

General Surgery Residency Program

2025-2026



cedars-sinai.org

About Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Cedars-Sinai is one of the largest nonprofit academic medical centers in the U.S. with 886 licensed beds, 2,100 physicians, 2,800 nurses and thousands of other healthcare professionals and staff. Clinical programs range from primary care for preventing, diagnosing and treating common conditions to specialized treatments for rare, complex and advanced illnesses. In addition, Cedars-Sinai serves the community through its Medical Network, which includes the highly rated Cedars-Sinai Medical Group and Cedars-Sinai Health Associates

Cedars-Sinai rankings:

U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals Honor Roll" ten years in a row!

- **Top 5 nationally:** Gastroenterology & GI Surgery (#2), Orthopedics (#5), Pulmonology & Lung Surgery (#5)
- **Top 10 nationally:** Cardiology & Heart Surgery (#6), Diabetes & Endocrinology (#9), Obstetrics & Gynecology (#8, tied)
- **#1 in California:** Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Gastroenterology and GI Surgery; and Orthopedics
- **Ranked #1 in Los Angeles:** Obstetrics & Gynecology

<https://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/rankings>



Program Leadership



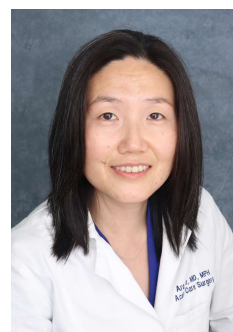
Cristina Ferrone, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery



Farin Amersi, MD
Program Director



Andrew Brownlee, MD
Associate Program Director



Ara Ko, MD
Associate Program Director

Department of Surgery Residency Program



Although not all pictured, we have 29 clinical categorical residents, 8 categorical residents on research and 95 faculty. Also rotating with our residents are 5 orthopaedic interns (6 rotations), 17 anesthesia interns (4 rotations), 3 urology interns (8 rotations), 2 thoracic interns (9 rotations), 2 ENT interns (3 rotations), 2 neurosurgery interns (2 rotations), and 2 podiatric surgery interns (1 rotation)

For program resident roster, please visit:

<https://www.cedars-sinai.edu/education/graduate-medical/residency/general-surgery/residents.html>

About the General Surgery Residency Program

- **6 Categorical General Surgery Interns, annually**
- **Training length: 5 years**
- **Research opportunity: 1-2 years, optional research**
 - Clinical and Basic Science Research available
 - Funded by the Department of Surgery
 - Academic Meeting support for presentations
- **Faculty Mentor-Resident Mentee Program**
 - All residents participate
 - Faculty are available throughout the year
- **Resident “Families” – peer mentorship program**



About the Program

- **Character of Residency**

- Demanding and Supportive
- Collegial relationship with attendings
- Less hierarchical
- Broad Range of surgery and approaches
- Culture of cooperation between residents



- **Work Environment**

- Compliant with work hours
- Call q4d on average
- Day off (1 in 7 days)
- In house Teams: IV, blood draw, transport
- Food allowance, Free Parking
- Medical Library, Residents' Lounge
- EMR



About Didactics

- **Grand Rounds, weekly, Wednesdays, 7-8am**
- **M&M Conference, weekly, Wednesdays, 8-9am**
- **Applied Science, weekly, Thursdays, 7-8am**
 - ABSITE preparation (in lieu of Basic Science, Thursdays, December – January)
- **Visiting Professor Rounds, 4-5 times annually, Tuesdays, 4-5pm**
- **Other Discipline Specific M&Ms and Conferences**
 - Thoracic Conference
 - Trauma Conference
 - SICU Journal Club
 - SICU Core Curriculum
 - Tumor Board
 - Surgical Oncology Conference
 - Bariatric Conference
 - Colorectal Conference
 - Breast Conference
 - Vascular Conferences
 - Gen Surg Case Conference
 - Transplant Core Curriculum

About Skills Lab

Skills Lab

Interns, Mondays, 3-5pm

- Intern Bootcamp
 - Suturing, knot tying
 - Central Line Placement
 - Basic Laparoscopic Skills
 - Hernia anatomy
 - Instruments
- Surgical Olympics, 2 times, annually
 - Clinical scenarios
 - Technical challenges

R2-R5, Wednesdays, 9-11am

- FLS skills sessions
- FES skills sessions

Animal Labs (2-3 times, annually)



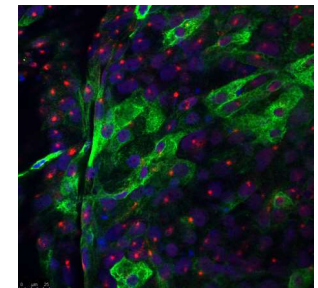
About Women's Guild Simulation Center for Advanced Clinical Skills

- Testing ground for new technology
- Laparoscopic & Endoscopic Skills Training
- Robotics Training
- Components
 - 2 Simulated Operating Rooms, with control rooms
 - 1 Simulated Trauma Room
 - 1 Simulated ICU Room
 - 1 Simulated NICU Room
 - 1 Simulated LDR Room
 - 1 Heart Sounds Lab
 - 3 Airway Skills Lab
 - 1 "Romper Room" – Computer Skills Lab
 - 4 De-briefing rooms
 - 2 teaming rooms
 - 2 staff offices
 - Reception/Work Room



About Research Opportunities

- Cardiothoracic Surgery
 - Stem Cell Biology (RMI)
 - OR of the Future
 - Pediatric Surgery
 - Transplant Immunology
 - Islet Cell Transplantation
 - Minimally Invasive Surgical Tech Institute
 - Surgical Oncology
 - Trauma Research
 - Clinical Trials
-
- **CLINICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM** – designed for residents, fellows, and young faculty with aspirations to become clinician-scientists
 - Year 1: Curriculum in translational medicine and clinical research
 - Year 2: Research under the supervision of an experienced mentor



About the Leadership in Advancing Performance (LEAP) Program

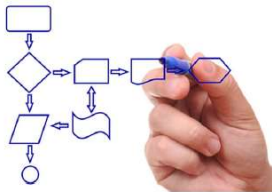
Led by Dr. Bruce Gewertz.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the most effective and relevant tools, mindsets, and strategies from Lean, Six Sigma, and Human Factors.
- To appropriately scope a QI project applying these methodologies
- To further develop leadership and emotional intelligence competencies to effectively facilitate change

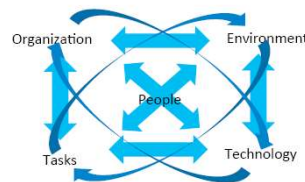


Lean Six Sigma



- FCOTS, TAT, reducing errors & process variation

Human Factors



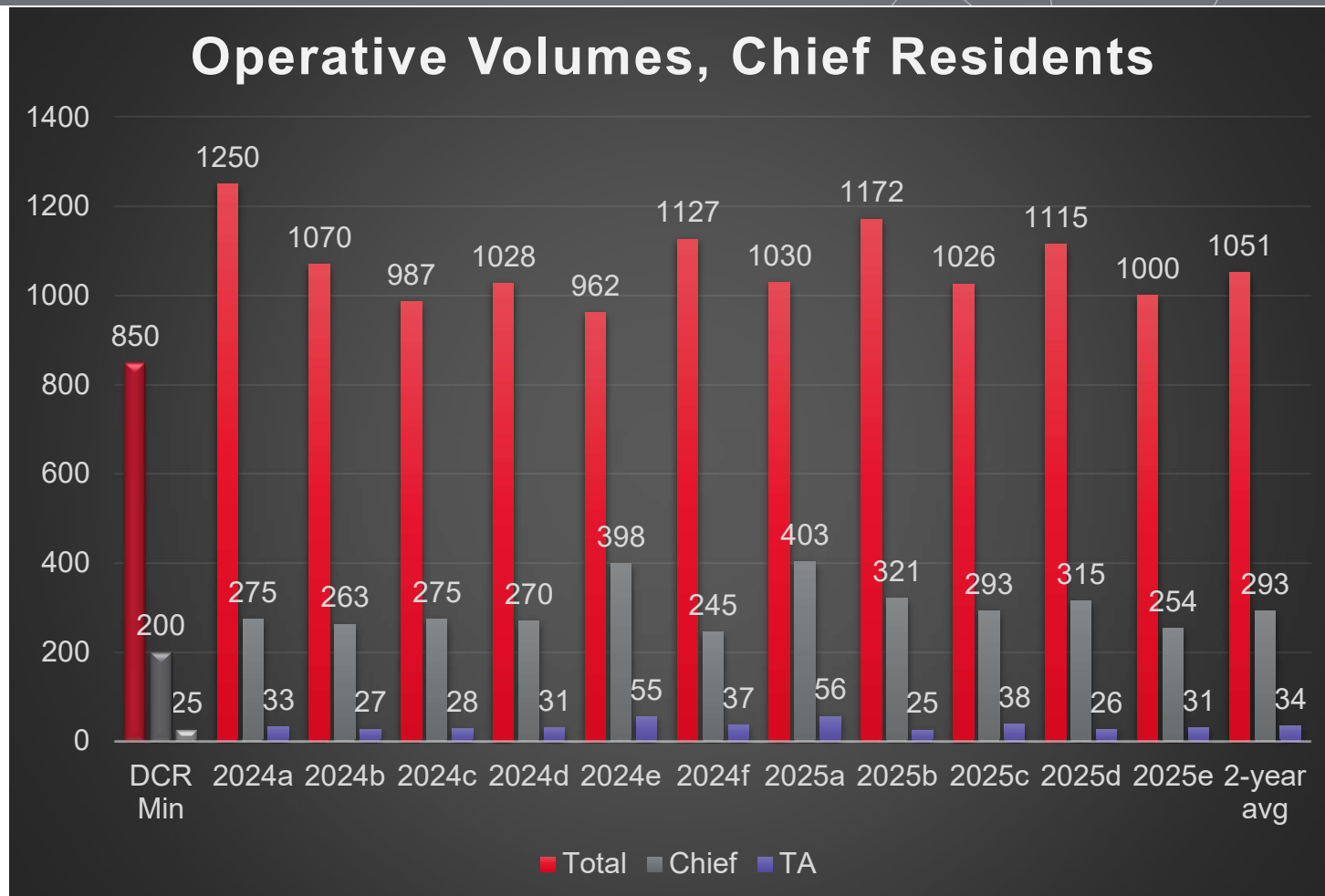
- Flow disruptions, error proofing, human-centered process design



About The Rotations

	PGY 1	PGY 2	PGY 3	PGY 4	PGY 5
	# of rotations	# of months	# of months	# of months	# of months
Acute Care Surgery (ACS)	1	2	1	2	2
AGS-A/SGLA-CSMC			2		2
AGS-B/Peds-CSMC	1	1		2	
Colorectal	1			2	
Kidney Transplant			2		
General Surgery - HH		2			
General Surgery – MRDH					2
Hepatobiliary	1			2	
Minimally Invasive Surgery/Bariatrics			2		2
Night Float	1	1	1	1	1
0946 Consult/SICU-N	1				
Outpatient Surgery				1	
Peds – CHLA		2			
Plastics	1				
SICU	1	3			
Surg Onc	1	1		2	2
Thoracic	1		2		
Urology	1				
Vascular	1		2		
Elective					1
Vacation	One 4-week block	Four 1-week blocks	Four 1-week blocks	Four 1-week blocks	Four 1-week blocks

About Our Operative Volumes



About Medical Students

The Department of Surgery is devoted to surgical education, and medical students are an integral part of the surgical care we give our patients. Students are involved in the daily patient care on their surgical team.

The surgical team consists of residents, fellows, and attendings.

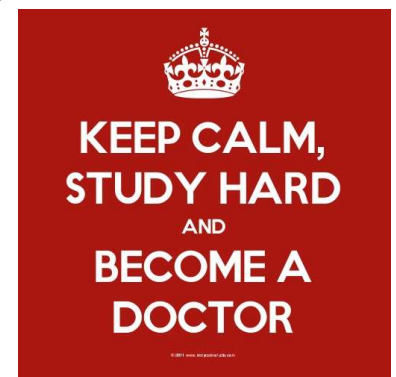
The Department of Surgery's Medical Student Education Program offers medical students a wide variety of opportunities to learn and grow. Our teaching faculty are dedicated to enhancing student education at all levels

- **MS-II Rotations**

- Acute Care Surgery
- Advanced General Surgery/Pediatric Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Surgical Oncology Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Vascular Surgery

- **MS-IV Rotations**

- Acute Care Surgery
- Hepatobiliary and Liver Transplant
- Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Surgical Oncology
- Surgical ICU
- Thoracic Surgery
- Vascular Surgery



About Our Graduates – Where did our 2025 Graduates Match to?



Left to Right

Greigory Kraus, MD

Returned to serve in the U.S. Navy

Timothy DiPeri, MD

Fellowship: Complex General Surgical Oncology
Institution: MD Anderson

Nicole Fierro, MD

Fellowship: Trauma/Surgical Critical Care
Institution: University of Miami, Jackson Health System

Nicholas Gonsalves, MD

Fellowship: Advanced GI/MIS
Institution: Alta Bates Medical Center

Qiudong “Kevin” Chen, MD

Fellowship: Cardiothoracic Surgery
Institution: University of Pennsylvania

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2024	Fellowships	Institution
Evan Adams, MD	Colorectal Surgery	Ohio State University
Amy Chartrain, MD	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Cedars Sinai Medical Center
Stephanie Chen, MD	Pediatric Surgery	Medical College of Wisconsin
Srivarshini Mohan, MD	Breast Oncology Surgery	MD Anderson Cancer Center
Rami Srouji, MD	Complex General Surgical Oncology	Mt. Sinai Hospital
Lucille Yao, MD	Colorectal Surgery	University of Rochester

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2023	Fellowships	Institution
Jiaxi “Jesse” Chen, MD	Plastic Surgery	University of California, San Francisco
Daniel Delgadillo, MD	Vascular Surgery	University of California, Irvine
Lauren Evans, MD	Pediatric Surgical Critical Care	University of Colorado
Raymond Huang, MD	Surgical Critical Care	University of Arizona-Tucson
Desmond Huynh, MD	Minimally Invasive/Bariatric Surgery	University of Michigan
Jaewon Lee, MD	Complex General Surgical Oncology	University of North Carolina
2022	Fellowships	Institution
Akbarshakh “Shah” Akhmerov, MD	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Abigail Fong, MD	Cardiothoracic Surgery	University of Pittsburgh
Deven Patel, MD	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Johns Hopkins Hospital
Adam Truong, MD	Colorectal Surgery	Cleveland Clinic

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2021	Fellowships	Institution
Jerald Borgella, MD	Surgical Critical Care	University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital
Kjirsten Carlson, MD	Breast Surgery	MD Anderson Cancer Center
Navpreet Dhillon, MD	Surgical Critical Care & Acute Care Surgery	University of Maryland Medical Center – R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center
Marissa Srour, MD	Breast Surgery	Memorial Sloan Kettering
2020	Fellowships	Institution
Melissa Chen, MD	Transplant	Penn Medicine
Nicholas Manguso, MD	Surgical Oncology	Moffitt Cancer Center
Emily Siegel, MD	Breast Oncology	Moffitt Cancer Center
Justin Steggerda, MD	Transplant	Northwestern University
Joshua Tseng, MD	Minimally Invasive Surgery Research	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Halley Vora, MD	Breast Oncology	Massachusetts General Hospital

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2019	Fellowships	Institution
Joshua Chan, MD	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Stanford University Medical Center
Jeffrey Johnson, MD	Surgical Oncology	University of North Carolina Hospitals
Ara Ko, MD	Surgical Critical Care	University of Maryland Medical Center – R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center
Yassar Hashim, MD	Surgical Critical Care	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
2018	Fellowships	Institution
Monica Jain, MD	Endocrine	UC, San Francisco
Pratik Mehta, MD	Liver Transplant	Baylor College of Medicine
Derek Serna-Gallegos, MD	Thoracic	Univ. of Pittsburgh

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2017

Fellowships

Institution

Michael Choi, MD

Minimally Invasive Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical Center

Daisy Chou, MD

Vascular Surgery

Ohio State

Christos Colovos, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Heidi Reich, MD

CT Surgery

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Ryan Spurrier, MD

Pediatric Surgery

Oregon Health & Sciences University

2016

Fellowships

Institution

Galinos Barmparas, MD

Surgical Critical Care

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Douglas Liou, MD

Thoracic

Stanford University

Richard Jason VonDerHaar, MD

Plastics

University of Pennsylvania

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2015	Fellowships	Institution
Seth Felder, MD	Colorectal	University of Minnesota
Alexandra Gangi, MD	Surgical Oncology	Moffitt Cancer Center
Silvia Kurtovic, MD	Plastics	Duke University
Scott Short, MD	Pediatrics	University of Utah
Matthew Singer, MD	Trauma	University of Arizona
2014	Fellowships	Institution
Cherisse Berry, MD	Trauma	University of Maryland
Brandice Durkan, MD	MIS	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Omar Hussain, MD	Plastics	Mayo Clinic
Danny Shouhed, MD	MIS	Mount-Sinai

About Our Graduates

Fellowship Matches

2013	Fellowships	Institution
Michel Dias, MD	MIS	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Tsuyoshi Todo, MD	Transplant	Stanford University
Karen Zaghiyan, MD	Colorectal	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
2012	Fellowships	Institution
Moshe Barnajian, MD	Colorectal	SUNY- Stony Brook
Sherry Cavanagh, MD	Vascular	RUSH University
Manabu Fujita, MD	Surgical Oncology	John Wayne Cancer Institute
Ankur Gupta, MD	Vascular	Harbor UCLA

About the Resources Offered (not all inclusive list)

Institution and GME

- Free Parking
- Housing Stipend
- Medical License Reimbursement
- DEA Reimbursement
- Step 3 Reimbursement
- Medical Library electronic access
- Meal stipend
- 403(b) matching
- Educational Stipend
- Carrot Family Building Benefit
- Moving Stipend **new* July 2025*

For information on Compensation and Benefits: <http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/Education/Graduate-Medical-Education/Compensation-Benefits-and-Policy-Information.aspx>

Program

- Travel Reimbursement for presentations
- Chief conference/board review course
- Loupes
- TrueLearn subscription
- SCORE subscription
- ACS membership
- SESAP subscription (PGY5)

Application Requirements

Eligibility

- USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK (Step 2 must be completed prior to starting internship)
- Graduation from an accredited U.S. or Canadian medical school, or have a valid ECFMG certificate plus eligibility letter from the California Medical Board

Application

- Medical School Transcript
- Three letters of recommendation
- USMLE Transcripts
- Dean's Letter
- For IMGs only, required at the time of applying:
 - ECFMG Status report
 - For more information: <https://www.cedars-sinai.edu/Education/Graduate-Medical-Education/Administration/International-Graduates.aspx>

Completed applications requested by Wednesday, October 1, 2025 to allow time for review.

Contact Us

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Program Manager

General Surgery Residency Program

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Los Angeles, CA 90048

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Connect with us @GenSurg_CS



For more information:

Official Cedars-Sinai Website:

<https://www.cedars-sinai.org/education/graduate-medical/residency/general-surgery.html>

Padlet: We compiled program and institutional information in one page for ease of access.

https://padlet.com/csmcgensurg/GenSurg_CS