



Trauma+EMS News

August 2021

From the Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Section, and Emergency Service at Westchester Medical Center

Rifat Latifi, MD
Director, Department of Surgery

Adult – Trauma

WMCHHealth's Trauma Section announces the addition of four new Surgical Critical Care Fellows: Welcome to - **Guillaume Daoust-Lafond, MD; FRCS, Mohammad Rizwan Choudhary, MD; Mary Rebecca Jane Chavez, MD; and Sergejs Stepanovs, MD.** All will be receiving additional training in both Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Surgery.

Rifat Latifi, MD; Director of surgery, recently presented at the 82nd Annual Surgical Update of the International College of Surgeons – United States Section “Telemedicine in the Balkans and Cabo Verde: Tales from Two Continents – Session of Clinical Telemedicine Around the World: From Ad Hoc Medicine to Modus Operandi.

WMCHHealth held several blood drives, in recognition of the shortage of blood inventory occurring in the region. WMCHHealth in partnership with The New York Blood Center, held nine blood drives during June and July. Giving blood is the easiest way to save up to 3 lives in 1 hour. Please consider donating today.

Jorge Con, MD, of WMCHHealth's Trauma Section will begin an IRB approved, Stop The Bleed (STB) Study and regional training program of Police Officers, Police Cadets and potentially High School Students beginning beginning next month. Approximately 15 STB trainers, mostly EMT's and paramedics, have been trained specifically for this effort through a collaboration with New York Medical College.

September is Fall Awareness Month!

Kartik Prabhakaran, MD Medical Director of Acute Care Trauma Surgery will begin an IRB approved Geriatric falls and secondary trauma study. The study will address this increasing problem by identifying patients over 65 years of age who have been admitted to WMC secondary to a fall. In addition, a geriatric fall prevention and awareness video was produced in July and is set to be released this month. The video, featuring Dr. Prabhakaran and the injury prevention team, highlights the CDC's top 10 guidelines for geriatric fall prevention and awareness.

Westchester Medical Center ED

WMCHHealth announced the opening of a new cardiac catheterization laboratory at HealthAlliance Hospital on Broadway in Kingston. The new PCI lab offers emergent and preventative solutions for blocked arteries, irregular heartbeats and coronary heart disease, services not previously available in Ulster County. **Tina Cocuzza, MD,** of WMCHHealth added, “This is truly an exciting and important announcement for EMS providers. (See link to video: <https://vimeo.com/574562936/e60c372712>) When transporting a STEMI (or suspected STEMI) patient, the proper destination, is key. Time is muscle – and recognition and proper destination selection is paramount for successful STEMI patient outcomes. EMS now has a solid option in Ulster and the surrounding service areas.” The HealthAlliance Hospital's Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory director will be **Falak Shah, MD.**

WMCHHealth Q3-Q4 CME Schedule

As previously announced in July, the Q3-Q4 WMCHHealth-CME schedule has been fully updated. For additional information contact: marc.musicus@wmchealth.org

August	No CME!
September 28	Peds Emergencies
September TBD	Air Methods
October 26	CVA/Stroke
October TBD	Air Methods

Tina Cocuzza, MD, who oversees the program, announced final year-end dates and CME topics at the July 27 MCI-CME. *NOTE: In-person CMEs will resume in September with more info to follow.*

Pediatric – Trauma



On July 10 Maria Fareri Children's Hospital rolled out the first regional Pediatric Car Seat Safety Check Event – co-Sponsored By **EMPRESS EMS.** The initiative was aimed at providing new Moms and Dads key car seat safety checks and tips on proper installation of their child's car seat. Related information and literature were offered to the dozens of participants that were on hand. See NEWS-12 link: <https://westchester.news12.com/maria-fareri-childrens-hospital-set-to-host-car-safety-check-event>

A special thank you again to **EMPRESS EMS** (and Paramedic **Tom Orpikowski**), **Peter Dandrea** of the NYS Traffic Safety Committee and the following agencies for making this event possible: Greenburgh PD, Ardsley PD, Clarkstown PD, Lewisboro PD, Tarrytown PD, Mt. Pleasant PD and Elizabeth Seton Children's Center. Thank You All!

Did you Know?

Time For Summer Safety! MFCH will host its first Bike Safety & Helmet Checkpoint event on August 10, at the Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. Bike and helmet safety information, along with bike helmets, will be provided to many cyclists in the community to promote the importance of proper bike and helmet safety! For additional information please contact marc.musicus@wmchealth.org

