting center**. Led by knowledgeable gun enthusiasts, residents were guided on the proper handling and shooting techniques of various firearms. *This unique experience provided a refreshing break from the demanding life of a general surgery resident, allowing participants to bond with their peers and unwind in a thrilling setting.* The day of shooting not only offered valuable skills training but also served as a memorable opportunity for residents to destress and enjoy each other's company outside of the hospital environment.



Our Residents take initiative and host Sunday night **meet and greet sessions** for interview applicants to engage with current residents in a relaxed setting, fostering meaningful discussions and sharing insights into the DHR Health GS residency program.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

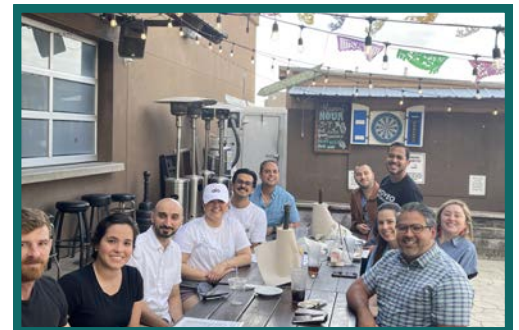
## UROLOGY



November has been a month filled with significant achievements for our **UROLOGY** Residency Program. The Urology residency program hosted an engaging and interactive **Foley Catheter Training** session at this month's **Resident-Led Forum**. The multidisciplinary lecture, led by **Dr. Veronica Rodriguez, PGY-5, Dr. Octavio Herrera, PGY-4, Dr. Manuel De Jesus, PGY-3, Dr. Alexis Garza, PGY-2, and Dr. Jonathan Afari, PGY-1**, was a tremendous success! **Residents from various programs participated enthusiastically, benefiting from hands-on practice with makeshift bladders designed to simulate real-life scenarios.** The session fostered collaboration and provided a valuable learning experience. We extend our thanks to everyone who attended and contributed insightful questions.



In addition to the training, we are proud to announce the **recent publication** of a paper by our residents, **"Renal Collecting System Calcified Hematoma Following Parenchymal Perforation by Ureteral Stent in Kidney Transplantation: A Case Report,"** in the **Transplantology Journal**. This achievement is the result of a collaborative effort among our PGY 2–PGY 5 residents, their Program Director Dr. Gaudencio Olgin, and the Program Directors for General Surgery and Diagnostic Radiology, Dr. Jose Almeda and Dr. Samuel Serna. This achievement reflects the strength of our program's collaborative spirit and commitment to advancing the field.



November was a whirlwind month for the Urology Residency Program. In a single week, we **successfully completed the 2025 Match Season interviews**, saw our residents lead an engaging **Foley Catheter Training at the Resident Forum**, and participated in the **Urology In-Service Exam**. Their hard work, dedication, and collaborative spirit continue to propel our program to new heights. To cap off the month, we hosted a **well-deserved Wellness Event at Draft House**, where residents and faculty gathered for a relaxed, celebratory lunch. We couldn't be more proud or grateful for the continued success and camaraderie within our program.



# FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

## BARIATRICS



During the month of November, Fellow Dr. Maya Paige, participated in her *first robotic bariatric procedure*. Robotic bariatric surgery represents a significant advancement in the field of minimally invasive weight-loss procedures, offering enhanced precision, dexterity, and visualization compared to traditional laparoscopic techniques. Using robotic platforms like the da Vinci Surgical System, surgeons can perform complex procedures such as gastric bypass, sleeve gastrectomy, and revisional surgeries with greater accuracy. The system's high-definition 3D visualization and articulated instruments enable finer dissection and suturing.

These features can reduce the risk of complications, minimize blood loss, and improve outcomes, especially in patients with severe obesity or those requiring revisional surgery. For patients, robotic bariatric surgery often translates to shorter hospital stays, less postoperative pain, and faster recovery times. Robotic bariatric surgery is a transformative tool for achieving sustainable weight-loss goals in a safer, more efficient manner. *Dr. Maya Paige looks forward to additional opportunities in robotics.*

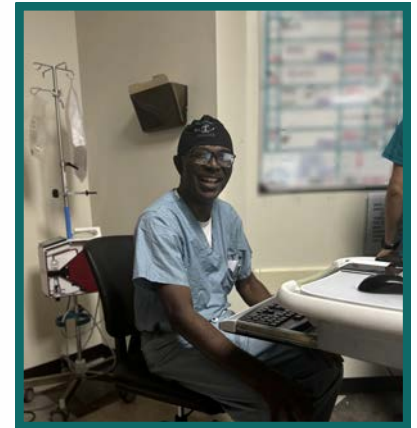
## SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

**SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE Fellow, Dr. Gabriel Toma**, continues to be a standout in our **SICU**, making invaluable contributions as a key member of the team. He is deeply grateful for the outstanding mentorship and unwavering support provided by our faculty. *Dr. Toma feels fortunate to be part of a program that has exceeded all of his expectations and continues to foster his growth.*



Our program takes great pride in the strength of its mentorship, exemplified by our **Program Director, Dr. Jeffrey Skubic**. Dr. Skubic is a constant inspiration, setting a high standard for academic excellence and leading by example. His dedication to scholarly pursuits is evident in his active involvement in academic conferences, including his recent presentation on *Chest Wall Injury Imaging at CAMIT 2024 in Mexico City*.

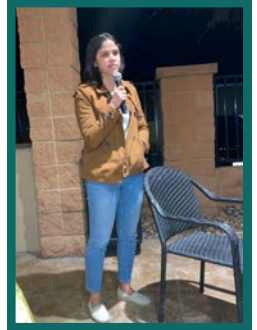
Beyond his academic achievements, Dr. Skubic is also committed to personal growth, both mentally and physically. His perseverance and discipline culminated in his *first-place victory at the 2024 Dallas Open Judo Championships*, where he proudly brought home the gold. His ability to balance demanding professional and personal pursuits serves as a daily model for our residents/fellow.



# INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

## 2nd Annual GME Around the World



# INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

## DHR Health GME Family Medicine & Internal Medicine Clinic Thanksgiving Luncheon



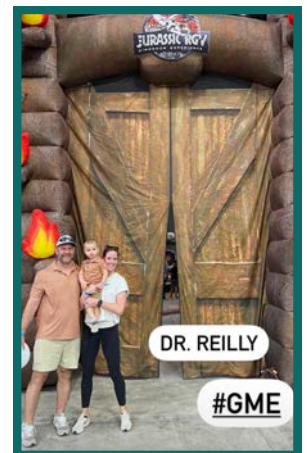
The **DHR Health GME Family Medicine & Internal Medicine Clinic** recently hosted a heartwarming **Thanksgiving Luncheon**, bringing together medical office staff, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine residents, faculty, and GME staff to express gratitude and enjoy a festive meal together. Clinic Medical Director, **Dr. Sonya Montes**, took the opportunity to extend heartfelt thanks to all attendees for their invaluable contributions to the success of the clinic. The event served as a meaningful occasion to celebrate teamwork, camaraderie, and the spirit of giving thanks within the healthcare community.



## DHR Health Fall Festival



The **DHR Health** employees and their families gathered at the **annual Fall Festival and Kickball Tournament!** The GME residents showed their team spirit by playing in the kickball tournament as the **"Kickin' It with DHR GME"** team. We are so thankful for our team during this holiday season and the fun memories being made together.



# GME GRAND ROUNDS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



Graduate Medical Education Grand Rounds

GME Grand Rounds Wednesday's Noon  
Main Hospital, Resident Conference Room, 2nd Floor

## December 2024



QI/PS Grand Rounds  
DHR Health Leading the Way in Patient Experience and  
Quality Improvement

December 4, 2024

Saroja Viswamitra, MD  
Chief Medical Officer, DHR Health



Public Health  
DSHS Region 11 Community Health Improvement Services

December 11, 2024

Dr. Lucy Cabrera-Conner  
PHR11 Community Health Services Program Manager

December 25, 2024



GME Grand Rounds  
will resume  
in two weeks



# GME UPCOMING EVENTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

## Resident Recharge

STOP BY DAILY AT THE 2ND FLOOR CLASSROOM BETWEEN 8-10AM OR GME OFFICE 10AM - 5PM!

12/16/24

**BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE**



ENJOY HOT CHOCOLATE & DONUTS



12/17/24

**TWINKLE TUESDAY**

ENJOY WARM BREAKFAST TACOS



12/18/24

**PAN DULCE & PANTUNFLAS**

STOP BY AND GRAB SOME WARM PAN DULCE



12/19/24

**TAMALE THURSDAY**

ENJOY FRESH TAMALES



12/20/24

**FESTIVE FRIDAY**

FRENCH TOAST AND COFFEE



## 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](tel:956-362-2732) or the 24/7 registration department at [956-362-2755](tel: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](tel: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](tel:956-362-3655)
- Email: [EmployeeHealth@dhr-rgv.com](mailto:EmployeeHealth@dhr-rgv.com)

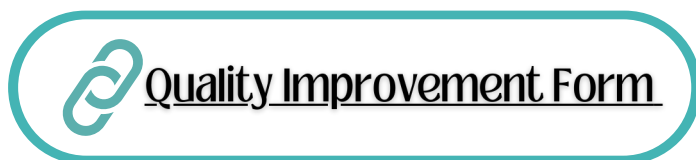
## DHR Health - Institute for Research and Development IRB Office

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](tel:956-362-2379)  
Email: [l.calles@dhr-rgv.com](mailto:l.calles@dhr-rgv.com)