

# General Surgery Residency Program

2024-2025



[cedars-sinai.org](https://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"  
eight years in a row!

**Regional Rank:**  
#1 in California  
#1 in Los Angeles

**Nationally Ranking Hospital** in 11 Adult Specialties and  
**Rated High Performing** in 20 adult specialty and  
conditions

<http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/area/ca/cedars-sinai-medical-center-6930444>



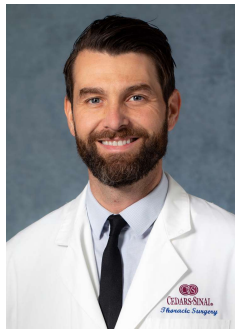
# Program Leadership



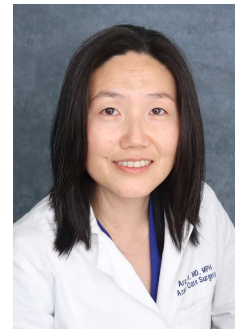
Cristina Ferrone, MD  
Chair, Department of Surgery



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, 3 preliminary surgical residents, 7 categorical residents on research and 95 faculty. Also rotating with our residents are 5 orthopaedic interns (6 rotations), 17 anesthesia interns (4 rotations), 2 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)



# 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, Wednesdays, 7-8am**
- **M&M Conference, weekly, Wednesdays, 8-9am**
- **Applied Science, 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 (2-4 times, annually)





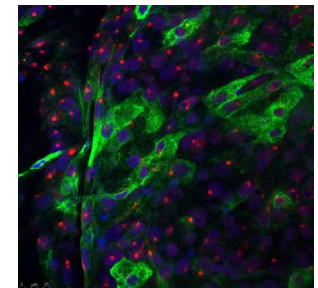
# About Women's Guild Simulation Center for Advanced Clinical Skills

- **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

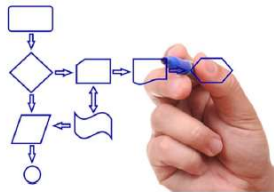
Led by Dr. Bruce Gewertz.

## 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

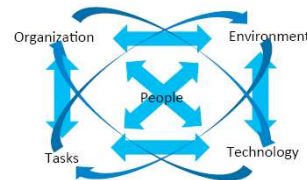


### Lean Six Sigma



- FCOTS, TAT, reducing errors & process variation

### Human Factors



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



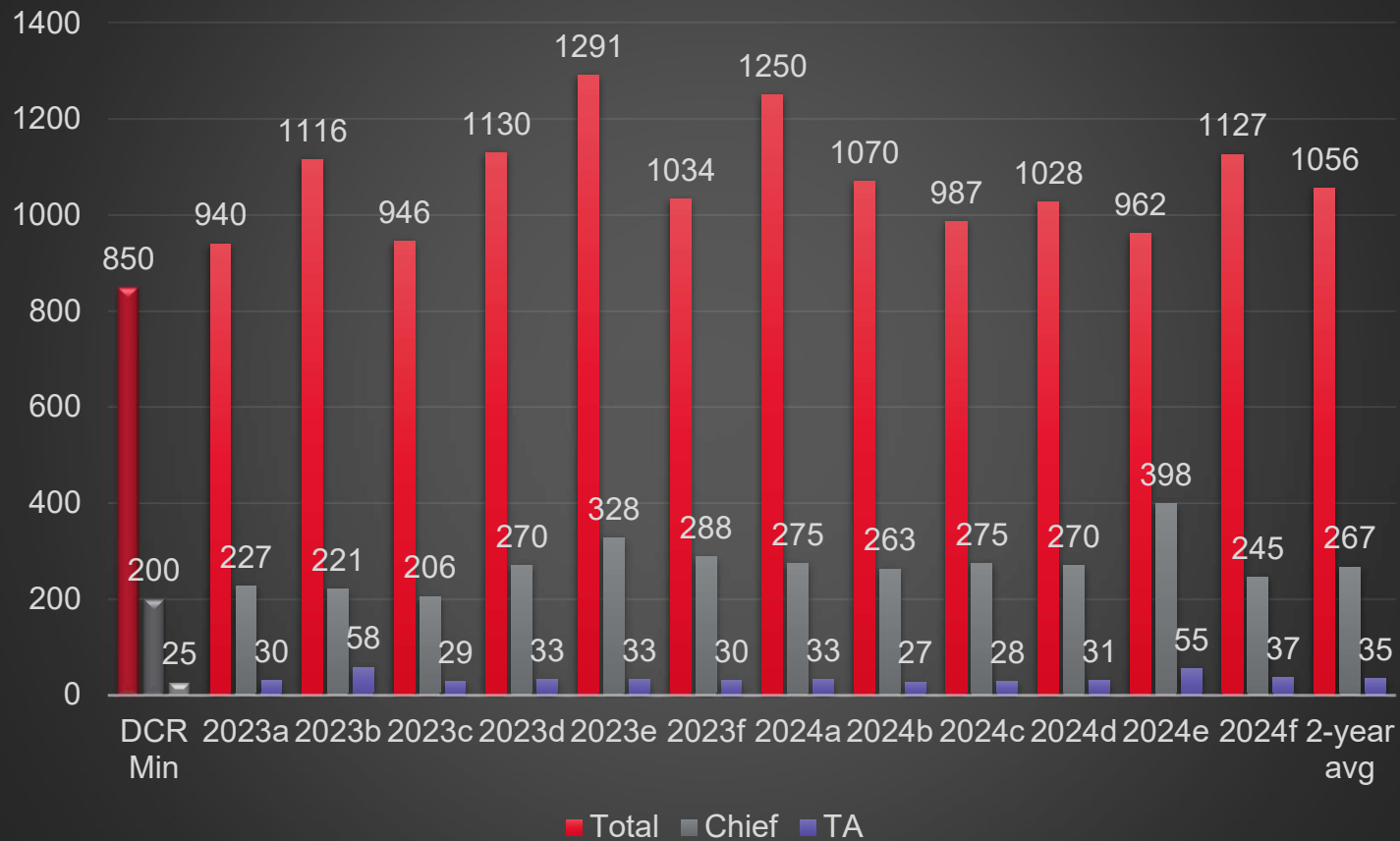
# About The Rotations

	# 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

## Operative Volumes, Chief Residents



## 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.

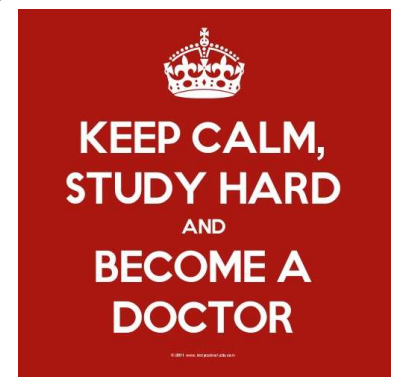
The Department of Surgery's Medical Student Education Program offers medical students a wide variety of opportunities to learn and grow. Our teaching faculty are dedicated to enhancing student education at all levels

- **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 Residents – R5



**Qitudong (Kevin) Chen, MD, MS**

MD: Case Western Reserve

Grad: Boston Univ

Hometown: Nanjing, China



**Timothy DiPeri, MD**

MD: E. Tennessee State Univ

UGRD: E. Tennessee State

Hometown: Franklin, TN

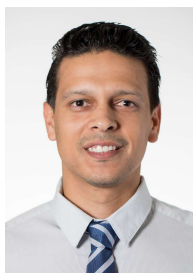


**Nicole Fierro, MD**

MD: Keck SOM of the USC

UGRD: UC, Los Angeles

Hometown: West Covina, CA



**Nicholas Gonsalves, MD**

MD: Univ of IL

UGRD: Wesleyan Univ

Hometown: Torrance, CA



**Greigory Park, MD**

MD: State Univ of New York Downstate

UGRD: The Pennsylvania State Univ

Hometown: Brooklyn, NY

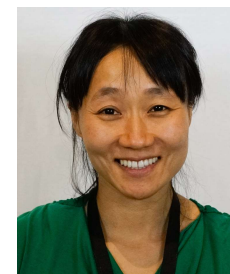
## About Our Residents – R4



**Michie Adjei, MD**  
MD: Tufts Univ  
UGRD: Univ of Central Florida  
Hometown: Vereeniging, South Africa



**Shelby Chun Fat, MD**  
MD: Tufts Univ  
UGRD: Loyola Marymount Univ  
Hometown: Honolulu, HI



**Susan Kuo, MD**  
MD: Harvard Medical School  
UGRD: Dartmouth College  
Hometown: Los Altos, CA



**William Lee, MD**  
MD: Univ of Hawaii, John A Burns SOM  
UGRD: UC, San Diego  
Hometown: Honolulu, HI



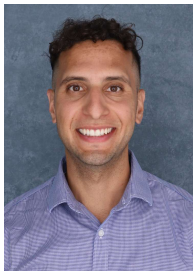
**Eileen Lu, MD**  
MD: New York Medical College  
UGRD: Duke Univ  
Hometown: Cupertino, CA



**Sandra (Aricia) Shen, MD**  
MD: UC, Irvine  
UGRD: Univ of Pennsylvania  
Hometown: Kaohsiung, Taiwan/Newport Beach, CA



## About Our Residents – R3



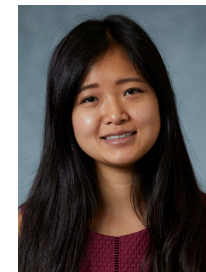
**Mohyee Ayouty, MD**

MD: Tufts Univ  
UGRD: UC, Berkeley  
Hometown: San Diego, CA



**Umar Bhatti, MD**

MD: Aga Khan Univ Medical College  
UGRD: Sadiq Public School  
Hometown: Bahawalpur, Pakistan



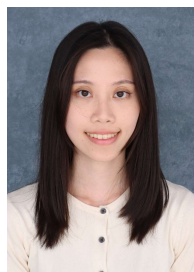
**Courtney Chen, MD**

MD: UC, San Diego  
UGRD: California Institute of Technology  
Hometown: Chicago, IL



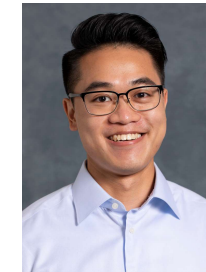
**Vikram Krishna, MD**

MD: UC, Los Angeles  
UGRD: Boston College  
Hometown: Torrance, CA



**Tiffany Lim, MD**

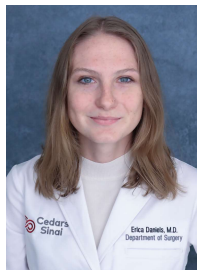
MD: Icahn School of Medicine at Mt.  
Sinai  
UGRD: UC, Los Angeles  
Hometown: Taipei, Taiwan



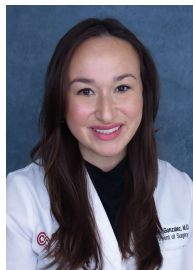
**Joshua Ng, MD**

MD: Thomas Jefferson Univ  
UGRD: Univ of Pennsylvania  
Hometown: Birmingham, AL

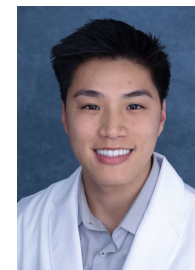
## About Our Residents – R2



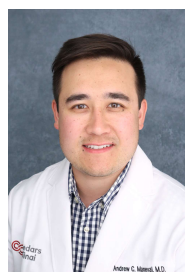
**Erica Daniels, MD**  
MD: Medical College of Wisconsin  
UGRD: Univ of Minnesota  
Hometown: Fond Du Lac, WI



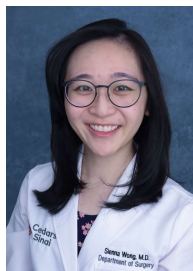
**Sophie Gonzalez, MD**  
MD: Drexel Univ  
UGRD: Wake Forest Univ  
Hometown: San Diego, CA



**Marvin Lu, MD**  
MD: Medical College of Wisconsin  
UGRD: UC, Los Angeles  
Hometown: Sacramento, CA



**Andrew Maneval, MD**  
MD: California Northstate  
UGRD: Univ of Chicago  
Hometown: Del Mar, CA



**Sienna Wong, MD**  
MD: Ohio State Univ  
UGRD: Wayne State Univ  
Hometown: Troy, MI



**Shannon Wong-Michalak, MD**  
MD: Keck SOM of the USC  
UGRD: UC, Berkeley  
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

# About Our Residents – R1



**Alan Amedi, MD**  
MD: Emory Univ SOM  
UGRD: Georgia State Univ  
Hometown: Atlanta, GA



**Drew Bolster, MD**  
MD: Georgetown Univ SOM  
UGRD: Georgetown Univ  
Hometown: St. Louis, MO



**Rayne Peerenboom, MD**  
MD: Univ of Chicago, Pritzker SOM  
UGRD: Vanderbilt Univ  
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA



**Lara Schwieger, MD**  
MD: Emory Univ SOM  
UGRD: Emory Univ SOM  
Hometown: Sherman Oaks, CA



**Samara Spence, MD**  
MD: Tufts Univ SOM  
UGRD: UC, Berkeley  
Hometown: Oak Park, CA



**Sharon Wu, MD**  
MD: Tufts Univ SOM  
UGRD: Yale Univ  
Hometown: Highlands Ranch, CO

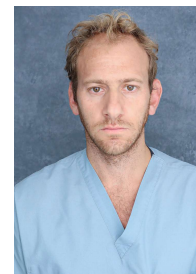
## About Our Residents – Prelim Residents



**Shahrzad Arya, MD**  
MD: Iran Univ of Med Sciences  
UGRD: Farzanegan School (NODET)  
Hometown: Shiraz, Iran



**Marco Ventin, MD**  
MD: Univ of Udine  
Hometown: Gorizia, Italy



**Ofir Ziv, MD**  
MD: Sackler School of Medicine  
UGRD: Tel Aviv Univ Faculty of Engineering  
Hometown: Tel Aviv, Israel



## About Our Residents – Research



**Monica Justo, MD**  
MD: DG SOM UCLA  
UGRD: Rice Univ  
Hometown: Chattanooga, TN



**Robert Matthews, MD**  
MD: Keck SOM of the USC  
UGRD: UC, Berkley  
Hometown: Campbell, CA



**Claire Perez, MD**  
MD: Temple Univ  
UGRD: Univ of Guam  
Hometown: Sinajana, Guam



**Armin (Allen) Razavi, MD**  
MD: Tufts Univ  
UGRD: Case Western Reserve Univ  
Hometown: Pleasanton, CA



**Adam Surti, MD**  
MD: Washington Univ  
UGRD: UC, Berkeley  
Hometown: Palos Verdes, CA



**Lucas Weiser, MD**  
MD: UC, San Francisco  
UGRD: Brown Univ  
Hometown: Los Alamitos, CA



**Liti Zhang, MD**  
MD: Temple Univ  
UGRD: Johns Hopkins Univ  
Hometown: Erie, PA

## About Our Graduates – Where did our 2024 Graduates Match to?



### Left to Right

**Rami Srouji, MD**

Fellowship: Complex General Surgical Oncology  
Institution: Mt. Sinai Hospital

**Evan Adams, MD**

Fellowship: Colorectal Surgery  
Institution: Ohio State University

**Stephanie Chen, MD**

Fellowship: Pediatric Surgery  
Institution: Medical College of Wisconsin

**Lucille Yao, MD**

Fellowship: Colorectal Surgery  
Institution: University of Rochester

**Varshini Mohan, MD**

Fellowship: Breast Surgical Oncology  
Institution: MD Anderson Cancer Center

**Amy Chartrain, MD**

Fellowship: Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Institution: Cedars Sinai Medical Center

# 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

<b>2023</b>	<b>Fellowships</b>	<b>Institution</b>
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
<b>2022</b>	<b>Fellowships</b>	<b>Institution</b>
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

<b>2021</b>	<b>Fellowships</b>	<b>Institution</b>
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
<b>2020</b>	<b>Fellowships</b>	<b>Institution</b>
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

**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 Tuesday, October 1, 2024 to allow time for review.**

# Contact Us

## Van Chau

Program Manager  
General Surgery Residency Program  
8700 Beverly Blvd., 8215NT  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Phone: 310-423-6637

Email: [Van.Chau@cshs.org](mailto:Van.Chau@cshs.org)

## Medina Cheek

Program Coordinator  
Medical Students / Skills Lab  
8700 Beverly Blvd., 8215NT  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Phone: 310-423-4508

Email: [Medina.Cheek@cshs.org](mailto:Medina.Cheek@cshs.org)

## 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](https://padlet.com/csmcgensurg/GenSurg_CS)