



GREATER NEW YORK HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION & UNITED HOSPITAL FUND  
**CLINICAL QUALITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**  
**2022–23 FELLOWS**



**Mina Attaalla, DO**  
Assistant Medical Director  
& Director, Medical Simulation,  
Emergency Medicine  
SBH Health System

Mina Attaalla, DO, is a practicing board certified Emergency Physician who completed his medical school education at Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in Harlem and his residency training at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx. Dr. Attaalla started his career in medical education, which culminated in the use of medical simulation to improve clinical and systems processes specifically with multidisciplinary teams to improve a patient's clinical experience and to identify preverbal holes in the workflow and processes of patient care. He progressed into a combined leadership/education role as both the assistant medical director of emergency medicine and director of medical simulation. Dr. Attaalla's core focus as associate medical director is on patient safety, improving clinical care, and ultimately provide the highest quality care with the added benefit of training through medical simulation. Dr. Attaalla's hobbies include 3D printing, creating low-cost, high-impact task trainers for resident education, traveling with his family, and woodworking.



**Jenna Blind, RN, DNP, MS**  
Manager, Nursing Quality  
NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island  
(NYU Health)

Jenna Blind is the Manager for Nursing Quality and Magnet at NYU Langone Hospital-Long Island. She has held several positions in the nursing profession, including Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Staff Nurse, Specialist in Clinical Informatics, and Manager for Clinical Revenue Cycle. She completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Chamberlain University and holds a Master of Nursing Administration with Informatics and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Molloy College. Jenna is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quali-

ty (CPHQ) from the National Association for Healthcare Quality and an Alumnus Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN) through the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Jenna is the proud mom of her nine-year-old daughter Dylan and enjoys singing, playing mahjong, and watching movies.



**Johanna Cabassa, MD**  
Director, Intensive Psychiatric Outpatient  
Program and Geriatric Psychiatry Track  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi  
(NYC H+H)

Johanna Cabassa, MD, is Jacobi Behavioral Healthcare Services Outpatient Department Director. Dr. Cabassa completed a residency in psychiatry at Metropolitan Hospital Center and a fellowship in geriatric psychiatry at Montefiore Medical Center. She then completed a fellowship in electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) at Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Cabassa's first role out of training included helping implement an integrated care psychiatry program at Montefiore Medical Group. She later worked in inpatient psychiatry at Montefiore Medical Center, where she participated in ECT service, residency training, and collaborating with a multidisciplinary team to develop the COVID-19-positive inpatient psychiatry unit. Prior, Dr. Cabassa served as the director of the Jacobi Psychiatric Intensive Outpatient Program. Her special interests include treatment-resistant depression, enhancing outpatient care, and geriatric psychiatry.



**Tracey Capers, RN**  
Director, Nursing  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue  
(NYC H+H)

Tracey Capers is the Director of Nursing in Ambulatory Care at NYC H+H Bellevue Hospital. She has served patients in various health care settings, including large teaching hospitals, not-for-profit community health

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centers, and public health nursing. She has worked as a staff nurse providing direct clinical care, clinical manager overseeing staff and clinical departments, educator focused on patient education and staff development, and health care administrator around program development and implementation. Her professional goal is to grow in the field of QI under Ambulatory Care's banner. She is excited about participating and creating QI projects and metric/data utilization to improve patient safety, patient outcomes, and enhanced staff engagement. Ms. Capers has a Doctor of Health Administration degree from the University of Virginia at Lynchburg, an MPA from Pace University, and an MS from Columbia University. She is certified in Ambulatory Care Nursing and Diabetes Care and Education. She is a member of the American Diabetes Association, Association of Ambulatory Care Nurses, and American Nurses Association, where she volunteers as a nurse mentor.



**Lisa Casale, MD, FCCP**  
Private Practice Physician  
Hackensack Meridian JFK University  
Medical Center  
(Hackensack Meridian Health)

Lisa Casale, MD, Casale practices Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at JFK University Hospital in New Jersey. After completing her residency and fellowship at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, she moved back to her home state of New Jersey where she joined an independent private practice. As her hospital transitions to a community-based academic medical center, providing high-quality medical care remains a top priority. As a clinician, Dr. Casale understands the challenges that physicians in her community face. Implementing best practice initiatives remains challenging in a large community hospital comprising diverse practitioners. She serves on many hospital committees and chairs several committees, including the Epic Advisory Committee, which she organized to address the challenges around implementing and maximizing the use of electronic medical records. Dr. Casale is the current President of the Medical Staff and will focus on organizing the medical staff by implementing initiatives to improve delivery and quality of care. She is currently organizing a Pulmonary Embolism Response team to improve care for patients with pulmonary emboli. Dr. Casale loves challenges and wel-

comes multidisciplinary collaboration. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, hiking, and traveling with her family.



**Corey Champeau, PA-C, MBA, CPHQ, CPPS**  
Director, Quality & Safety  
The Hospital of Central Connecticut –  
New Britain Campus  
(Hartford HealthCare)

Corey Champeau is the Senior System Director of Quality and Safety for Hartford HealthCare, responsible for integrating excellence in quality and patient safety throughout the health system. Overseeing quality, patient safety, and regulatory activity in the Central Region, and quality and patient safety leadership for the system, she works collaboratively with the medical staff, senior leadership, nursing staff, other employees, board members, and patients to instill a culture whereby everyone focuses on performance improvement. Corey attributes her success to amazing mentors and the ability to influence change using the Institute for Healthcare Improvement methodology for process improvement. She is focused on dyad partnerships with multidisciplinary engagement in change science to decrease adverse events, improve efficiency of care, and align patient experience with the value equation. Corey resides in Avon with her two children and Bernese Mountain dog.



**Desiree Chow, MD**  
Associate Medical Director  
Mount Sinai Beth Israel  
(Mount Sinai Health System)

Desiree Chow, MD, was born and raised in New York City. She completed her medical degree at the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate and her Internal Medicine Residency at Mount Sinai Beth Israel. She currently serves as the Associate Medical Director at General Medical Associates, the largest primary care practice at Mount Sinai Beth Israel and continuity clinic for the Internal Medicine house staff. Dr. Chow also functions as the practice's quality champion and hopes to use the skills she learns from the program to promote quality and safety in the outpatient setting.

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**John Ciannella, MD**  
Director, Neonatology  
Stamford Hospital

John F. Ciannella, MD, is a fellowship-trained and board-certified Neonatologist who since 2008 cares for newborn infants—specifically, babies who are born premature or diagnosed with complex medical and rare conditions and those who are critically ill. John was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He completed his residency and fellowship training at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York, which is part of Northwell Health. He joined Stamford Hospital in 2011 and is now the Director of the Division of Neonatology where he oversees the care and management of newborns and premature babies, and treats neonatal emergencies that arise either during or after birth. As Director of the Stamford Health Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Infant Clinical Evaluation (NICE) program, Dr. Ciannella follows former NICU patients who were born at a very low birth weight (<1,500g) or at less than 32 weeks gestation. The NICE program is used to assess the growth, development, and nutrition of former NICU patients to identify delays, provide education, and ensure that all follow-up instructions and testing are completed. In his free time, Dr. Ciannella enjoys sports, exercise, and outdoor activities with his family and friends.



**Christopher Dotoratos, RN, MSN, RNBC, NEABC**  
Patient Care Director  
NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital (NYP)

Christopher Dotoratos is a Registered Nurse (RN) at NYP Lawrence Hospital. He is the Patient Care Director of Oncology overseeing the Outpatient Medical Oncology offices, the Outpatient Infusion Center, Radiation Oncology, the Vascular Access Team, and the Inpatient Oncology departments. Mr. Dotoratos has worked for NYP Lawrence Hospital as an RN for the past 11 years, advancing from the bedside to Nurse Educator and now Patient Care Director. He obtained his Baccalaureate in nursing and his Master of Nursing Leadership degree from the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale NY. He is currently focused on his doctoral degree in nursing leadership enrolled at Chamberlain University.



**Bryant Faria, MD**  
Co-Director, Inpatient Quality  
Long Island Jewish Medical Center  
(Northwell Health)

Bryant Faria, MD, is a hospitalist and co-director of inpatient quality at Long Island Jewish Medical Center. Dr. Faria obtained his medical degree from the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and completed his internal medicine residency at Montefiore Medical Center. Dr. Faria is involved in the Society of Hospital Medicine (SMH) and serves as president of the SHM Long Island Chapter. His professional interests include quality improvement (QI), transitions of care, and resident education.



**Arpit Gupta, MD, FAAP**  
Attending Physician, Neonatology and Pediatrics  
NYC Health + Hospital/Queens  
(NYC H+H)

Arpit Gupta, MD, is a neonatologist at NYC H+H/Metropolitan Hospital Center and is an assistant clinical professor at New York Medical College since 2016. He is board-certified in Pediatrics and Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, having trained at the Brooklyn Hospital Center and the NYU Grossman School of Medicine. He currently manages a Level 3 NICU with his team and helps teach and supervise pediatric residents in their scholarly efforts. His interests include general neonatology, neonatal ventilation, and quality control.



**Rachel Jacob, MS, RN, CCRN-K, NEA-BC, RN-BC**  
Associate Director, Nursing; Informatics  
Coordinator & Nursing School Clinical  
Placement Coordinator, Staff Development  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens  
(NYC H+H)

Rachel Jacob is board-certified nurse informaticist at NYC H+H/Queens. She has been a bedside nurse for 22 years and a nurse leader for 11. Rachel’s daily responsibilities

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include improving Epic workflow processes, identifying and addressing gaps in clinical practice, and standardizing policies to improve and sustain quality indicators. Her efforts helped to improve efficiency and compliance in nursing documentation and streamline usability of Epic platform for nurses by adopting evidence-based practice standards. She is also involved in data analysis for Performance Improvement and QI projects like Barcode Medication Administration scanning compliance and documentation compliance. Rachel also has been a clinical placement coordinator for undergraduate and graduate student nurses. The GNYHA and United Hospital Fund Clinical Quality Fellowship Program will help improve her skills around designing safe systems, developing and implementing QI initiatives, learning quality measurement tools and techniques, and improving care coordination.



**Andrew Michael Jacobowitz, PA-C, MS**  
Associate Chief Physician Assistant  
NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell  
Medical Center  
(NYP)

Mr. Andrew Jacobowitz has been the Associate Chief Physician Assistant for the Department of Emergency Medicine (EM) at NYP/Weill Cornell Medicine (WCM) since 2019. He graduated the Pace University-Lenox Hill Physician Assistant (PA) program in 2014 and completed a post-graduate physician assistant residency in EM at NYP/WCM immediately after graduating. Prior to becoming a PA, he was a volunteer firefighter and critical care emergency medical technician in his hometown on Long Island. In his seven years at Cornell, Andrew has grown from a staff PA to a department leader. He has organized two national EM APP conferences, has led a QI project around ED wound care, and has recently helped review ED “bounce-backs.”



**Manisha Jain, MD**  
Attending Physician  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln  
(NYC H+H)

Dr. Manisha Jain completed her residency at SUNY Downstate University, Brooklyn, NY, and has

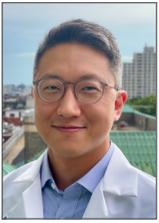
been working at Lincoln Hospital as a Generalist Obstetrician and Gynecologist for the past 12 years. She feels privileged to have participated in resident teaching, patient care, and helping ready the next generation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Working with the inner city’s underserved population has always motivated her to be a patient advocate and seek measures to improve health care and make it more accessible for patients. Before the COVID-19 era, Dr. Jain worked on a pilot project on Group Prenatal Care that provided holistic care to pregnant patients as a group, including their caretakers, who helped provide care. She is a member of the Federation-Based Collaborative Council, which brings administrators and direct patient care providers together to identify measures to improve patient care.



**Donnette Kelly, BSN**  
Assistant Director, Post-Anesthesia Care  
Unit  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi  
(NYC H+H)

Donnette Kelly is the Assistant Director in the Post-Anesthesia Care and Ambulatory Surgery Care Units in Jacobi Hospital, a Level 1 trauma hospital. After obtaining her first nursing degree, she was at Jacobi Medical Center as a staff nurse in the Medical/Surgical Service. Over the years, she has worked in Hemodialysis, the Burn Unit, the Surgical Step-down Unit, and the Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU). In the ICU, Ms. Kelly found her niche in trauma care and her career gained momentum. She gained much satisfaction from overcoming difficult situations and bringing people together for a common clinical goal. In the SICU, she was encouraged to pursue a leadership role and became the Head Nurse. Ms. Kelly is the recipient of the Lorraine Tregde Patient Safety Leadership Award for her efforts around reducing hospital infections in the SICU. Ms. Kelly believes an educated woman is the fundamental cornerstone and bedrock of our society, and that the contributions of women in our local communities and worldwide highlight the vital role women have played in politics, education, public health, science, and much more. Ms. Kelly was born and raised in St. Ann, Jamaica, before she came to the US at age 16.

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### **Jason Lee, MD**

Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology and Director, Quality Assurance  
Icahn School of Medicine  
& Anesthesiology, Pain and Perioperative  
Medicine

Mount Sinai Morningside & West  
(Mount Sinai Health System)

Dr. Jason Lee is an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at Mount Sinai West and Morningside Hospitals and serves as the department's Quality Assurance director. He is a graduate of Weill Cornell Medical College and completed his anesthesiology residency at Mount Sinai Hospital. He has a strong clinical focus on anesthesia for neurosurgical procedures but is also fellowship trained in regional and thoracic anesthesia. Dr. Lee has enjoyed chairing the case review committee and supporting his colleagues through the Root Cause Analysis process. He continues to seek opportunities to educate residents and improve patient safety through the use of simulation in the peri-operative and obstetric settings.



### **Jean Lesko, MD**

Associate Emergency Department  
Director  
White Plains Hospital  
(Montefiore Health System, Inc.)

Jean Lesko, MD, has been the Associate Director of the Emergency Department at White Plains Hospital for the past year. She completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital in New York City in 2011. Dr. Lesko's first attending job was at White Plains Hospital and she has been there ever since. She seeks to develop skills and gain knowledge in Clinical Quality, which will greatly benefit her department.



### **Kristina Melchert, MD, FAAP**

Pediatric Hospitalist & Assistant Professor  
of Pediatrics  
Maria Fareri Children's Hospital  
(Westchester Medical Center)

Kristina Melchert, MD, was born and raised on Long Island. She graduated from Siena College in Albany, NY, with a BS in Biology and a BA in Spanish. She earned her medical degree at New York Medical College in Valhalla, NY, and completed her pediatric training at Cohen Children's Medical Center of the Northwell Health System on Long Island. Dr. Melchert completed a year of Chief Residency at Long Island Children's Hospital at Stony Brook University before beginning a career in pediatric hospital medicine. She has worked at several community and children's hospitals in both pediatric hospital medicine and in urgent care and has been the Co-Assistant Director of Pediatric Hospital Medicine at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla since 2013. Dr. Melchert is interested in QI and patient safety and has developed a QI and Patient Safety Competencies curricula for medical students and pediatric residents. She spends much of her nonclinical time serving on various hospital quality committees and councils and is Chairman of the Pediatric Pharmacy & Therapeutic subcommittee. Dr. Melchert resides in Putnam County with her husband and two young sons. She is involved in the community and serves as physician liaison for the Mahopac School District Health & Safety Committee. In her free time, Dr. Melchert enjoys spending time outdoors, fishing, hiking, and enjoying the Hudson Valley.



### **Sylvan Munroe, RN, MS**

Clinical Nurse Manager  
Flushing Hospital Medical Center  
(Medisys Health Network, Inc.)

Sylvan Munroe is a dedicated and committed Registered Nurse (RN) with extensive experience providing quality care to a culturally diverse population of patients. She can facilitate groups and running and building positive relationships with patients and their families. Ms. Munroe is dedicated to achieving the highest standard of excellence, best practices, and working cooperatively with the entire health care team to ensure optimal patient care. She is currently employed at Flushing Hospital Medical Center as the nurse manager in the Intensive Care Units (the Medical, Surgical, and Coronary Care Units). Ms. Munroe earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science from Long Island University-C.W. Post

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Campus. Her areas of expertise include Staff Nurse on the Medical/Surgical Unit, Assistant Head Nurse on the Telemetry Unit, and Staff Nurse in the Recovery Room. Additionally, she was a Case Manager collaborating daily with physicians and interdisciplinary teams to coordinate all aspects of patient care. Her passion is to become a Nurse Educator who mentors future nurses.



**Iram Nadroo, MD, MTS, FAAP**  
Attending, General Pediatrics; Director,  
Quality and Patient Safety, Pediatrics  
& Assistant Professor, Clinical Pediatrics  
NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist  
Hospital  
(NYP)

Iram Nadroo, MD, is an attending physician in the Pediatrics department at NYP Brooklyn Methodist Hospital. She is also the director of QI and Patient Safety for her department. Dr. Nadroo completed her residency at NYP Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and is board certified in General Pediatrics. She also holds a Master's in Theological Studies. Dr. Nadroo is committed to encouraging her colleagues and residents to engage with the science of improvement and is looking forward to this invaluable learning experience.



**Jennifer Pavone, RN, NP**  
Director, Transplant Operations  
NYU Langone Hospital  
(NYU Langone Health)

Jennifer Pavone, NP, is the Director of Transplant Operations at NYU Langone Health. She obtained her Bachelor's in Nursing at the University of Delaware in 2010. She began her nursing career at NYU Langone Health in the Surgical/Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. She joined the Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) team in 2014 and graduated from New York University with her Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Master's Degree in 2015. Jennifer became the manager of the Heart Failure, LVAD, and Heart Transplant Programs and helped with the startup of the heart transplant program here, which was ranked number one in the country for the past

three years. In her current role, she oversees operations of all solid organ transplant programs, including their regulatory, quality, data, and financial aspects.



**Debra Robbins, RN, NP, MBA, MS**  
Acting Manager, Quality and Patient Safety  
NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia  
University Irving Medical Center  
(NYP)

Debra Robbins is an Acting Manager of Quality and Patient Safety at NYP-Presbyterian Hospital. Prior, she worked clinically as a Cardiac Care Unit Nurse at Mount Sinai and an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the heart failure/LVAD service at NYU Langone. She earned her MBA and MS in Healthcare Leadership from Cornell University. She received a BSN and MSN from the University of Pennsylvania.



**Elaine M. Schaefer, DO**  
Family Medicine & Associate Medical  
Director, Medicine Service Line, Eastern  
Region  
South Shore University Hospital  
(Northwell Health)

Elaine M. Schaefer, DO, is a graduate of the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her undergraduate studies at the New York Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree. Dr. Schaefer trained at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip, NY, at the Department of Family Medicine during her residency. She also served as Chief Resident. Dr. Schaefer holds certifications from the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians in Family Practice and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment. She has been practicing outpatient Family Medicine for Northwell Health, South Shore University Hospital in Bayshore, NY, since 2010. She currently services as an Associate Medical Director for the Medicine Service Line. She is also a member of the Katz Institute for Women's Health.

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### **Shellyann Sharpe, MD**

Assistant Director, Emergency Services  
NYC Health + Hospitals/North Central  
Bronx  
(NYC H+H)

Shellyann Sharpe, MD, obtained her medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. Prior to matriculation to medical school, she spent two years as a PRE-CRTA Fellow at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD. She completed her EM residency at Jacobi/Montefiore. Dr. Sharpe currently practices in the Bronx at both Jacobi Medical Center, a Level 1 trauma center, and North Central Bronx Hospital, a community-based hospital. Dr. Sharpe currently serves in dual roles as Assistant Director of Emergency Services at North Central Bronx Hospital and an Associate Program Director for EM Residency at Jacobi. Her interests include QI measures and examining the impacts of social determinants of health on patients' ability to access and receive care.



### **William Vail, MD, MPH**

Site Medical Director, Registered Nurse  
Delegation of Care Program & Medical  
Director, KEEP Substance Use Division  
Correctional Health Services  
(NYC Health + Hospitals)

William Vail, MD, was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. He studied International Relations at the University of Chicago, and after graduation, worked for two years as an English teacher in Pohang, South Korea. Upon returning to the US, he studied biochemistry at the Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. He then returned to New Orleans to study medicine and public health/tropical medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine and School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, where he worked with community groups on medical care for individuals being released from long-term incarceration. He added residency at Montefiore Medical Center's Primary Care and Social Internal Medicine Program, where he also acted as Chief Resident. He currently works for NYC H+H's Correctional Health Services as Medical Director of the KEEP Substance Use Division and the site Medical Director of the Robert N. Davoren Complex Jail on Riker's Island.



### **Erwin Wang, MD, MHA**

Medical Director, Medicine Nurse  
Practitioner Service; Physician Advisor  
& Hospitalist  
NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn  
(NYU Langone Health)

Erwin Wang, MD, is a hospitalist and physician adviser at NYU Langone Hospital-Brooklyn. He has published and spoken nationally about his work at NYU Langone Health, which has included initiatives around clinical documentation improvement, throughput, and length-of-stay initiatives, end-of-life supportive care, and numerous value-based management projects. Dr. Wang is also currently the Medical Director of the General Medicine Nurse Practitioner Service. He completed his undergraduate studies at Cornell University and medical school at Georgetown University. Dr. Wang completed internal medicine residency at NYU Grossman School of Medicine.



### **Jing Wang, MD**

Assistant Professor  
The Mount Sinai Hospital  
(Mount Sinai Health System)

Jing Wang, MD, is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital. Dr. Wang received her medical degree from the Stony Brook School of Medicine. She completed her Internal Medicine Residency and Pulmonary & Critical Care Fellowship at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, followed by the Sleep Medicine Fellowship at NYU Langone Medical Center. Dr. Wang's clinical interests include general pulmonary, sleep medicine, respiratory failure, and inpatient management of sleep around breathing disorders. She is currently the medical director of the Mount Sinai sleep lab located at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai - Main Campus. She has been involved in QI initiatives since joining Mount Sinai and is one of the QI champions of her division.

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### Lili Wei, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Maternal Fetal Medicine  
NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn  
(NYU Langone Health)

Dr. Lili S. Wei is a Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) specialist at NYU Langone Health—Brooklyn. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, and medical school at the University of California, Irvine. She completed residency at Los Angeles County + USC School of Medicine (LAC+USC). She worked in private practice for a year before pursuing a fellowship in MFM at University of California, Irvine. Upon completing her MFM fellowship, she returned to her residency institution to work with an underserved patient population. At LAC+USC she served as the department's QI lead, where her passion for quality and patient safety started. Subsequently, she started her position at NYU Langone Brooklyn. She has won several teaching awards from residents and students. Her research interests include hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, preeclampsia, and QI within Obstetrics. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three kids, traveling, trying new restaurants, and exploring New York City.



### Linda Wong, MD, MPH

Attending Physician  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst  
(NYC H+H)

Linda Wong, MD, is an attending physician at NYC H+H/Elmhurst who currently leads HIV prevention and sexual health programs within the Virology Clinic. She is a graduate of MIT and received her medical degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. She completed her internal medicine residency at NYC H+H/Elmhurst, followed by a year as the internal medicine chief resident. She trained in public health and data science as a preventive medicine resident at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and received her Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. She is board certified in internal medicine and preventive medicine/public health. She is interested in health care in

high-need communities and how advances in health information technology can be used to measure disparities and improve quality and patient safety equitably in marginalized patient populations.



### Milana Zaurova, MD

Director, Palliative Quality and Equity,  
Quality and Safety, Central Office  
NYC Health + Hospitals  
(NYC H+H)

Milana Zaurova, MD, is a palliative care trained emergency medicine physician who is passionate about palliative care quality and equity in the safety net. She completed her undergraduate studies in public policy at Princeton University and earned her medical degree at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) via the Humanities and Medicine Program. After residency in Emergency Medicine and fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at ISMMS, Dr. Zaurova continued her clinical work at NYC Health + Hospitals (H+H)/Elmhurst. In 2019, Dr. Zaurova joined OneCity Health, a NYC H+H subsidiary, to lead a taskforce to enhance palliative care services across the New York City public health system, and has since transitioned to the Department of Quality and Safety. Dr. Zaurova immigrated to the United States from the former Soviet Union as a refugee in 1990. She is fluent in Russian, Spanish, English, and is learning Portuguese. Her hobbies include Latin dance, travel, and exploring New York City with her family.