Returning to Durham

Alumni Update: Erin Van Scoyoc, MD

Dr. Erin Van Scoyoc (2009) shares her path after residency, returning to Durham and what she has learned along the way.

What did you do after residency?

Many things! I first completed a two year primary care research fellowship in health services research at UNC through the National Research Service Award (NRSA). Then, I moved to Providence, RI to work with the Med-Peds residency program at Brown. During that time I worked in the Med-Peds primary care clinic where I was the medical director, and also as a Pediatric Hospitalist. In 2014, I moved back to Durham.

What are you doing professionally now?

Since returning to Durham I have continued my work in primary care for underserved populations at Carrboro Community Health Center which is part of Piedmont Health Services, an FQHC. I have also continued to work in medical education since returning to Durham, teaching first year medical students at Duke in their Clinical Skills Foundation and Cultural Determinants of Health and Health Disparities courses.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello Duke Med-Peds Family. We are now over two years in the COVID pandemic; our residents continue to amaze me with their resilience, flexibility and support for one another. The graduating residents have spent more than two years of their training learning how to care for patients in the midst of ongoing challenges with COVID and in the face of exacerbations of underlying social and racial inequity. I am proud of what they have managed to accomplish. Additionally, we had an amazing Match and are excited to welcome our 6 new interns next month. I mentioned our clinic move in the last newsletter; the pediatric inpatient services have also moved -- Duke Central Tower was finished since our last newsletter and most of the pediatric services have moved to this new bed tower of Duke Hospital (as well as some of the adult services).

This is my last note as the Duke Med-Peds Program Director. I will remain at Duke in my role as Division Chief for Med-Peds and focus on building the primary care team. It has been a privilege to be in residency program leadership for over 15 years in total and I look forward to continue to see the success of the Duke Med-Peds Residency Program and of the residents! Please stay in touch – the strength of the program grows with the support and connection of the Duke Med-Peds Family! -Jane Trinh
Has your work changed in the last 2 years due to COVID? If so, in what ways?

So many things changed and keep changing! At the beginning of the pandemic our clinic medical director retired, and I took on that role, so that has been a big and exciting change for me. I’m proud of the work we have done and continue to do during the COVID pandemic. We have kept our doors open and continued to provide primary care services for our patients throughout the pandemic. We have also been deeply involved in testing and vaccination efforts, both for our patients and for the community.

What do you want to do next?

I would like to continue to grow in my current roles. I don’t see any big career path changes in the near future.

What was your favorite part of training at Duke?

Working with such inspiring and brilliant colleagues.

Do you have a favorite memory from residency?

Many fond memories of afternoons in the Med Peds residency clinic joking around with Jon (Bae), Aimee (Chung), Greg (Barker), Eleni (Boussios), and Richard (Chung).

What is one of the most important things you have learned since residency?

Spanish.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Spending time with my two daughters, Annabel (12) and Frances (9), gardening, and reading.

What words of wisdom do you have for current trainees?

Residency is so difficult, and you are doing it during a pandemic! Give yourselves a pat on the back and know that it will get better.
GRADUATE AND FACULTY UPDATES

• Aimee Chung (2009) was awarded the 2022 Golden Apple Award for Clinical Faculty (fourth time) and the 2022 Master Clinician/Teacher Award from the Duke School of Medicine. Congrats to Aimee on these awards and for being selected to be an advisory dean in the School of Medicine.

• Dana Clifton (2016), with husband Matt and daughter Madeleine, welcomed daughter Savannah in March. While on parental leave, she also published in *Journal of Hospital Medicine* on her development of a service to treat patients with opioid use disorder in the hospital.

• Congrats to Kanecia Zimmerman (2011) for her success in earning NIH funding. She is currently ranked #41 among Duke investigators for individual research funding. She also received the Duke Medical Alumni Association’s Emerging Leader Award in recognition of her clinical work, leadership and dedication as an educator in pediatric critical care.

• Govind Krishnan (2020) teamed up with current Duke trainees to publish on this paper.

• Richard Chung (2009) is co-chairing an advisory council to lead WHOLE (Wellness | Healing | Opportunity | Learning | Equity) Schools campaign, a partnership with Durham Public Schools to address the mental health crisis among youth. Check out his podcast on Pediatrics On Call on mental health in the medical home here.

• Elizabeth Ockerman (2020) and husband, Matt, welcomed baby Finn.

• Joel Boggan (2013) is lead author of this systematic review on continuous quality improvement.

• Rebecca Ruf (2019) had a recent publication with current Duke faculty and residents.

• Amadea Britton (2020) who is currently working at the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service has had several publications on COVID-19 vaccination and new variants.

• Congrats to Nick Turner (2016) and Nicole Helmke who welcomed daughter Ava last fall. Nick also collaborated with several DOM and Dept of Psychiatry faculty on this recent paper.

• Christian Ramers (2007) was a guest on the podcast show *The Curbsiders* to speak about curing Hepatitis C.

• Dan Ostrovsky and other faculty and residents helped make this celebratory video for the Duke ATLAS (Adolescents Transitioning to Leadership And Success) prom for patients of Duke Children’s. The prom was a 1980’s theme.

Watch the video!
Pictured here are core faculty Dan Ostrovsky and Amy Lee!
Welcome the class of 2026!

Shane Clark  
UG: University of South Florida  
MS: University of Florida  
Hometown: Fleming Island, FL

Joseph Goddu  
UG: Loyola University New Orleans  
MS: Louisiana State University New Orleans  
Hometown: New Orleans, LA

Noah Hellermann  
UG: University of Chicago  
MS: Columbia University  
Hometown: New York City, NY

Joshua Mercer  
UG: Duke University  
MS: University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School  
Hometown: San Antonio, TX

Mohamed Mohamed  
UG: University of Central Florida  
MS: Johns Hopkins University  
Hometown: Orlando, FL

Liliana Suarez  
UG: The Ohio State University  
MS: Duke University  
Hometown: Dublin, OH

Duke Med-Peds Residency Fund

The Duke Med-Peds Residency Fund supports our current Med-Peds residents in a variety of educational experiences, including participation in research projects, attendance at national meetings, presentation of scholarly work, and more. Your support helped Sam Dizon and Grace Lee travel to Charlotte, NC to present their QI work at the Academic Internal Medicine Week.

Please consider making a contribution online at SupportMedTraining.duke.edu and clicking the Combined Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program form the list or send a check to Duke Health Development Office, Attn. Duke Med-Peds Residency Fund, 710 W. Main St, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27701.
RESIDENT UPDATES

- Congrats to Julia Hiserodt and Paul Rothlauf on their wedding!
- Congrats to Christopher Zheng and Sweta Pattanaik on their engagement!
- Ashley Thrower spoke to students at St. David's School in Raleigh about her journey through medical school and residency.
- Sam Curtis (with mentor Carolyn Avery) earned an AAP grant titled Project Tiny Teeth Implementation Project for her QI project.
- Ashley Thrower was awarded a 2022 Minority Resident Hematology Award from the American Society of Hematology.
- Sam Dizon and Grace Lee were awarded the Fulkerson Award at the Duke Patient Safety & Quality Conference for their QI project to teach peer debriefing to fellow residents.
- Congrats to Maxine Chan and Sandra Loriaux for expertly designing and proposing changes to the Clinical Informatics Team to build a Newborn Nursery Report, which will streamline and improve quality of care to newborns at both DUH and DRH.
- Ashley Thrower received the 2022 Brenda Armstrong Award for Service Towards the Advancement of Diversity and Inclusion at Duke.
- Congrats to the 2021 Stead Research Grant recipients:
  - Benjamin Redpath: “The Incidence and Clinical Significance of Unusual Non-tuberculous Mycobacterial Infections” with mentor, Jason Stout, MD
  - Ashley Thrower: “COVID-19 Hesitancy in Adult Patients with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)” with mentor, JJ Strouse, MD
  - Christopher Zheng: “Evaluation of Tracheostomy Outcomes in Patients on VV-ECMO for Acute Respiratory Failure” with mentor, Craig Rackley, MD
Recent Trainee Posters and Publications


- **Sriya Muralidharan** and husband Sukrit Jain, both budding gastroenterologists, presented their work *Impact of GI/Hepatology Consultation on Outcomes for Spontaneous Bacterial Peritonitis* at the Digestive Disease Week in San Diego in May.

- **Ashley Inez Thrower** and Colby Feeney. Acute Myocarditis following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination: correlation or coincidence? Society of General Internal Medicine Southern Regional Meeting.


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING CLASS!

- Sam Dizon will start Adult Cardiology fellowship at Columbia University.
- Erin Frost will start Pediatric Hematology-Oncology fellowship at Emory University.
- Grace Lee will serve as Pediatric Co-Chief Resident for 2022-2023.
- Kevin Prier will be practicing primary care in Idaho.
- Zach Sutton will be practicing adult and pediatric hospital medicine at Vidant Health in Duplin, NC.
- Christopher Zheng will start Adult Pulmonary-Critical Care fellowship at Mayo Clinic.