

Colorectal Research Center

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Colorectal Research Newsletter - January 2024

FELLOWSHIP	In October, we found out that we matched with Dr. Phillip Williams from the University of Toronto. He will serve as our fellow for 2024-25. Welcome Phil!
AWARDS	Ms. Altman-Merino was selected to present her Research Immersion project at the first Vanderbilt University School of Medicine Student Research Symposium.
GRANTS	Dr. Khan was awarded a grant from the Vanderbilt Institute for Surgery and Engineering for his work entitled " <i>Development of an Objective and Reproducible Method of Measuring Anastomotic Tension.</i> " Dr. Hawkins is the primary mentor for a NCI supplement to the VUMC GI SPORE entitled " <i>Epidemiology and Molecular Characteristics of Colorectal Cancer in Northern Tanzania</i> ". This grant will support Dr. Ayesiga Herman , a colorectal surgeon in Tanzania, to visit VUMC to learn molecular testing.
CURRENT RESEARCH	Dr. Shroder and Mr. Hanneman are working on a project to improve opioid stewardship in our outpatient anorectal surgery patients. Drs. Hopkins and Younan are working on a project looking at outliers from our ERAS program. Dr. Khan continues his work examining various ways machine learning can aid surgeons in the operating room. Drs. Ford and Wolf-Horrell continue their work on a preoperative weight loss program for our patients suffering from morbid obesity. Dr. McChesney is working with the ASCRS on a project aiming to capture current robotic colorectal training and practice Drs. Hawkins and Younan are working to test a newly created decision aid for patients with recurrent diverticulitis.
PAPERS PUBLISHED	The section had 9 papers published in the second half of 2023. They follow on the next page.
PRESENTATIONS	The section had five separate research abstracts accepted for the 2024 <i>American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons</i> meeting. Abstracts were authored by Drs. Fa, Younan, and Shroder along with multiple faculty members . Three of these were selected for oral presentations! Dr. McChesney delivered VUMC Surgery Grand Round on " <i>Immunotherapy in Colorectal Cancer.</i> " Dr. Hawkins moderated a session at the 2023 ACS Clinical Congress entitled " <i>Do We Still Need to Wait on "Watch and Wait"? Update on Contemporary Rectal Cancer Treatment</i> ".
DEADLINES	The deadline for abstract submission for the 2024 ACS Clinical Congress is Friday, March 1, 2024.
VISIT OUR WEBPAGE AND SUPPORT OUR WORK	https://www.vumc.org/vcrg/homepage

Published papers:

- 1: Ali D, Syed M, Gamboa AC, Hawkins AT, Regenbogen SE, Holder-Murray J, Silviera M, Ejaz A, Balch GC, Khan A. Association of omental pedicled flap with anastomotic leak following low anterior resection for rectal cancer. *J Surg Oncol*. 2024 Jan 2. doi: 10.1002/jso.27572. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38167808.
- 2: Harrison NJ, Samuels LR, Dusetzina SB, Alexopoulos SP, Ziogas IA, Hawkins AT. The Association Between Solid Organ Transplant and Recurrence of Acute Diverticulitis: A National Assessment. *Annals of Surgery*. 2023 Nov 20. doi: 10.1097/SLA.0000000000006151. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37982509.
- 3: Bauer PS, Gamboa AC, Otegbeye EE, Chapman WC, Rivard S, Regenbogen S, Mohammed M, Holder-Murray J, Wiseman JT, Ejaz A, Edwards-Hollingsworth K, Hawkins AT, Hunt SR, Balch G, Silviera ML. Short-course radiation with consolidation chemotherapy does not increase operative morbidity compared to long-course chemoradiation: A retrospective study of the US rectal cancer consortium. *J Surg Oncol*. 2023 Oct 4. doi: 10.1002/jso.27468. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37792637.
- 4: Hawkins AT, Fayanju OM, Maduekwe UN. Shared Decision-Making in the Surgical Sciences. *JAMA Surg*. 2023 Nov 1;158(11):1121-1122. doi: 10.1001/jamasurg.2023.2396. PMID: 37466987.
- 5: Varlamos CJ, Sinco B, Van Weiren I, Regenbogen S, Gamboa AC, Silviera M, Abdel-Misih SRZ, Hawkins AT, Balch G, Hendren S. Close distal margin is associated with locoregional rectal cancer recurrence: A multicenter study. *J Surg Oncol*. 2023 Dec;128(7):1106-1113. doi: 10.1002/jso.27401. Epub 2023 Jul 17. PMID: 37458131.
- 6: Hite MA, McCutcheon T, Feng MP, Ford MM, Geiger TM, Hopkins MB, Muldoon RL, Irlmeier R, Fa A, Ye F, Hawkins AT. Opioid Utilization in Outpatient Anorectal Surgery: An Opportunity for Improvement. *J Surg Res*. 2023 Nov;291:105-115. doi: 10.1016/j.jss.2023.05.021. Epub 2023 Jun 22. PMID: 37354704.
- 7: Shinall MC Jr, Martin SF, Karlekar M, Hoskins A, Morgan E, Kiehl A, Bryant P, Orun OM, Raman R, Tillman BF, Hawkins AT, Brown AJ, Bailey CE, Idrees K, Chang SS, Smith JA Jr, Tan MCB, Magge D, Penson D, Ely EW. Effects of Specialist Palliative Care for Patients Undergoing Major Abdominal Surgery for Cancer: A Randomized Clinical Trial. *JAMA Surg*. 2023 Jul 1;158(7):747-755. doi: 10.1001/jamasurg.2023.1396. PMID: 37163249; PMCID: PMC10173099.
- 8: Farooqi M, Hussain A, Ahmad A, Zaheer Z, Daniyal M, Tahir A, Fatima L, Maham R, Farooqui A, Khan A. Impact of trans-anal versus laparoscopic total mesorectal excision on the surgical and pathologic outcomes of patients with rectal cancer: meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Langenbecks Arch Surg*. 2023 Oct 20;408(1):413. PMID: 37861749.
- 9: Sohail AH, Ye IB, Martinez KA, Khan A. Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship Applicant and Matching Trends in the United States: An Analysis of National Resident Matching Program Data. *The American Surgeon*. 2023;0(0). doi:10.1177/00031348231220574