

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission

To serve, to heal, to educate.

Our Vision

We will be the best place to be a patient, the best place to work, and the best place to learn and practice medicine.

2021 at a Glance

- Hospital Admissions: 33,364
- Emergency Department Visits: 73,009
- Urgent Care Visits: 49,363
- Outpatient Visits: 406,326 (excluding COVID-19 testing encounters)
- Cancer Visits—
 - › Outpatient: 122,045
 - › Inpatient: 3,014
- Combating COVID-19—
 - › Patients Tested: 132,507
 - › Hospitalizations: 4,355 (since 3-12-20)
- Surgical Cases: 27,018
- Trauma Cases: 4,902
- Transfers From Area Hospitals: 7,170
- Employees: 8,932
- Physicians: 800+
- Licensed Beds: 663
- Outpatient Locations: 100+
- Operating Revenue: \$1.8 Billion
- Active Patients: From All 50 States and More Than 35 Countries



MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper is the region's largest and most comprehensive cancer center.

March 2022

Dear Friends,

For more than two years, COVID-19 has been one of the most pressing issues facing health care. Despite the continuing challenges brought about by the ongoing pandemic, one thing has stood out: the Cooper team. Their remarkable fortitude, resilience, and teamwork within our walls and in the community have been nothing short of heroic. Last year was no exception.

As a leading academic health system and a regional health care leader, we continued to coordinate the state’s response to COVID-19 in southern New Jersey. We successfully navigated through COVID-19 surges related to the delta and omicron variants.

Cooper led the way in vaccinations, testing, and education for residents across South Jersey. And by partnering with community organizations, we ensured underserved communities received the care they needed. Physicians and other team members went directly into the community to explain the safety and efficacy of the vaccine, answer questions, and dispel myths.

In 2021, Cooper continued its strong growth. More people than ever are putting their trust in our experts for their health care needs. With nearly 2 million patient visits, more than 33,000 hospital admissions, 73,000 Emergency Department visits, and 27,000 surgeries last year, Cooper continues to make a positive impact on the lives of residents across the region. Our expert specialists also continue to educate the next generation of medical professionals at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University and through numerous residency and fellowship programs.

To meet the growing demand for our specialists, we purchased the former Sears building at the Moorestown Mall, and we are building Cooper’s largest multispecialty facility at this convenient location. Our newest physicians group, Cooper Care Alliance, has grown to nearly 40 physicians and advanced practice providers in two years. Combined with the Cooper University Physician group of more than 850 physicians and advanced practice providers, Cooper maintains the largest network of providers in South Jersey.

The great work of Cooper’s team is also being recognized. In 2021, Cooper was named as one of the top hospitals in the region by U.S. News & World Report, Healthgrades placed Cooper in the top 5% of hospitals in the nation for patient safety, and Forbes honored Cooper as one of the Best Places to Work.

Looking ahead, we are confident that the Cooper team will continue to face all challenges head-on, while growing and enhancing our reputation as a regional leader in health care. We remain dedicated to providing hope and healing to those we serve. As a leading academic health system, our care remains: Committed. Compassionate. Complete.

Sincerely,


George E. Norcross III
Chairman, Board of Trustees


Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD
Co-President/CEO


Anthony J. Mazzairelli, MD, JD, MBE
Co-President/CEO



George E. Norcross III
Chairman, Board of Trustees
The Cooper Health System



Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD
Co-President/CEO
Cooper University Health Care



Anthony J. Mazzairelli, MD, JD, MBE
Co-President/CEO
Cooper University Health Care

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William A. Schwartz, Jr.

Quality Care Recognitions in 2021

4



ABDOMINAL AORTIC
ANEURYSM REPAIR



AORTIC VALVE
SURGERY



COLON CANCER
SURGERY



COPD



DIABETES



HEART ATTACK



HEART FAILURE



KIDNEY FAILURE



STROKE



As a leading academic health system, Cooper provides the highest quality of care to its patients. In 2021, the work of our expert team was recognized by a number of prestigious national organizations:

- **U.S. News & World Report** recognized Cooper University Hospital as one of the top hospitals in the Philadelphia region and a **top-performing hospital nationally in nine specialty services: aortic valve surgery, abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, colon cancer surgery, COPD treatment, diabetes care, heart attack treatment, heart failure treatment, kidney failure treatment, and stroke care.**
- For the third year in a row, Cooper earned the **Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award**, placing it in the **top 5% of hospitals in the nation.**
- **Healthgrades** ranked Cooper as one of **America's 100 Best Hospitals** for **Colorectal Surgeries, Defibrillator Procedures, Prostate Removal Surgery, and Treatment of Pancreatitis.**



- Cooper received the **Blue Distinction® Centers+ for Bariatric Surgery and Maternity Care** designation for **quality and cost efficiency** in the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association's Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.
- The **Rectal Cancer Program at MD Anderson at Cooper** was accredited by the **National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer (NAPRC)**. MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper is the first and only hospital in New Jersey and one of only 29 in the U.S. to achieve this honor.
- Cooper received reaccreditation designation from the **Urgent Care Association of America**, the **highest level of distinction for U.S. urgent care centers.**
- The **American Heart Association** awarded Cooper with the **Mission: Lifeline EMS** (Emergency Medical Services) **Gold Plus recognition** and the **Get With the Guidelines Stroke Gold Plus recognition.**

Forbes 2021
**AMERICA'S
BEST-IN-STATE
EMPLOYERS**



Blue
Distinction®
Center+
Bariatric

Blue
Distinction®
Center+
Maternity

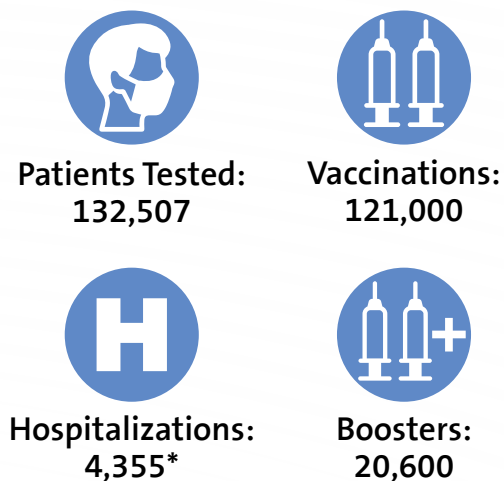
- The **Digestive Health Institute at Cooper** received the **2021 Flame Award for Unit Excellence from the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates** for its commitment to preventing infection, providing a supportive and educational work environment for staff, and achieving positive patient outcomes.
- Cooper was named one of **America's Best Employers** by **Forbes**, one of the nation's leading business publications—one of only 30 companies in New Jersey to make the Forbes list.
- Cooper University Health Care was designated an **Aetna Institute of Quality® Cardiac Care Facility** for comprehensive heart and vascular treatment.
- The **American Orthopaedic Association** presented the **Cooper Bone and Joint Institute** with the **Star Performer Recognition award** for participation in its Own the Bone® program.
- **Newsweek** named Cooper one of the **World's Best Hospitals in Orthopaedics.**

5

Cooper's COVID-19 Response

Cooper was one of three health systems in New Jersey chosen by Governor Phil Murphy in 2020 to lead the state's response to COVID-19. In 2021, Cooper continued to play a leading role in coordinating the COVID-19 response in southern New Jersey. Cooper team members rallied to treat patients; provide vaccinations, testing, and education; and provide other support throughout the region.

Cooper Fighting COVID-19 By the Numbers



* March 2020 – December 2021

Joseph M. Montella, MD, MS, CPE, Chief Medical Officer, Louis S. Bezich, MPP, Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, and Kathy Devine, RN, DrNP, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Executive, continued as leaders of the COVID-19 Incident Management Team, keeping in close and constant contact with Cooper co-CEOs Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD, and Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE, to fast-track decision-making and implement changes in a timely manner.



Governor Phil Murphy (left) is joined by Board Chairman George E. Norcross III to discuss New Jersey's COVID-19 response.

Stories in Care: An Oral History of COVID-19

In recognition of the humanity of those serving on the frontlines of COVID-19, Cooper created Stories in Care.

Cooper produced 22 mini-episodes spotlighting the personal recollections of members of the critical care team.

In May 2021, the web series was chosen from 12,000 entries to win a coveted Gold Award in the 42nd Annual Telly Awards, which recognizes the best work created in video and television across all screens.



Scan with your smart phone to view Stories in Care episodes.

From an episode featuring Nitin K. Puri, MD, Division Head, Critical Care Medicine and Co-Medical Director, Center for Critical Care Medicine.

COVID-19 Testing

- Operationalized COVID-19 testing sites on Cooper's main hospital campus, at Camden County College's Blackwood and Cherry Hill campuses, and at select Cooper office locations.
- Provided vaccinations and boosters in collaboration with military partners, the New Jersey Department of Health, the Camden County Board of Commissioners, the Camden Coalition of Health Care Providers, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University students, Rutgers-Camden School of Nursing, and 76Forward.
- Constructed an on-campus satellite lab with a Genexus Integrated Sequencer to quickly process COVID-19 tests by alleviating pressure on state labs. This new, fully automated, next-generation rapid gene sequencing technology allows physicians and scientists to identify and understand the genetic profiles of many viruses, tumors, and other specimens. The new technology enables Cooper to identify COVID-19 variants and provides valuable information about the spread of the virus and how it is changing.

COVID-19 Vaccinations and Boosters

Vaccinations and boosters were distributed at Cooper's main hospital campus, Cooper primary care offices, the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Community Center in Camden, Camden County College's Blackwood and Cherry Hill campuses, and the Cherry Hill Mall.

Kevin M. O'Dowd, Co-CEO, Recognized by Governor Phil Murphy

In January, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy congratulated Cooper Co-CEO Kevin M. O'Dowd on the honors he received from the U.S. Attorney's office in New Jersey. The Governor's social media post said: "Congratulations to Cooper University

Health Care CEO Kevin M. O'Dowd on receiving the first-ever Distinguished Alumnus Award from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey! As the State's Southern Regional Coordinator for our #COVID-19 response, Kevin has helped save the lives of countless New Jerseyans."

Resiliency Resources Team Recognized as Heroes

NJBIZ recognized Cooper's Resiliency Resources Team as one of its 2021 Healthcare Heroes in the Workplace Wellness Hero category for engaging the services of clinical psychiatrists and psychologists to support team member resiliency and address burnout and stress.



A drive-through COVID-19 vaccination site at the Camden County Health Hub.

MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper

MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper celebrated its eighth anniversary in 2021 and remains the consumer's first choice for cancer care in southern New Jersey. MD Anderson at Cooper is committed to expanding access and improving care by offering advanced technologies and services and exceptional patient experiences delivered by a compassionate staff.

MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper Expands Services Into Southeastern Pennsylvania Through a Partnership With Redeemer Health

Cooper and Redeemer Health, located in Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania, launched a new partnership to create an integrated cancer program at Holy Redeemer Hospital. Redeemer Health, in partnership with MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, brings advanced cancer care to the residents of Philadelphia, Montgomery, and Bucks counties.



In partnership with
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Making Cancer History®

The MD Anderson at Cooper team provides full clinical oversight of the cancer program. The partnership brings our integrated, multidisciplinary team approach to cancer care and MD Anderson Cancer Center's leading-edge treatment protocols to a new region.

Expansion of Services Improves Patient Care and Comfort

To meet the growing demand for our cancer services and enhance our patients' experience, MD Anderson at Cooper expanded and renovated our centers in Voorhees and Camden to improve patient care and comfort.

The expansion and renovation of the multidisciplinary clinic and infusion suite at MD Anderson at Cooper in Voorhees included the creation of dedicated check-in and check-out stations and new waiting areas for clinic and

infusion patients. The enhancements also included the addition of 10 infusion bays, bringing our total infusion space to 36 bays and private rooms.

MD Anderson at Cooper in Camden also underwent an expansion to extend clinical space. The upgrade added a physical therapy area, dedicated clinical and infusion space for malignant hematology, and space for interventional radiology, including a fluoroscope to perform image-guided procedures. These new services will be available to patients in early 2022.



Jamin C. Morrison, MD



Fourth floor clinical waiting area.

The Region's Largest and Most Experienced Breast Surgery Team



Catherine E. Loveland-Jones, MD, MS, FACS
Head, Division of Breast Surgery
Co-Director, Janet Knowles Breast Cancer Center



Kay Yoon-Flannery, DO, MPH, FACS, FACOS
Co-Director, Janet Knowles Breast Cancer Center



Teralyn Carter, MD



Michele Fantazzio, MD



Diane Gillum, MD, FACS



Ryan Allen Gruner, MD, FACS



Adrian A. Lopez, MD

The Janet Knowles Breast Cancer Center at MD Anderson at Cooper is South Jersey's largest and most experienced breast cancer team. The breast surgeons at MD Anderson at Cooper offer a full range of advanced, innovative surgical techniques and procedures. They work closely with our the entire breast cancer team to provide each patient with collaborative, coordinated, and compassionate patient care.

MD Anderson at Cooper Becomes One of Five Cancer Centers in the U.S. to Offer Next-Generation Advanced Radiation Treatment

In January 2021, MD Anderson at Cooper unveiled a new image-guided radiation treatment system that combines magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and linear accelerator (Linac) radiation treatment into one powerful device. The new image-guided radiation treatment device, called the MR-Linac, gives radiation oncologists the ability to deliver a more effective cancer treatment while minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissue.



MR-Linac

Survivorship Program Expands Programming

The Wellness After Cancer Survivorship program at MD Anderson at Cooper launched a virtual educational series focused on topics that address the unique needs of cancer survivors. The one-hour monthly webinars, presented by advanced practice nurses from MD Anderson at Cooper, are designed to help cancer survivors understand and manage the long-term and late-term effects of their treatment and the psychosocial and financial impact of their cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Robert A. Somer, MD, to Lead Cancer Clinical Trials Program

Robert A. Somer, MD, Head, Division of Hematology/Medical Oncology and Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, was appointed Executive Medical Director of MD Anderson at Cooper's Clinical Research Center. The appointment was made to advance MD Anderson at Cooper's robust clinical trials program and to increase enrollment of patients in the exploration of leading-edge treatments.

Infusion Nurses Launch Emergency Response Team

Infusion nurses at MD Anderson at Cooper formed a Medical Emergency Rapid Intervention Team to support patients, visitors, and staff members in the event of an urgent medical need within the facility.

Cancer Outreach and Surgery Services

MD Anderson at Cooper's Cancer Education, Outreach, Screening, and Survivorship Program worked to provide education and lifesaving cancer screenings to uninsured and underinsured members of our community, offering free breast, colorectal, prostate, cervical, and lung cancer screening services. Much of this work is funded through outside grants and in partnership with the State of New Jersey Department of Health, Cancer Education and Early Detection (NJCEED) Program.

Facility Growth and Expansion

2021 was a year of growth for Cooper, with new programs, services, and facilities designed to meet the needs of the community, despite an ongoing pandemic.

Cooper Plans for a New Campus in Moorestown

Cooper purchased the former Sears building at the Moorestown Mall, with plans to convert it to the health care system's largest ambulatory multispecialty campus. The 166,000-square foot space will offer a range of specialties, including primary care, ambulatory surgery, radiation oncology, infusion services, imaging, orthopaedics, and physical therapy. The facility is slated to open in the third quarter of 2023.

Neuroscience ICU Raises Level of Care for Patients

Cooper opened a Neuroscience ICU to provide hyperspecialized critical care to patients with neurological disorders. Located on the Camden campus, the Neuro ICU provides high-tech equipment; dedicated, specialty trained staff; and neurointensivists experienced in handling the specific needs of patients with neurological disorders.

Neurological Emergency Department Project in Final Phases



A new Acute Stroke and Neuro Interventional Suite is scheduled to open in the Emergency Department in early 2022. The four-phase project features a state-of-the-art neurological lab that allows quick access to diagnostic services for patients who enter the ED with neurological symptoms. The suite is equipped with a dedicated CT scanner that slides between the neuro lab and a separate CT suite to increase access for all patients being treated in the ED. The lab will be the first in New Jersey and the only one in the U.S. with the latest-generation technology.

New Medical School Garage Opens

In November, the new nine-story medical school parking garage opened on Benson Street adjacent to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. Cooper's multimillion-dollar investment in this 1,100-space garage allowed us to provide our team members who work at the hospital with convenient on-campus parking, while increasing parking capacity in the hospital garage for patients and visitors.



Rendering of Cooper University Health Care at Moorestown.

Excellence

Physicians and Medical Staff

As a leading academic health system, Cooper employs top specialists practicing in more than 75 specialties. Cooper's two physician groups (Cooper University Physicians and Cooper Care Alliance) form the largest physician network in southern New Jersey. The Cooper University Physicians group is also the teaching faculty for Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, teaching the next generation of physicians with the same level of passion they employ when treating patients.

New Leadership Appointments

Cooper is proud of its ongoing commitment to recruit talented physician leaders who are dedicated to guiding innovation and collaboration, which are the hallmarks of Cooper.

- **Franziska F. Jovin, MD, MMM**, was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Experience Officer.
- **Michael F. Saulino, MD, PhD**, was appointed Chair and Chief, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.
- **Ajith J. Thomas, MD**, was appointed Chair and Chief, Department of Neurosurgery.
- **David A. Fuller, MD**, became Chair and Chief, Department of Orthopaedics.
- **Jack Shilling, MD**, now serves as Interim Medical Director, Bone and Joint Institute.
- **Kara S. Aplin, MD, FACP**, Division Head and Medical Director, Hospital Medicine, was promoted to Vice President, Medical Affairs.
- **Christopher B. McFadden, MD**, accepted the position of Division Head, Nephrology.
- **Lisa Pedroza, MD**, accepted the position of Co-Director of the Anti-Microbial Stewardship Program.
- **John D. Baxter, MD**, Head, Division of Infectious Diseases, also became Interim Medical Director of the Cooper Research Institute.

Remote Patient Monitoring Program Launched

Under the leadership of Daniel J. Hyman, DO, Medical Director, Population Health and Primary Care, and Deepa N. Velayadikot, MD, Associate Division Head, Division of Hospital Medicine, Cooper instituted a remote patient monitoring program that enables patients to be safely discharged to home earlier. The program features tools and technology that allow patients to recover in the comfort of their homes while practitioners are able to remotely observe their patients' conditions to ensure that recovery is going as planned.

Chief Physician Executive Appointed to Head Cooper Care Alliance



Carman A. Ciervo, DO, FACOF, was appointed Chief Physician Executive of Cooper Care Alliance (CCA). Formed in 2020, CCA is Cooper's second physician group, made up of community-based physicians and advanced practice providers who focus on innovative strategies in care delivery. In this role, Dr. Ciervo oversees initiatives to integrate

CCA practices into the larger mission of Cooper University Health Care and leads the group to expand CCA's services, develop cutting-edge systems of care, collaborate on digital strategies to enhance patient experience, and support physician leadership development.

A Milestone and a First for Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira, Structural Heart Program

Since its inception in 2011, the Structural Heart Program at Cooper has earned a regional reputation for excellent outcomes and has led the way in clinical trials that advance minimally invasive and catheter-based procedures for

patients with moderate to severe structural heart disease. The team is led by Sajjad A. Sabir, MD, Director, and Loheetha Ragupathi, MD, FACC, Associate Director, who are also member providers with Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira. In 2021, the team:

- **Became the first in the northeast region to implant Abbott's Amplatzer Amulet left atrial appendage (LAA) Occluder**, an FDA-approved device to treat patients with atrial fibrillation (AFib) who are also at risk for ischemic stroke. For patients with AFib who are unable to take blood thinners over the long term, the Amulet device prevents blood clots from leaving the left atrial appendage and reduces the risk of stroke.
- **Successfully performed its 1000th TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement) procedure** on a 71-year-old South Jersey man. This was a major milestone and the culmination of many years of training and experience. TAVR is a minimally invasive procedure that allows for the replacement of a diseased aortic valve due to aortic stenosis with a new valve without requiring open heart surgery.



Joseph Borgese, 71, of Mantua, the 1000th TAVR patient, with his Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira heart team, from left to right, Simon K. Topalian, MD, FACC, Interventional Cardiologist; Amy Petrini, BSN, RN, PCCN, Cardiology Clinical Director; Jeremy Witcher, RN; and Tara Jones, RN, BSN, Structural Heart Nurse Navigator.

Neurological Study by Tudor Jovin, MD, Published in The Lancet



THE LANCET



Tudor Jovin, MD, Medical Director, Cooper Neurological Institute, a world-renowned specialist, was the principal investigator and lead author of a study published in The Lancet, one of the world's leading medical journals. The article discussed the effectiveness of mechanical thrombectomy, a minimally invasive procedure to remove an occlusive clot from within a vessel to effectively treat patients with acute stroke.

Ambient Intelligence Improving the Provider and Patient Experience

Cooper and Nuance Communications formed a strategic collaboration to expand Cooper's deployment of the Nuance® Dragon Ambient eXperience™ (DAX™) ambient clinical intelligence solution to 475 physicians and advanced practice providers. The collaboration builds on the success of Cooper's initial Nuance DAX deployment to a pilot group. The Nuance DAX's diarized speech recognition and highly accurate note output functions enable our clinicians to improve the quality of their notes, reduce their hands-on documentation and after-hours paperwork, and have more engaging encounters with their patients.



Cooper offers leading-edge surgical options performed by some of the region's—and the nation's—top surgeons. At Cooper, patients have access to advanced procedures, innovative surgical techniques, and state-of-the-art technology in a patient-centered environment. In 2021, Cooper performed over 27,000 surgical cases and more than 4,900 trauma cases.

14

Cooper Surgeon Among Principal Investigators of Advanced New Treatment Option

Cooper was the first hospital in New Jersey to treat complex abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) with the new Chimney EndoVascular Aneurysm Sealing (ChEVASM) System. Joseph Lombardi, MD, FACS, head of the Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, performed this sealing procedure on a patient at Cooper in the fall of 2021.

Obstetrics and Gynecology Employs TeamSTEPPS to Enhance a Culture of High Reliability

Under the leadership of Guy Hewlett, MD, FACOG, Medical Director of Labor and Delivery and Vice Chief of Quality, the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology implemented TeamSTEPPS, a teamwork system developed jointly by the Department of Defense and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, to further foster communication, a culture of higher reliability for patient safety, and a positive environment.



R. Phillip Dellinger, MD, Honored With NJHA Lifetime Achievement Award

The New Jersey Hospital Association awarded R. Phillip Dellinger, MD, Senior Critical Care Attending Physician, Director of the Cooper Research Institute, and Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, with its Lifetime Achievement, Clinical Excellence Award.

Kennedy U. Ganti, MD, Installed as President of the Medical Society of New Jersey



Primary care physician Kennedy U. Ganti, MD, FAAFP, FHELA, was appointed as the 229th president of the Medical Society of New Jersey (MSNJ). Dr. Ganti, Assistant Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School at Rowan University, has been on staff at Cooper since 2014. He has served on the Board of Trustees since 2010.

Andrea M. Russo, MD, FACC, FHRS, FAHA, Named to the ABIM Cardiovascular Specialty Board

Andrea M. Russo, MD, FACC, FHRS, FAHA, Director, Electrophysiology and Arrhythmia Services at Cooper and Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, was appointed to the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Cardiovascular Specialty Board.

Francis R. Spitz, MD, FACS, and Young K. Hong, MD, MPH, Appointed to the Editorial Board of a Prestigious Medical Journal

Francis R. Spitz, MD, FACS, Vice Chief of the Department of Surgery at Cooper University Health Care and Deputy Director of MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, and Young K. Hong, MD, MPH, Surgical Oncologist at MD Anderson at Cooper, were appointed to the editorial board of the Annals of Surgical Oncology (ASO).

Physicians and Providers of the Quarter

The Cooper Physician and Provider of the Quarter distinction recognizes Cooper physicians, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Recipients are nominated by their peers for their professionalism, interpersonal skills, effective communication, teamwork, and dedication to research and education.

PHYSICIANS

First Quarter



Gary A. Eastwick, MD
Department of
Radiation Oncology
MD Anderson Cancer Center
at Cooper
Assistant Professor of
Radiation Oncology,
Cooper Medical School of
Rowan University

Second Quarter



Ju-Lin Wang, MD
Division of Trauma Surgery
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Cooper Medical School of
Rowan University

Third Quarter



Alexandra Lane, MD
Division of Internal Medicine
Assistant Program Director,
Internal Medicine Residency
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Cooper Medical School of
Rowan University

Fourth Quarter



Miles M. McFarland, MD
Department of Pathology
Assistant Program Director,
Internal Medicine Residency
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Cooper Medical School of
Rowan University

15

PROVIDERS

First Quarter



Karen Donohoe, APN
Advanced Practice Nurse,
Division of Trauma Surgery

Second Quarter



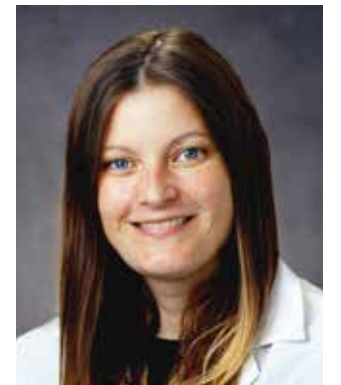
Lauri Sweeney, APN
Advanced Practice Nurse,
Division of
Surgical Oncology

Third Quarter



Michelle Henritzy, APN
Advanced Practice Nurse,
AllCare Health Alliance

Fourth Quarter



Caitlyn A. LaGrotte, PsyD
Clinical Health Psychologist,
Division of Hospital Medicine



Critical Care Medicine Team Recognized for CitiCall Connections Program

16

Cooper's Critical Care Medicine team received the Family-Centered Care Innovation Award from the Society of Critical Care Medicine for the CitiCall Connections program. Through CitiCall Connections, senior medical students from Cooper Medical School of Rowan University served as liaisons between the critical care staff and COVID-19 patients' families, which enabled the critical care physicians to spend more time on direct patient care.

Cooper Care Alliance Grows to Serve Needs of the Community

Cooper Care Alliance (CCA) is Cooper University Health Care's second physician group, which started in 2020. CCA employs community-based physicians and expanded its practice from seven providers in January 2021 to more than 40 providers (physicians and advanced practice providers), including specialists in endocrinology, gastroenterology, and behavioral health, by the end of the year.

CCA provides patients and their families access to care and services previously unavailable in the region. The group offers expanded patient hours, including evenings and weekends, and provides urgent and routine telehealth virtual visits. Spanish-speaking clinicians are on staff to address language and cultural barriers. Cooper Care Now, a virtual appointment option, allows patients with urgent—but nonemergent—health issues to schedule a telehealth visit with a provider from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week.

CCA's Apex Care@Cooper was established for patients who prefer more regular contact with a physician and want the opportunity to take a deep dive into their care with immediate access to their provider. This

membership fee-based program offers exclusive access to personal and personalized medical expertise and health management.

U.S. Army Awards John Chovanes, DO, FACS, With Meritorious Service Medal

John Chovanes, DO, FACS, Chief Military Surgeon and Trauma Surgeon, was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal from the U.S. Army for establishing the Army Medical Department Military-Civilian Trauma Team Training (AMCT3) program at Cooper and for his selfless devotion to soldiers and unparalleled dedication to mission accomplishment.

Gerard G. Carroll, MD, Receives Cooper Heroism Award

Cooper honored Gerard G. Carroll, MD, EMS Medical Director and Division Head, Emergency Medical Services/ Disaster Medicine, for his bravery and outstanding efforts on June 20, 2021. On his way to work, he rescued a citizen in crisis and prevented his death. The Cooper Heroism Award was established in 2019 to honor employees who have shown heroic efforts in the community.

Cooper Nurses: Committed to Excellence

At the region's leading academic health system and busiest trauma center, Cooper is proud to have a team of nurses who provide the highest level of compassionate and comprehensive care to our patients—many of whom are critically injured or ill. Cooper nurses are committed to excellence and dedicated to serving our patients. Cooper nurses have been critical to the COVID-19 battle and have been extraordinarily courageous and committed.

Ensuring Excellence in Care Now and Into the Future

Cooper nurses and nursing administration continued to demonstrate excellence in providing quality care for patients and achieved the following in 2021:

- Nursing staff specialty certification increased by 20%.
- Key educator positions were added, and broader resources were implemented to build a strong, evidence-based clinical foundation in the perioperative and medical-surgical specialty areas.
- A Perioperative 101 program was developed to provide premier perioperative nursing education for registered nurses entering the specialty.
- Academic affiliations increased by 50% for the third consecutive year, expanding access to rich learning

opportunities for students preparing for careers in health care. The effort included students in undergraduate and advanced practice nursing programs.

- A Nursing Skills Boot Camp was developed to provide RNs with fewer than 12 months of recent acute care experience with an immersive learning experience to smooth the transition from student to practice.
- An intermediate care cross-training program was developed for medical-surgical nurses to increase their competency levels and the organization's ability to expand intermediate care staffing coverage.

Nurses Collaborate to Resolve COVID-19 Surge Capacity Challenge

As the need for additional inpatient space within the hospital increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, nurses from the Special Procedures Unit (SPU) and MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper collaborated to develop processes and electronic infrastructure to expand services to patients requiring unique infusions, special tests, and blood products. These patients traditionally would have been treated in the SPU. The effort opened much-needed additional space within the hospital.

17

2021 Nurse of the Year | Elizabeth Moriarty, RN, MSN

Elizabeth Moriarty, RN, MSN, was named Cooper's Nurse of the Year for 2021. Elizabeth is a medical-surgical certified nurse specializing in orthopaedics. Elizabeth co-chairs the Pavilion 7 Unit-Based Nursing Council and is active in the Nursing Excellence Council and the Nursing Practice Council.



2021 Nursing Excellence Awards

Cooper's Nursing Excellence Awards recognize exceptional professional nurses and advanced practice nurses at any Cooper University Health Care location as well as members of the collaborative care teams that support nursing. Award winners are nominated by colleagues for their commitment to upholding the Cooper mission, and awards are supported by gifts from generous donors to The Cooper Foundation.

- **Catherine Albanese, BSN, RN**
Palliative Care, received The Franklin Morse Archer Jr. and Mary Joy Reeve Archer Memorial Award for Excellence in Outpatient Oncology Nursing Award.
- **Tracie Alvarez, MSN, RN**
Critical Care Unit, received The Barbara and Jack Tarditi Award for Excellence in Nursing Mentorship Award.
- **Kimberly Bell, LPN**
Gloucester City office, received The Women's Board of Cooper University Health Care Award for Excellence in Ambulatory Nursing.
- **Geraldine Brown**
Environmental Services, received The Carol G. Tracey Compassion Award.
- **Clinical Educators Team**
Professional Development, received The Barbara and Jack Tarditi Award for Excellence in Nursing Research.
- **Dhurata Collaku, MBA, RRT**
Respiratory Therapy, received The Women's Board of Cooper Hospital Allied Health Professional Excellence Award (Non-Nursing).
- **Daniel Dangle, BSN, RN, CCRN**
Trauma Intensive Care Unit, received The Award for Excellence in Trauma Nursing.
- **Monika Dobrowolski, MSN, APN-C, RNFA**
Colorectal Surgical Services, received The Rose Smith and Sue Zamitis Memorial Award for Excellence in Inpatient Oncology Nursing.
- **Jennifer Ford, BSN, RN**
Pediatrics, received The Dr. Ronald Bernardin Memorial Award for Excellence in Pediatric Nursing.
- **Catherine Hassinger, BSN, RN, CGRN**
Digestive Health Mount Laurel, is the recipient of The Philip and Carole Norcross Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing.
- **Daniel Hyman, DO**
Primary Care Physician, received The Nursing Alumni Excellence Award for Nursing Physician Partnership.
- **Melissa Iannacone, MSN, APN, FNP-BC**
Center for Urgent and Emergent Services, received The Moorestown Auxiliary Award for Advanced Practice Nursing.
- **Intensive Care Nursing Team**
received The Outstanding Team Award.
- **Kimberly Kadelski**
Call Center at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, received The Barbara and Jack Tarditi Award for Excellence in Service (Non-Nursing).
- **Kelly Klinger, BSN, RN**
Labor and Delivery, received The Charlotte Tobiason Memorial Award for Excellence in Obstetrical Nursing.
- **Joseph Kunjunjamma, BA, RN**
Pavilion 7, received The Ruth Parry/Moorestown Auxiliary Award for Excellence in Geriatric Nursing.
- **Alyssa Lopane, BSN, RN-C, NICU**
received The John Henry Kronenberger Memorial Award for Excellence in Neonatal Nursing.
- **Theresa Maerten, BSN, RN**
Medical Informatics, received The Philip and Carole Norcross Award for Nurse Leadership.
- **Janine McNamara, BSN, RN, CGRN**
Digestive Health, received The Shaina Horton Memorial Award for Excellence in Service.
- **Elizabeth Moriarty, MSN, RN**
Pavilion 7, Medical Surgical, received The Selma and Martin Hirsch Award for Excellence in Medical Surgical Nursing.
- **Kay Pine, RN**
Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira, received The Cooper Heart Institute and the Heart House Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Nursing.
- **Lydia Viera, BSN, RN**
Emergency Department, received The Lynn Nelson Award for Excellence in Emergency Nursing.
- **Meggan, Zarrella, BSN, RN**
Intensive Care Unit, received The William and Eileen Archer Award for Excellence in Critical Care Nursing.

2021 DAISY Award Recipients

The DAISY Award is an international program that recognizes excellence in the nursing profession. It was created by the DAISY Foundation to acknowledge the extraordinary compassion, outstanding clinical skills, and personalized care that nurses deliver every day.

OUR 2021 RECIPIENTS:

- **Katelyn Backus, RN** – Kelemen 9
- **Sue Butler, RN** – Kelemen 6/PICU
- **Vincenzo Calla, RN** – Pavilion 7
- **Dana Carpenter, RN** – Kelemen 3
- **Caitlyn Cotter, RN** – Pool Nurse
- **Kelsey Devoy, RN** – Kelemen 7
- **Kimberly Macey, RN** – Labor and Delivery
- **Maria Metzler, RN** – MD Anderson at Cooper
- **Patricia Pearlman, RN** – NICU
- **Rebecca Schneider, RN** – Pavilion 6
- **Annelise Soderland, RN** – Pavilion 4/Intensive Care Unit
- **Erin Valentine, RN** – Pavilion 5



New Jersey Nurse Residency Collaborative

For the second consecutive year, Cooper and the New Jersey Collaborating Center for Nursing signed an organizational agreement to facilitate a New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Growing Apprenticeship in Non-Traditional Sectors grant. The collaboration and grant allowed Cooper to provide 188 new-to-practice nurses with 144 hours of education and 2,000 hours of preceptor/mentor on-the-job training to help them transition from students to bedside practice.

Nursing Leadership Recognized for Expertise and Dedication

Kathy Devine, DrNP, RN, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Executive, received the 2021 Nurse Executive Award from the Organization of Nurse Leaders of New Jersey. The award recognizes Dr. Devine's exceptional leadership, guidance, and service to the nursing profession and, in particular, to the Cooper University Health Care system.

Linda Valenti, MSN, MBA, RN, Assistant Vice President of Professional Development, was recognized by NJBIZ as a 2021 Healthcare Hero in the Healthcare Professional category. This program recognizes individuals and organizations making a significant impact on the quality of health care in New Jersey.

Strengthening Community Colleges Training Program

The partnership between Rowan University and the U.S. Department of Labor's Strengthening Community Colleges Training continued, creating internship opportunities for community members to gain exposure to job opportunities within the health care field.

Nurses Share Their Expertise at Local and National Conferences

Embracing Cooper's mission—To serve, to heal, to educate—many Cooper nurses engage in academic and research pursuits and are invited to share their expertise and findings at local and national conferences and in publications.

In 2021, Cooper was a featured organization at the Advanced Practice Provider Executives, Inc. Virtual Clinical Conference, with many of its team members making presentations.

Cooper Participates in Grants for Technical Nursing Programs for Second Consecutive Year

Cooper extended its partnership with Camden County College and Impact Charities to offer employees the opportunity to participate in the Critical Care Tech training program. In 2021, Cooper University Health Care successfully transferred 30 employees into new critical care technician roles.



Shannon Harper, Food and Nutrition Call Center Operator, receives her certification as a Critical Care Technician through Cooper's partnership with Camden County College and Impact Charities.

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

After a year of virtual learning, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) students returned to in-person classes and hospital rotations in the summer of 2021.

Cooper was grateful to have CMSRU students volunteer at Cooper's vaccination clinics at the Camden County Health Hub, City of Camden site, and Rowan Medicine Vaccination Center. They coordinated coverage, acted as patient greeters and observers, disinfected surfaces and equipment, trained underclassmen, and administered vaccines to more than 100,000 people.

Largest Class Graduates From CMSRU

Ninety-eight CMSRU graduates—the largest number in the school's six-year history—took their Hippocratic Oath on May 10, 2021. CMSRU's commencement took place live, outdoors, under a tent on the University Green of Rowan University's main campus in Glassboro.

CMSRU Earns Full LCME Reaccreditation

CMSRU achieved full reaccreditation for the maximum of eight years from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the accrediting body for medical education programs leading to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree in the U.S. LCME accreditation is a peer review process of quality assurance to determine if a medical school program located in the U.S. meets established standards in medical education.

CMSRU Welcomes New Medical Students During Socially Distant White Coat Ceremony

After going 100% virtual in 2020, CMSRU returned to a modified, in-person version of the White Coat Ceremony tradition. The event brought 110 new students and speakers together in Rowan University's large concert hall, while parents, friends, loved ones, faculty, and fellow students watched the event virtually. The new class joined 334 current students, bringing total enrollment to 444.

CMSRU Awarded a \$1.3 Million Grant to Provide Free Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

CMSRU received a \$1.3 million federal grant that will enable physician faculty to treat patients without health insurance at Cooper's Center for Healing locations in Camden, Blackwood, and Pennsville. The program uses proven medications and other supports to treat opioid addiction.

Approximately 185 uninsured and underinsured people who have few financial resources and who face a range of social challenges will benefit from the grant, which will cover the cost of medical appointments, medication, and related support services, such as mental health care and transportation.

Pushing the Limits of Technology for the Greater Good



Deep Patel, MD, Has a Passion for Innovation

When a shortage of personal protective equipment at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic put health care professionals at risk, Dr. Patel, then a third-year medical student, helped lead a Rowan multidisciplinary team to produce face masks using a 3D printer.

"Because I had an undergraduate degree in biomedical engineering and a history in additive manufacturing, I was able to work very closely with our engineering team to provide real-time feedback. It allowed for immediate design advancements as well as my own printing and beta-testing with my 3D printer at home," said the resident of Parsippany, New Jersey.

Numerous corporations and organizations provided funding, assistance, and materials for the masks and filters, which were refined based on input from users around the world. The Rowan masks were distributed to health care professionals, law enforcement, soup kitchen workers, construction workers, and other essential personnel. Open-source plans for the mask have been downloaded more than 50,000 times in more than 140 countries.

"To go from an idea to putting the idea on paper and then seeing it come to fruition and then translated into international acceptance and supported by industry is just an incredible phenomenon, particularly for a medical student who has other responsibilities," said David A. Fuller, MD, CMSRU Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Program Director of the Orthopaedic Surgery

Residency program, and Chair and Chief of the Department of Orthopaedics.

"There was so much to the mask project," Patel said. "It was such a blessing and a beautiful thing that we were able to do, to have so many people involved and to impact so many lives."

Having graduated in May 2021, Dr. Patel is now seeing how far he can keep pushing technology's limits as an orthopaedic resident at Cooper University Health Care.

Technology and Teaching

Dr. Patel grew up in northern New Jersey. His father, who struggles with the physical and emotional effects of polio, is his inspiration. Dr. Patel envisions using advanced technologies to help patients with diminished mobility and treat patients with musculoskeletal problems, which can lead to debilitating pain.

"How can we do something to innovate and integrate the technology we use? That's the benefit of orthopaedic surgery. Technology and the field go hand in hand from instrumentation, hardware designs, and mechanisms of repair within surgery," he said.

"My 10-year-goal is to be an innovator and bring about change not only in medicine, but education as well," Dr. Patel said.

He lauded the mentorship he received at CMSRU and the collaborative environment at Cooper University Health Care, which was his match location and first choice for his residency.



Hoarding Ceremony (above) and 2021 graduating class (below).



A Different Kind of March Madness: CMSRU Students Celebrate Match Day

On March 15, fourth-year medical students from CMSRU learned where the next phase of their medical education as resident physicians would take them in the annual rite of passage known as Match Day.

CMSRU students were offered residency spots at some of the nation's most prestigious and competitive programs, matching in specialties such as otolaryngology, orthopaedic surgery, ophthalmology, and neurosurgery.

The overall match rate to CMSRU was 100%. Of the 74 students, 42 (57%) matched in training programs that prepare residents in primary care medicine. Of those, 25 matched in internal and family medicine, 13 in pediatrics, one in an internal medicine/pediatric program, and three in obstetrics/gynecology.

Of the class, 26% will remain in New Jersey to complete their training, including 13 students who matched at Cooper.

CMSRU Names New Associate Dean and Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education

Amit R. T. Joshi, MD, FACS, was named Dean for Graduate Medical Education, and Andrew L. Nyce, MD, was named Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education. The positions are new to CMSRU and are intended to help to direct the 46 residency and fellowship programs and the nearly 400 trainees enrolled in them.

Rowan Researcher Receives Funding to Explore Antibiotic Resistant Infections

Valerie Carabetta, PhD, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Sciences at CMSRU, received a \$1.8 million Maximizing Investigators' Research Award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to investigate a process that modifies the proteins in bacteria, making them resistant to antibiotics. Understanding and learning to control this process could potentially lead to the development of a new type of antibiotic that would effectively treat these resistant infections.



U.S. Navy SEALs visit Cooper to honor frontline health care workers during the pandemic.

Navy SEALs Visit to Honor Cooper Heroes

Arriving via a patriotic flag run, a contingent of U.S. Navy SEALs and representatives from the GI Go Fund visited Cooper on August 6, 2021, to honor frontline health care workers for their efforts during the pandemic. The SEALs delivered a 100-push-up "SEALs Salute" on the front lawn of the hospital to recognize Cooper's team members for their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cooper was the only hospital in the region to host the SEALs as they paid tribute to COVID-19 frontline heroes on the day before the third Annual Navy SEAL Swim and Run across the Hudson River, an event that raises money for the GI Go Fund. This fund supports veterans, active-duty personnel, and their families by helping them to secure housing, employment, education, and health benefits assistance.

Cooper's senior leadership team presented a donation to the GI Go Fund to support the Navy SEALs in their swim.

"Operation Allies Welcome" Initiative

Cooper provided medical support for Afghan refugees as part of Operation Allies Welcome, an initiative of the Biden administration to coordinate efforts across the federal government to support and resettle vulnerable Afghans, including those who worked on behalf of the U.S.

Within 72 hours, Cooper organized, deployed, set up, and staffed a fully operational organic expeditionary medical support facility and provided continuous medical support, including urgent care lite/sick call capability. The facility was located at the site of the Holt Logistics Corporation at the Pier 5 Broadway Marine Terminal in Camden.

American College of Surgeons Asset Program

On September 24, 2021, Cooper's Military, Diplomatic, and Field Surgical Affairs Department kicked off its inaugural Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) course with Cooper residents, trauma fellows, medical students, Army operating room techs, and army health care providers assigned to Cooper. The participants learned about advanced surgical trauma care in Cooper Medical School of Rowan University's Anatomy Laboratory.

New Grants Break Down Barriers to Care for Vets and First Responders

A \$70,000 grant from the Federal Communications Commission is helping Cooper connect to hard-to-reach military veterans with telehealth services. In addition, the Department of Health awarded Cooper a grant to provide military veterans and first responders with same-day appointments, primary care visits, specialty care referrals, behavioral health assessments, hospice and palliative care, and resource referrals.

Military, Veteran, and First Responder Programs

Cooper is Committed to Serving Those Who Serve our Country.

When it comes to providing care for military personnel, veterans, and their families; training combat medical teams; or providing important technical research, Cooper is the preeminent health system in the country for the U.S. military.

- On March 18, 2021, Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army Surgeon General and Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Command, met with hospital leadership and current Army personnel embedded at Cooper as part of the Army Medical Department Military-Civilian Trauma Team Training (AMCT3) program. He toured Cooper's Trauma Center and other trauma critical care units.

"Everyone said we had to come to Cooper because Cooper is the best and that Cooper is setting the pace. Thank you for your support for the United States Army and the armed forces.

You all are generating readiness for the soldiers who are saving lives in combat. The Cooper Army Partnership is the model medical program for the nation."

— Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle

- Program leadership trained Salem County Sheriff's Department and Salem County College nurses, first responders, and school officials on response techniques for trauma.

- Cooper's AMCT3 Program added an extra complement of medical providers to the team.
- Senior Navy anesthesia residents from Portsmouth Naval Hospital completed their rotations at Cooper in 2021 and then provided training sessions to medics from Special Operations, the Department of State, and other federal agencies.
- Cooper provided specialized hands-on and trauma-related training to:
 - Army EMTs
 - National Guard EMTs
 - Operating room scrub techs
 - U.S. Department of State Operational Specialists
 - LPNs



Command Sgt. Major Diamond D. Hough (left) and Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, U.S. Army Surgeon General and Commanding General (far right), met with Co-Presidents/CEOs Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD, and Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE.

Know a Hero, Tell a Hero

HeroCare Connect, an one-call concierge service for active duty/retired military and family members, launched a new, improved website along with a new advertising campaign, "Know a hero, tell a hero," which is driving engagement with active and retired military. HeroCare Connect is run jointly by Cooper and Deborah Heart and Lung Center.



2021 Cooper Military Team Member of the Year



Cooper named **James Irwin** (center) a U.S. Navy veteran and 18-year team member, the 2021 Cooper Military Team Member of the Year. In addition to his daily responsibilities as a supply coordinator with the Cooper Digestive Health Institute, Irwin volunteers his time at community health events for active and retired military members and their families through Cooper's Community Outreach Program. Irwin is pictured with Co-Presidents/CEOs Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE (left), and Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD (right).

24

Emergency Medical Services and Air Medical Services

EMS Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

Cooper Emergency Medical Services marked five years of service to the City of Camden in 2021, continuing its lifesaving treatment services and advancing other vital initiatives in the community. Cooper's EMS team responded to more than 41,000 calls to 911 in 2021 and provided more than 4,800 Advanced Life Support (ALS) and 14,200

Basic Life Support (BLS) transports. Most importantly, Cooper ALS units arrived within the critical eight-minute benchmark on 92.4% of the ALS requests.

Cooper EMS Outreach also provided community outreach, education, and training services, including the national "Stop the Bleed" training to other local first responders, agencies, schools, and residents.



Cooper EMS team.

Air Medical Services Has Busiest Year Ever

Cooper's Air Medical Services had its busiest year ever, with more than 648 completed missions, including 432 interfacility transports and 216 transports directly from a trauma site to the hospital. Cooper's two-helicopter fleet is based at Millville Municipal Airport and the Flying W Airport in Medford. The use of two different locations helps to improve response times and enables rapid response to community hospital referrals.

Cooper Flight Nurse Coordinator Recognized as Nurse of the Year by New Jersey Office of Emergency Services

Tracy Iglesias, BSN, RN, CCRN, CFRN, Flight Nurse Coordinator with Cooper EMS, was recognized as Nurse of the Year by the New Jersey Office of Emergency Services.

Intervention-Based Research at Cooper

As a leading academic health system, Cooper maintains a vigorous research program, with current involvement in more than 100 clinical trials. Studies are intervention-based, meaning that the work seeks to raise the standard of caregiving and increase patient access to cutting-edge medications, services, techniques, and devices. More than 70 clinicians are currently conducting trials.

New Approach for Treating Subdural Hematomas Without Surgery

Cooper researchers are exploring the use of liquid embolic agents to treat chronic subdural hematomas (bleeding in the brain) without surgery. The practice would circumvent the risk of surgical complications while cutting off the fluid source, decreasing the likelihood that hematomas would recur.

Cooper Explores New Treatment for Patients With Recurrence of Multiple Myeloma

Cooper is one of 90 global sites investigating a treatment that researchers hope will achieve long-term remission for patients who have had two or more relapses of multiple myeloma. The treatment combines a medication that works in bone marrow to produce normal blood cells and helps immune cells to kill abnormal cells with an oral chemotherapy drug.

Groundbreaking Device Offers Promise to Patients With COPD

Patients who have chronic bronchitis as a result of COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) typically experience a persistent mucus-producing cough. The result is escalating loss of lung function. Cooper is participating in a study of a cryosurgical device that applies a precise dose of liquid nitrogen to targeted areas of the lungs. The procedure destroys mucus-producing cells, allowing healthy cells to grow in their place.

Cooper Participates in NIH Study on the Treatment of Stroke

Cooper Neurological Institute is taking part in a clinical trial investigating the most effective way to prevent ischemic stroke.

Cooper Studies Socioeconomic Differences in Patient Experience

Researchers at Cooper's Center for Compassion Studies explored whether a patient's socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic background influences the empathy shown to them by health care professionals. The findings suggest that an empathy gap may exist for patients with low socioeconomic status. The results were published in March 2021 in PLoS ONE, a peer-reviewed, open-access scientific journal published by the Public Library of Science.

Cooper Joins Innovative Study to Remove HIV DNA From Patient Cells

Cooper is participating in a study that explores the use of genome editing to remove the entire HIV-1 genome (the complete set of genetic instructions) from patients, which would make it impossible for the virus to reproduce and progress to full-blown AIDS.



25

Compassion

The Cooper Foundation

The Cooper Foundation serves as Cooper's philanthropic, community outreach, and community development arm, raising and administering vital funds that enable Cooper to fulfill its mission and support the health and wellness needs of the community.

- More than 140 guests participated in the Cooper Foundation's inaugural **Cooper Cup Golf Outing** in June, which raised more than **\$130,000**.
- An event hosted by **Joy and Lee Luedtke** raised **\$8,850** for **Cooper's Center for LGBTQ+ Health**, which serves the unique health care needs of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Cooper and the Camden County Police Department sponsored an **ice cream giveaway** throughout Camden.
- **The Virtual Red Hot Gala** broke a record, raising **\$2.35 million to support Cooper's mission**. The funds raised directly support Cooper's programs and services.



Board Chairman George E. Norcross III (left), and Cooper Foundation Chairman Philip A. Norcross (right), celebrated the last in-person Red Hot Gala in 2019.

Turkeys for a Brighter Thanksgiving



Left to right, Camden City Councilperson Angel Fuentes, Camden Mayor Victor Carstarphen, U.S. Congressman Donald Norcross, Camden County Commissioner Carmen G. Rodriguez, and Councilman Rev. Chris Collins teamed up with Cooper Foundation volunteers and corporate partners to **deliver 1,000 turkeys to Camden seniors and families** for Thanksgiving. The turkeys were generously donated by an anonymous individual who was instrumental in providing 1,900 holiday meals distributed in 2021 during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Community members donated a total of **\$6,000** to Cooper **in honor of their trusted physicians on Doctors' Day**. The funds will support Cooper's ongoing commitment to improving the lives of our patients and their families.
- The Cooper Foundation's **Giving Tuesday** campaign raised **\$19,500** to support the Child Life Program at Cooper. Generous supporters also donated more than 100 new toys at the holidays.

Berkowitz Family Foundation's Ninth Annual Lecture



The Berkowitz Family Foundation hosts a lecture on how the coronavirus pandemic is transforming critical care medicine.

The Berkowitz Family Foundation's ninth annual lecture, held at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in November 2021, addressed the impact of COVID-19 on the practice of critical care medicine. Emily K. Damuth, MD, Critical Care Intensivist, and Anthony L. Rostain, MD, MA, Chair and Chief, Department of Psychology, explored the challenges that COVID-19 presents to medicine, highlighting ways in which our responses to the pandemic have refocused critical care medicine on fundamental values of humanism, interpersonal connection, coping, and resilience. The Berkowitz Family Foundation, created through a gift from Mr. Edwin Berkowitz, supports a variety of philanthropic activities related to medical ethics, education, and programs for seniors.



Cooper Team Members Make Operation Backpack a Success

Team member donations helped to underwrite the cost of more than 2,100 backpacks and school supplies for students at KIPP: Cooper Norcross Academy's Lanning Square Primary and Middle School, Whittier Middle School, and Charles Sumner High School.



Community Health and Outreach

In 2021, Cooper Community Health maintained a strong presence in Camden, partnering with city and local organizations to address pressing issues, including COVID-19, food insecurity, barriers to health care, and the social determinants of health.

Continuing to Lead the Fight Against COVID-19

Supported by grant funding, Cooper continued to provide COVID-19 education, vaccinations, and testing within the community. Physicians and clinicians partnered with local organizations to discuss prevention, speak about the importance of getting vaccinated, and answer questions.

Cooper provided 15,770 vaccinations to 7,931 patients at the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Community Center, most of whom lived in underserved areas.

Cooper teamed up with 15 community skilled nursing facilities to provide clinical training, digital resources and web content, education, infectious disease training, environmental audits, COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and PPE.

A Slam Dunk for COVID-19 Vaccines



Camden High School basketball star DJ Wagner teamed up with the Camden County Board of Commissioners and Cooper to record a public service announcement promoting the COVID-19 vaccine.

finances, physical activity, and safety. The CHWs come from the communities where they work, a critical factor that helps to build trust and understanding with the individuals the program serves. The CHWs interact with patients in their homes, over the phone, and at other community locations.

Community Coat Giveaway

In January, Cooper distributed more than 500 coats in a collaborative effort with Touch New Jersey Food Pantry, the City of Camden, and the Camden County Police Department.

Cooper and Camden Works Partnership

Camden Works is a partnership that brings together Camden Community Partnership, Cooper University Health Care, and other local non-profits to strengthen the connection between employers and Camden residents seeking jobs. Through funding from Cooper and other area organizations, Camden Works helps residents overcome common barriers to employment, by leveraging resources to provide training, education, placement, and essential wraparound social services. Since its inception in October 2019, Camden Works and its partners have hired or supported the hiring of more than 500 Camden residents at private and public businesses in Camden and the surrounding area.



Addressing Food Insecurity and Chronic Disease

With the help of a \$25,000 grant from No Kid Hungry, Cooper provided families of pediatric patients with fresh produce, supermarket shopping tours, nutrition classes, supermarket gift cards, and transportation to full-service stores located in the surrounding suburbs. Cooper also partnered with the Food Bank of South Jersey as part of their mobile food pantry and provided virtual cooking demonstrations to encourage healthy eating habits.

Cooper Receives Award from Rutgers University for Civic Engagement

Cooper received the Rutgers University–Camden Chancellor’s Award for Civic Engagement. The award recognizes extraordinary service to the Camden community and a partnership with the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Rutgers University–Camden. The recognition was part of an annual civic engagement ceremony and specific to Cooper’s COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Camden.



Tangela Thompson, Community Outreach Coordinator (left) and April M. Douglass-Bright, MD, Division Head, General Pediatrics (right), organize No Kid Hungry packages.

76ers Team up With Cooper to Rebuild Camden Basketball Court and Raise Awareness About COVID-19 Vaccine



In spring 2021, Cooper teamed up with Danny Green and Isaiah Joe to record a public service announcement for the COVID-19 vaccine. Later in the year, Cooper worked with the 76ers to renovate and upgrade the basketball court at Dominick Andujar Park in Camden. In June, Cooper volunteers and members of the 76ers organization joined forces to paint and refresh the Cooper Poynt School in Camden.



Cooper provided 15,770 COVID-19 vaccinations at the Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Community Center to Camden City residents.

Cooper Takes Steps to Tackle Social Barriers to Health Through New Initiative

Cooper’s Population Health Program hired community health workers (CHWs) to help reduce social barriers to health in Camden, a collaborative program with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, an independent licence of Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. These specially trained CHWs engage directly with high- and at-risk patients to address food insecurity, transportation, diet and healthy eating, behavioral health, employment,

Inclusion

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

2021 was a foundational year for Cooper's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) program. We made significant progress in three major areas—workforce development, development of DEI goals, and implementation of a multicultural calendar.

30

Cooper made great strides toward increasing diversity through talent acquisition strategies and development opportunities for current team members. Cooper hired recruiters with backgrounds in diversity hiring who are expanding the sources.

Multicultural Calendar Recognizes Key Dates and Promotes Understanding

A multicultural calendar was developed in collaboration with Cooper team members to commemorate key dates and events they recognized as significant. The calendar allowed team members to have a deeper understanding of the meaning and significance of various religious and cultural holidays and celebrations to create a more inclusive culture where all team members have a sense of belonging.

A New Approach to Alcohol Use Disorder

Cooper's Emergency Department initiated a novel treatment for patients with alcohol use disorder. The treatment is effective in reducing heavy drinking and cravings by breaking the connections the brain has made between drinking and pleasure, making it easier to reduce or stop drinking.

Opioid Treatment Access Act

Physicians at the Center for Healing took part in ongoing state and federal policy work to decrease barriers to substance use disorder treatment. Among their efforts in 2021, they partnered with U.S. Representative Donald Norcross (D-NJ) on the Opioid Treatment Access Act, which he sponsored. The bill lowers obstacles to treatment

by making opioid treatment programs more accessible and allowing patients easier access to evidence-based treatment.

EMPOWR Provides Pregnant and Postpartum Women With Wraparound Care

Through grant funding provided by the New Jersey Department of Health, pregnant women and new mothers struggling with substance use disorder received help through Empowering Mothers to Parent and Overcome with Resilience (EMPOWR), a wraparound program that helps provide housing, medication management, and other services. In 2021, EMPOWR served more than 234 women. The interdisciplinary patient care team focuses on providing a program of evidence-based, family-centered treatment, education, and support that is inclusive and promotes dignity for all women.

Cooper Center for Healing

The new Cooper Center for Healing opened its Camden-based office in 2021. The center is staffed with a multidisciplinary and compassionate team of providers from many disciplines, including addiction medicine, emergency medicine, family medicine, psychiatry, psychology and behavioral health. The program also offers grant-funded medical education training in addiction medicine and research to advance policy in the field of addiction medicine and beyond.



Cooper Center for Healing grand opening.

Meeting the Needs of our LGBTQ+ Community



In 2021, the **Center for LGBTQ+ Health** opened a dedicated office in Cherry Hill, led by Justin Schweitzer, DO, a **Cooper Care Alliance** family physician. The center improved coordination of care and created a safe, accepting, and supportive environment. It provides comprehensive services, including gender-affirming hormone therapy for transgender and gender nonconforming individuals, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to reduce the risk of HIV transmission, surgical options, and well visit care.

Providers include those specializing in endocrinology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, primary care, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, psychology, and speech and language therapy. Physicians and providers also lead educational efforts to increase the understanding of the unique needs of members of the LGBTQ+ community and increase understanding and empathy for this underserved population.

31

Premier Institutes

- **MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper**, through a partnership with the nation's leading cancer center, offers advanced multidisciplinary cancer treatments, innovative technologies, cutting-edge clinical trials, and comprehensive supportive care services.
- **Cooper Heart Institute/Cardiac Partners at Cooper and Inspira** is one of the most comprehensive cardiovascular programs in the region, providing a full range of heart care, from prevention and diagnosis to the most innovative nonsurgical techniques and surgical treatments, including stenting procedures, heart surgery, and minimally invasive procedures. These services span everything from diagnosis to advanced heart surgery to cardiac rehabilitation.
- **Cooper Neurological Institute (CNI)** is dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of neurological and neurosurgical issues, including epilepsy, movement disorders, headache, and trauma as well as brain, spine, and pituitary cancer. The CNI is recognized as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission.
- **The Surgical Services Institute** offers advanced treatment options in 12 specialty surgical areas, including ear, nose, and throat; pain management; colorectal; general; plastic and reconstructive; oral and maxillofacial; thoracic; urologic; and vascular. It is also home to the Cooper Aortic Center, the Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Center, the Level I Adult Trauma Center, and the Level II Pediatric Trauma Center.
- **The Adult Health Institute** is an extensive network of primary and specialty care services, including dermatology and dermatologic surgery, endocrinology, family medicine, geriatric medicine, infectious disease, internal medicine, nephrology, palliative care, and pulmonary medicine. Cooper Digestive Health Institute, the largest freestanding endoscopic center in South Jersey, provides a full range of gastrointestinal services, with satellite offices throughout the region.
- **Cooper Bone and Joint Institute** offers high-quality orthopaedic care with the latest technological advances. The integrated team includes fellowship-trained and board-certified experts in orthopaedics, rheumatology, podiatry, and rehabilitation for arthritis pain, sprains and strains, tendon or ligament injury, tendonitis, broken bones, dislocations, trauma, and more.
- **The Women's and Children's Institute** is home to the Children's Regional Hospital at Cooper, South Jersey's only state-designated hospital for children, offering 27 pediatric subspecialties. Women's health care services include obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, urogynecology, and the Ripa Center for Women's Health and Wellness at Cooper, which provides primary and multispecialty care, radiology services, and wellness education.
- **The Urban Health Institute** is redesigning health care to meet the needs of an underserved population. Its founding principle is to ensure that community residents have access to quality preventive care and the tools to manage complex medical conditions. This institute includes Cooper Advanced Care Center, with primary care and medical and surgical specialties, and the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, whose key role is knowledge dissemination and communication among organizations in Camden.

Centers of Excellence

- **The Center for Critical Care Services** provides the highest level of lifesaving inpatient care for seriously ill and injured patients. The Center is staffed by physician experts in sepsis, cardiogenic shock, and respiratory failure.
- **The Center for Urgent and Emergent Services** provides 24/7 access to immediate care, whether through the emergency department, 911 emergency medical services, toxicology, disaster medicine, air medical services, or the transfer center. Cooper urgent care centers take emergency department staffing to the community and offer extended day, evening, and weekend hours for patients of all ages.
- **The Center for Population Health** helps Cooper to implement new patient care strategies to improve patient experience and reduce costs.
- **The Center for Trauma Services** includes a Level I Adult Trauma Center and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center that cares for severely injured patients involved in motor vehicle crashes, falls, industrial accidents, and acts of violence. It offers an active community education program in trauma prevention and safety. Cooper is the only hospital in the region that provides trauma care for adults and children.

As one of the highest-volume trauma centers in the U.S., Cooper is recognized as a national leader in trauma care.



Cooper operates the only Level I trauma center in the nine counties of southern New Jersey, serving nearly 5,000 critically ill and severely injured people each year.

Looking ahead, we are confident that the Cooper team will continue to face all challenges head-on, while growing and enhancing our reputation as a regional leader in health care. We remain dedicated to providing hope and healing to those we serve.

GEORGE E. NORCROSS III

CHAIRMAN

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