
Incoming 2020 – 2021 Penn Division of Gastroenterology Fellows

Please Welcome All:

Gastroenterology Fellows



Nicole Ferrante, MD

Dr. Ferrante received her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 2012. She earned her medical degree from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in 2016. Dr. Ferrante completed her Internal Medicine Residency 2019 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She will be in Clinical Epidemiology degree program.



Aaron Hecht, MD

Dr. Hecht obtained his undergraduate degree in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry from Washington University in 2010. He received his post-doctoral degree in 2016 and his Medical Degree from The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in 2018. He will be in the Basic Science Research program.



Anya Mezina, MD, Msc

Dr. Mezina received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 2009. She obtained her Master of Science Degree from Emory University Laney Graduate School in 2014 and her Medical Degree from Emory University School of Medicine in 2015. Dr. Mezina completed an Internal Medicine/Medical Genetics Internship in 2016, a residency in Internal Medicine/Medical Genetics in 2017 and an Internal Medicine residency in 2018 at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She will be in the Basic Science Research program.



Bryce Perler, MD

Dr. Perler obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Connecticut in 2011. He attended the University of Connecticut School of Medicine where he obtained his Medical Degree in 2017. Prior to joining UPHS, Dr. Perler completed his Internal Medicine Residency at Warren Alpert School of Medicine, Brown. He will be in the Basic Science Research program.



Chethan Ramprasad, MD

Dr. Ramprasad obtained his undergraduate degree in 2012 from Rice University. He obtained his Medical Degree from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in 2017. Dr. Ramprasad completed his Internal Medicine Residency, Clinical Investigator track at New York University School of Medicine in 2020. He will be in the clinical epidemiology degree program.



Alexandra Strauss, MD

Dr. Strauss obtained her undergraduate degree from the Pennsylvania State University - Schreyer Honors College in 2013. She received her Medical Degree from the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University in 2017. Prior to joining our GI Fellowship program, Dr. Strauss was an Intern in Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She will be in the Clinical Scholar program.

Advanced Endoscopy Fellows



Kenechukwu (Kene) Chudy-Onwugajem MD

Dr. Chudy-Onwugaje received his undergraduate degree at Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital, Nnewi, Nigeria in 2009 and a Master of Public Health from Simon Fraser University in 2012. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY in 2015. Dr. Chudy-Onwugaje obtained his Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research from the University of Maryland in 2017. Prior to joining UPHS, he completed his Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.



Nikhil Thiruvengadam, MD

Dr. Thiruvengadam received his undergraduate degree from Carnegie Mellon University in 2010 and his Medical Degree from Stanford University School of Medicine in 2014. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2017. Dr. Thiruvengadam completed a Gastroenterology Fellowship at UCSF Medical Center in 2020 prior to joining our advanced endoscopy fellowship.

IBD Fellow



Alexandra Weiss, MD

Dr. Weiss received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia in 2006 and her Medical Degree from Howard University College of Medicine in 2013. She completed her Internal Medicine Residency in 2016 at Temple University Hospital. Prior to joining our IBD fellowship program, she completed a Gastroenterology Fellowship Program at Cooper University Hospital in 2019.

Neurogastroenterology & Motility Fellow



Saad Javed, MD

Dr. Javed received his undergraduate education from Government College University in Lahore, Pakistan in 2005. He received his Medical Degree from King Edward Medical University, Lahore, Pakistan in 2011. Dr. Javed completed his Internal Medicine Residency at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in 2016. Prior to joining UPHS, Dr. Javed completed a Gastroenterology Fellowship at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center.

Transplant Hepatology Fellows



Yedidya Saiman, MD, PhD

Dr. Saiman received his undergraduate degree from Yeshiva College, Yeshiva University in 2006. Dr. Saiman received his post-doctoral degree in 2012 and his Medical Degree in 2014 from Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He completed a one-year Internal Medicine Research Residency at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in 2016, prior to completing UPHS Gastroenterology Fellowship Program at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2020.



Maureen Whitsett, MD, M.Ed

Dr. Whitsett received her undergraduate degree from Temple University in 2008. She obtained her Masters in Secondary Education from Temple University in 2010 and her Medical Degree from Jefferson Medical College in 2014. Dr. Whitsett completed her Internal Medicine Residency at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University. Prior to joining UPHS, she completed her Gastroenterology and Hepatology Clinical Fellowship at NYU Langone Health.

Advanced Esophagology and Swallowing Fellow



Dr. Claire Beveridge, MD

Dr. Beveridge received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 2011. She obtained her Medical Degree from the University of Chicago Division of the Biological Sciences, Pritzker School of Medicine in 2015. Dr. Beveridge completed her Internal Medicine Residency at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University in 2018. In addition to her role as the Advanced Esophagology and Swallowing Fellow, Dr. Beveridge is also a third year Gastroenterology Fellow in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

A reminder of the various Directors of the fellowships:

GI fellowship: Director Steven Solga, MD
Associate Program Director - Marina Serper, MD
Associate Program Director – Stacey Prenner, MD
Associate Program Director – Nitin Ahuja, MD

Advanced Endoscopy: Director - Michael Kochman, MD

Advanced Esophagology/Swallowing: Director - Kristle Lynch, MD

Advanced IBD: Director - Gary Lichtenstein, MD
Associate Director-James Lewis, MD MSCE

Advanced Transplant Hepatology: Maarouf Hoteit, MD

Interim Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Motley