

MAKING THE ROUNDS

APRIL 2018

THE VALLEY FEVER INSTITUTE AT KERN MEDICAL

Earlier this month, Russell Judd, Kern Medical CEO and Erica Easton, Kern Medical Foundation Executive Director spent the day in Sacramento to support a budget request for funding the Valley Fever Institute. Our next step will be at a hearing before the Senate in late April. We have been working with Senator Jean Fuller, Assemblymen Vince Fong & Rudy Salas on this request.

The Valley Fever Institute has the unique position of being located in the heart of the largest population of patients suffering from Coccidioidomycosis (commonly known as Valley Fever), since most cases originate from the spores that lie in the soil of Kern County.

After decades of serving the Central Valley community, we are poised to increase our reach to better meet the demands of the community and throughout the state and country. We have the physician expertise to educate physicians on proper patient diagnosis and treatment, as well as train future Infectious Disease experts. By helping to expand the Valley Fever Institute, Kern Medical will have a more robust team focused on researching new



protocols for those afflicted with this debilitating disease.

We have an ideal geographic location to create a state-of-the-art research and treatment facility. The proposal includes the cost to build and maintain a repository for specimens that could be used for numerous studies beyond Kern Medical. Valley Fever has an enormous economic impact on the state –in the form of medical costs, and lost time on the job.

A key part of the funding will allow us to renovate and expand the clinic environment to meet the increased patient population. Our current clinic space does not meet the number of patients that need treatment, especially since Kern Medical offers treatments and procedures for Valley Fever not available anywhere else in the world.

Expanding the Valley Fever Institute will allow us to continue our mission to increase education & awareness for the public, patients and health care providers; provide the best patient care available and promote research that includes epidemiology, clinical drug development, prevention, immunology and immunizations.

Dr. Royce Johnson, Clinical Director of the Valley Fever Institute summarizes our role in 6 P's:

- Public Education
- Patient Education
- Provider Education
- Patient Care
- Promote Research
- Prevention of Valley Fever

For more information about the Valley Fever Institute, visit us at ValleyFeverInstitute.com.

VALLEY FEVER RESEARCH STUDY


The Valley Fever Institute recently welcomed Dana Brucker, RN to the team. Dana is the Research Manager and is coordinating the Fleet Study.

Adults diagnosed with pneumonia meeting study criteria may inquire about this research study for early treatment of Valley Fever. This study seeks to treat possible Valley Fever illness before the test results are available. If someone does have Valley Fever pneumonia, early treatment may prevent serious effects on health from the fungus that causes Valley Fever.

Your patient may be eligible for this study if they:

- Have been diagnosed with community-acquired pneumonia (CAP).
- Were treated with an antibiotic and are at least 18 years of age and have a prescription for CAP antibiotic treatment.
- Contact the study phone number at 661.706.6748 within 48 hours of receiving an antibiotic for pneumonia.

For more information about the Fleet Study [click here](#).



Valley Fever Institute

*Diagnose.
Treat.
Cure.*

To learn more, visit
ValleyFeverInstitute.com
or call (661) 706-6748



To read the previous issue of *Making the Rounds* [click here](#).

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

DR. JOSE PEREZ JR.

The University of Houston has named Dr. Jose Perez Jr. as an executive to oversee the development of the new residency and fellowship programs

in partnership with the HCA Gulf Coast Division. Dr. Perez spent 15 years at Kern Medical, first as the Internal Residency Director and then

as Director of Medical Education. For more on the article [click here](#).

GEORGE GIRGIS, MD

George Girgis, MD a former Kern Medical Family Medicine Resident was recently welcomed in the International Association of HealthCare and has an upcoming publication in The Leading Physicians of the World. He is an established Family Medicine Physician

and Addiction Medicine Specialist currently serving as Chief Medical Director within the Aegis Treatment Center in Bakersfield, California, a network of advanced treatment programs for narcotic addiction.

<http://markets.wnd.com/worldnetdaily/news/read/35624101/venerated-family-medicine-physician-and-addiction-medicine-specialist>



Did you know that Kern Medical is on Instagram?

Follow us [@KernMedical_health](#) to stay up to date on all things Kern Medical.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW RESIDENTS & FELLOWS, WHO WILL BE STARTING AT KERN MEDICAL ON 7/1/18.

Welcome to the following new residents and fellows, who will be starting at Kern Medical on 7/1/18.



EMERGENCY MEDICINE (4 YEARS)

Ikechukwu Amobi* (Howard University College of Medicine, Washington D.C.)

Shelah Hayes* (Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica)

Sean Heavey (Boston University School of Medicine, Massachusetts)

Cory Johnson (Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California)

Nanse Mendoza*+ (Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, UCLA)

David Poulder (Albany Medical College, New York)

Cuauhtlehuantzin Rangel (Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York)

GENERAL SURGERY (5 YEARS)

Andrew Dockter (University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Grand Forks)

James Linden (University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, Honolulu)

GENERAL SURGERY PRELIMINARY (1 YEAR & APPLY TO A RESIDENCY, WHICH REQUIRES A PRIOR YEAR OF TRAINING IN A SURGERY PROGRAM)

Christopher Gonzalez (Touro University of California, Nevada)

Megan McElfresh* (Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica)

INTERNAL MEDICINE (3 YEARS)

Tushar Bajaj (American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, St. Maarten)

Jasbir Bhaika* (American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, St. Maarten)

Serghei Burcovschii* (American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, St. Maarten)

Charles Clark (University of Mississippi School of Medicine, Jackson)

David Contreras* (Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica)

Carlos D'Assumpcao (Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica)

Sara Jaka (St. George's University

School of Medicine, Grenada)

Manasa Kalluri (St. George's University School of Medicine, Grenada)

Nadia Raza (Aga Khan University Medical College, Pakistan)

Houtan, Afshar (Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Iran)

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY (4 YEARS)

Alexandra Neiman (Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)

Minerva Pineda (Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, UCLA)

Ignacio Santana (Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Rhode Island)

PSYCHIATRY (4 YEARS)

Homero Camacho (Ponce Health Sciences University, Puerto Rico)

(continued on next page)



Celebrating Doctors Day!

Everardo Cobos, MD Chair, Department of Medicine & Juan Lopez, MD Chair, Department of OB/GYN

Fereshteh Hajsadeghi (Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Iran)

Matthew Louie (Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California)

Sarah Pospos (Universitas Katolik Indonesia, Jakarta)

Chandan Samra (American University of Antigua, St. John's)

Rama Yasaei (American University of Antigua, St. John's)

CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY FELLOWSHIP (2 YEARS)

Samantha Madziarski *+ (UCLA-Kern Psychiatry Residency Program, Bakersfield)

Ahsan Sohel * (UCLA-Kern Psychiatry Residency Program, Bakersfield)

Sarayu Vasan (UCLA-Kern Psychiatry Residency Program, Bakersfield)

RIO BRAVO FAMILY MEDICINE.CLINICA SIERRA VISTA (3 YEARS)

John Chijioke (University of Nigeria Faculty of Medicine, Nigeria)

Fermin Garmendia (Universidad de Ciencias Medicas de la Habana, Cuba)

Joseph Gomes * (American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine, St. Maarten)

Monica Kumar *+ (American University of the Caribbean School of

Medicine, St. Maarten)

Terrance McGill *+ (Ross University School of Medicine, Dominica)

Roberto Velasquez Amador (Universidad de Ciencias de la Salud, Guadalajara, Mexico)

* Rotated at Kern Medical
+ Kern County Natives

PHARMACY (1 YEAR)

Frantze Agtarap (University of Pacific, Stockton, California)

Robert Chiles (Loma Linda University, California)

UPCOMING EVENTS



18th Annual *Kern Medical Research Forum*

Join us for a stimulating evening to learn about the exciting research being done at Kern Medical by our residents, fellows and faculty.

Date

May 2, 2018

Location

*Bakersfield Country Club
4200 Country Club Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93306*

Time

*5:00 pm - Poster Viewing
5:30pm - Program*



61st Annual Kern Medical Resident & Fellow Graduation

"You are now graduates and ambassadors of Kern Medical. Wear your white coat with pride and remember that what we do is a privilege. Patients entrust us during the most vulnerable moments of their lives, and look to us to for help and guidance."

SOCIETY OF GYNECOLOGIC SURGEONS

Drew Cassidenti, MD is a Kern Medical Urogynecologist and Kern Medical Foundation Board Member. Dr. Cassidenti was the Scientific program chair for the annual meeting of the Society of Gynecologic Surgeons (SGS) last week in Orlando, FL. SGS is the premier Society of the top gynecologic Surgeons in the world with 271 members. To become a member, a current member must sponsor your application, you must present a paper or surgery video at an annual meeting and then the entire membership votes on you.

Dr. Drew Cassidenti is Director of Kern Medical's Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Division, and is the specialty's only three-year fellowship-trained and board-certified surgeon in Bakersfield.

Check out the SGS website for more information:

<http://www.sgsonline.org/>

Top picture is Dr. Drew Cassidenti with Dr. John Gebhart who was the President of SGS this year and Chairman of Gynecology at Mayo Clinic Rochester.



KERN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

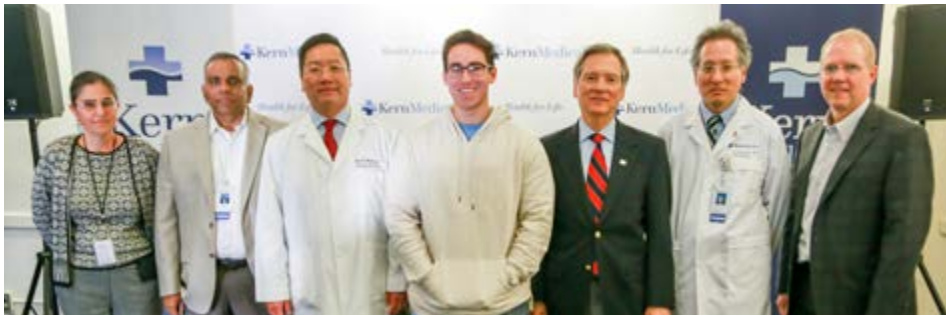


A record number of physicians and residents from the Kern Medical Department of Medicine recently attending the 2018 Western Medical Research Conference in Carmel, CA. Kern Medical had 49 abstracts and 13 oral presentations.

For more information on the 2018 Western Medical Research Conference and a listing of the abstracts.

<http://afmr.org/files/2018/Western-Program.pdf>

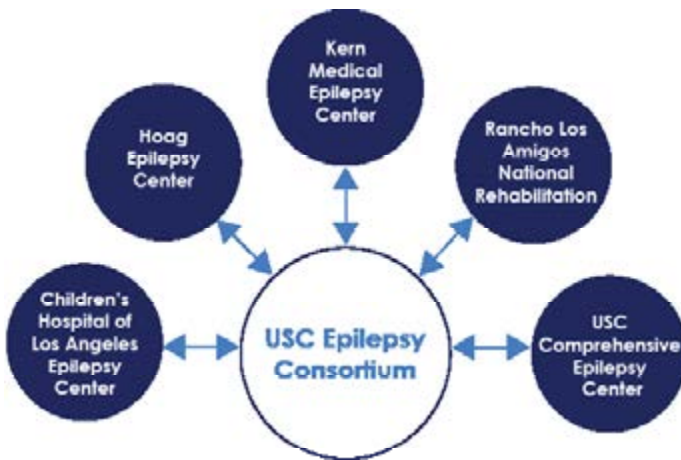
BRINGING ADVANCED EPILEPSY CARE TO KERN COUNTY



Epilepsy is one of the most common neurological disorders worldwide. Approximately 35,000 patients in Kern County have epilepsy and of those, one-third of those patients could be candidates for life-changing surgery, leading to freedom from disabling seizures.

Kern Medical is proud to join the USC Epilepsy Consortium, a unique and unprecedented patient care partnership comprised of four additional comprehensive epilepsy centers certified by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers.

KERN MEDICAL & THE USC EPILEPSY CONSORTIUM



SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE EPILEPSY CENTER:

- Epilepsy Evaluation
- Imaging
- EEG Services
- Video Telemetry
- Stereotactic EEG
- Invasive EEG Monitoring
- Epilepsy Surgery Resections
- Neuromodulation

KERN MEDICAL EPILEPSY CENTER PHYSICIANS

Hari Veedu, MD
Medical Director

Charles Liu, MD, PhD
Surgical Director

Joseph Chen, MD, PhD
Chief of Neurosurgery, Kern Medical

Jonathan Russin, MD
Neurosurgeon

Brian Lee, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 4

Graduating Resident & Fellows Luncheon, Bakersfield Country Club

Thursday, April 5

GI Medicine, ACGME Lecture

Thursday, April 12

Resident Quality Work Group, Patient Satisfaction, ACGME Lecture

Thursday, April 19

Doc for a Day

Thursday, April 26

Thoracic Multidisciplinary, ACGME Lecture

May 3 & 4

Dr. Stephen Rose – OB/GYN Oncologist

Thursday, May 3

Trauma Conference, Patient Testimonial

May 7-11

Hospital Week

Thursday, May 17

Doc for a Day

Thursday, May 31

Resident & Fellow Graduation

Friday, June 1

GME Summit

Wednesday, June 27

New Resident & Fellow Orientation Begins



BE A DOCTOR FOR A DAY



Erica Easton
*Executive Director of
Kern Medical Foundation*

Kern County has a rich history that was built by a generous community. For more than 150 years, Kern Medical has cared for the most vulnerable, the critically injured, and the ill. In recent years, we have made strides to revolutionize healthcare locally. Aside from being the only trauma center in a 100-mile radius, many locals remain unaware of the vital role Kern Medical plays in improving the health of our community.

We are an academic teaching center, focused on educating more than 200 medical students, residents,

and fellows each year. As a tertiary referral center, we provide specialty care unavailable anywhere else in town, allowing people to remain close to home while still receiving the most advanced care available.

In recent years, Kern Medical has become a financially stable institution with a strategic vision focused on the future health of our community. In an effort to better educate the community about the important role that Kern Medical has as the community's only teaching hospital, we wanted to pull back the veil and share the specialized services we offer to the community.

In January of 2017, we launched "Doc for a Day," a new program aimed at bringing community leaders to experience a behind-the-scenes look at Kern Medical. Doc for a Day participants have ranged from local business

owners to community leaders who are interested in improving the health of our community. The monthly agenda is personalized based on the interests of participants and the latest technology available.

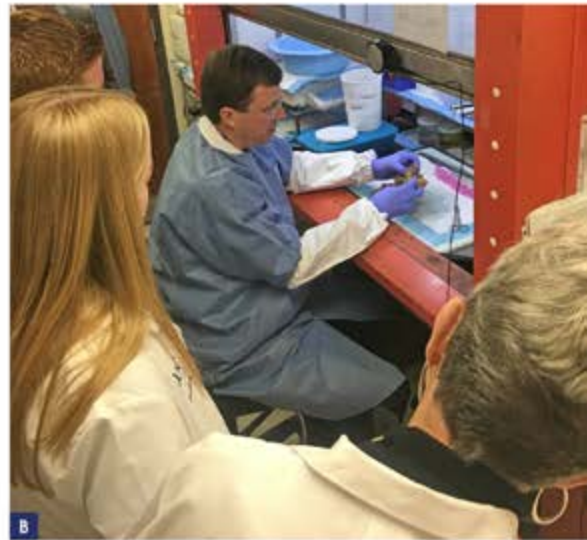
Since each Doc for a Day was unique, we wanted to share experiences and provide even more opportunities to explore the latest in technology at Kern Medical. In early 2018, we had the privilege of hosting a reunion for all of our guest docs who participated during our inaugural year.

We are thrilled about the success of the Doc for a Day program and the positive feedback we have received from our participants. We look forward to continuing to share the latest at Kern Medical. Programs like this allow us to share the amazing things that happen in our hospital, one person at a time.

A Day in the Life of a Doctor at Kern Medical

Every day is different for doctors at Kern Medical, and therefore, each Doc for a Day experience is unique, as well. Here's what might happen while you're a Doc for a Day.

- **Interdisciplinary Tumor Board** — Patient cases are discussed with an interdisciplinary group of physicians from Kern Medical and throughout the community, all focused on collaborating and learning from one another to better diagnose and treat cancer.
- **Attend clinic** — Participants are able to engage with patients during their visits with physicians at the outpatient clinic, which is for patients who need ongoing and follow-up care from our team of medical professionals.
- **Patient rounding** — Participants make rounds at the hospital just as faculty, residents, and medical students do, meeting patients and learning about the diagnostic process.
- **Hospital tour and interactive demonstrations**
 - **Simulation Man** — Participants are able to experience using the SIM manikin and practice a variety of procedures ranging from CPR and intubation to defibrillation using the paddles. Future doctors train on the same equipment.
 - **Da Vinci Xi Robotic Surgery** — Participants see the da Vinci Xi robot in action as they observe a real surgery in the surgical suite.
 - **Catheterization lab equipment and procedures** — A personal demonstration is given on the latest cardiac and interventional radiology techniques and equipment. Participants have the opportunity to touch and feel real IV filters, stents, and catheters, then observe a procedure.
 - **Intrathecal Procedures for Valley Fever** — Participants observe and meet individuals being treated by the world's experts in Valley Fever. Patients discuss the various symptoms and receive treatment for Valley Fever.
- **Lunch with CEO Russell Judd and physicians** — Participants have the opportunity to discuss their experiences of the day with the doctors of Kern Medical and hear the future plans for Kern Medical from the CEO.



From Top: A) The Jamison family observes a robotic surgery performed by Dr. Pakula. B) Dr. William Stull demonstrates to the Pavletich family the role pathology plays at Kern Medical. C) Dr. Larissa Morsky teaches Berta McCarthy and Christina Sistrunk how to perform CPR on the Simulation Man. D) Lori Malkin training on a 3D Robotic Surgery simulator at the Doc for a Day Reunion at the Petroleum Club.



For more information about the special programs and projects at Kern Medical, please contact the Kern Medical Foundation at Erica.Easton@KernMedical.com, (661) 489-5252 or visit us at KernMedicalFoundation.com.

BECOME A KERN MEDICAL ALUMNI MEMBER

Who can Join?

- All Kern Medical Alumni
- Current or Past Kern Medical Faculty

Benefits of Membership

- All funds raised will support Medical Student & Resident Education at Kern Medical
- Learning opportunities that include CME credit lectures & events
- Invitations to Alumni Society social events
- Stay up to date on Kern Medical news
- Membership fee is 100% tax deductible

KERN MEDICAL **ALUMNI**

Membership Donation is \$250.00

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

All Graduating Residents & Fellows will receive the first year of membership **FREE!**

If you would like to join by mail please fill out the form below.

Yes! I want to join the Kern Medical Alumni Society and help support Medical Student & Resident Education at Kern Medical.

Name (How you want to be listed on the Alumni Roster)

Specialty

Phone Number

Email Address

Home Address

*\$250 annual membership fee is 100% tax deductible. Please make check payable to **Kern Medical Foundation.***

Please mail form and check to:

Kern Medical Foundation
3511 Union Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93305

Questions – please contact Erica Easton at (661) 489-5253 or erica.easton@kernmedical.com