



SLEEPY TIMES

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: NEUROANESTHESIA VISION

-Scott T. Reeves, MD, MBA

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In this edition of Sleepy Times' opening statement, Dr. Amanda Faulkner will be laying out the vision, mission and values for our Neuroanesthesia Division. I am excited to see this area of our practice grow to its full potential.

The newly established Neuroanesthesia Division is dedicated to enhancing neurosurgical anesthesia through innovative clinical care, education, and community engagement. To build a strong foundation, the division has prioritized the development of a dedicated neuroanesthesia team within the department, ensuring that expertise and continuity of care are embedded in daily practice. In survey results from May 2025 regarding baseline perceptions of the neuroanesthetic care we provide, our neurosurgical colleagues recognized our communication as one of our biggest assets, yet perceived both the results and content of our communication as opportunities for improvement, both in education and consistency. Clinically, the division is actively collaborating with key stakeholders to implement evidence-based improvements tailored to the needs of complex neurosurgical patients, understanding that small changes today can drive meaningful transformation over time. This includes protocol development for unique, infrequent procedures as well as a MUSC-specific 'Jaffe of sorts' being crafted in partnerships with the pediatric anesthesia team and neurointerventional team.

Educationally, the division has restructured resident education in neuroanesthesia. Under the guidance of Dr. Ford, we have now successfully aligned our two neuroanesthesia resident rotations to more closely mimic the information required for their staged licensure exams, "Basic" and "Advanced." The CA-1s will now be receiving instructional materials that focus on cerebral physiology, neuromonitoring, imaging interpretation, resuscitation, etc. pertinent to neurosurgical cases, while the CA-2s will now be receiving programming about disease and procedure-specifics (i.e. aneurysmal SAH, complex spinal deformities, stroke, functional neurosurgery and its indications, etc.). Neuro-related key-words have been disseminated for discussion intraoperatively. Additionally, a quarterly journal club is in the works, with its first event tentatively slated for August 19th.

Using the term 'division' feels misleading here, since we aim to adopt collaborative learning across the entire perioperative neurosurgical team – nurses, technicians, CRNAs, and physicians – with the guiding principle that everyone is a learner, especially when two of the most critical procedures in neuroanesthesia/neurosurgery will be performed by an on-call team. Thus, as we develop guidelines, our goal is to ensure that everyone has a shared and refreshed understanding, so that together we can continue providing consistent high-quality care. Further teamwork is being facilitated with monthly updates across the disciplines, where emails introduce new faces, recognize ongoing research or reminders, and foster efforts to reshape our culture and teamwork. This has even resulted in an early neurosurgery-sponsored trip to watch the Charleston RiverDogs for neuro-specific OR personnel!



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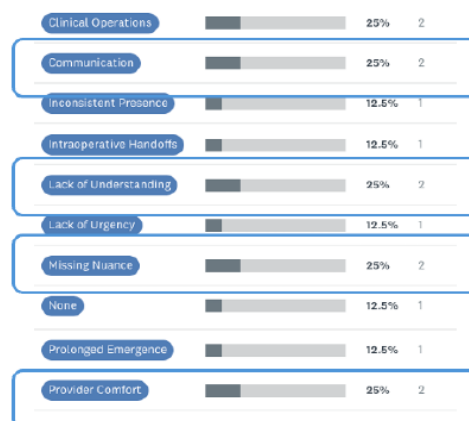
NEUROANESTHESIA VISION, MISSION AND VALUES BY AMANDA FAULKNER, MD

Finally, beyond the hospital walls, the division is strategically identifying ways to contribute to the local community while raising awareness of neurological health conditions. Recent and upcoming initiatives include Brain Tumor Awareness Month (May), World Brain Health Month (July), and AANS Neurosurgery Awareness Month in August underscoring a commitment to outreach, advocacy, and the holistic mission of advancing neurosciences care. Future community outreach projects are forthcoming.

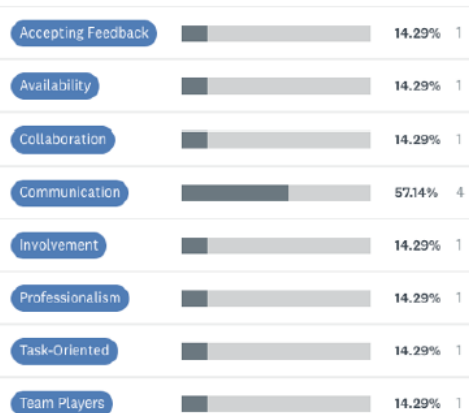
In everything we do, our focus remains clear: advancing brain health through excellence in care, education, and outreach. Ultimately, while our work centers on the brain (and spine!), our commitment is—and always will be—to the people and communities of South Carolina.

Q2: What challenges or barriers have you encountered when providing anesthesia for neurosurgical cases?

- Highlight opportunities for education and consistency



Q1: What aspects of our current approach to neurosurgical anesthesia do you feel are working well?



Division of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology

- In alignment with the department's mission and vision, the division of neurosurgical anesthesiology aims to
 - **enhance the delivery of neurosurgical anesthesia through innovative clinical care, educating others, and engagement in neurosciences community outreach.**
- The *vision* currently is to establish ourselves as a premier neuroanesthesia division within an academic medical center in the South, recognized for delivering exceptional, patient-centered care to the people of South Carolina and beyond, advancing the field through innovation, education, and meaningful community partnerships.



Division of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology

- Our values include:
 - **Excellence:** We uphold the highest standards in clinical care, education, and research to serve our patients and trainees.
 - **Collaboration:** We partner across disciplines to provide seamless, multidisciplinary care for neurosurgical patients in South Carolina.
 - **Innovation:** We lead evidence-based advancements and quality improvement initiatives to continuously improve perioperative neurosciences care.
 - **Education:** We cultivate an environment where **everyone is a learner and teacher**, empowering our team, trainees, and partners.
 - **Compassion:** We care for our patients and their families with empathy, dignity, and respect, recognizing their unique experiences and needs.
 - **Community Engagement:** We advocate for neurological health awareness and actively contribute to the communities we serve throughout South Carolina.

EARLY CAREER WOMEN FACULTY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR BY DR. PRITEE TARWADE

I was given an opportunity by MUSC College of Medicine to attend the AAMC's early career women faculty leadership development seminar in Charlotte, NC in July 2025.

This seminar spanned over 3 days concentrating on different aspects of qualities and personality that make one person a better leader. The seminar started with the introduction to gender inequity in academic medicine. It was eye opening to learn that there are 45% females across all residency graduates, however the proportion of females among chairs in academic medicine is less than 25%; and among anesthesia and surgical fields it is less than 15%. And this drop in women among leaders is really something that needs to be pondered.

Personality testing was included, helping us understand ourselves so we can assess what are the areas we need to work on. Other areas covered were art of negotiation, speaking up when you are afraid to speak up, time management with an additional personal statement workshop. Above all, the most fascinating part of this workshop was networking with physicians from all fields and all over the country. It was oddly comforting to know we all go through the same thing and are not alone. It is also interesting to learn how different systems work and promotion requirements at different universities. I would recommend this workshop to everyone, given a chance. I can't thank Dr. Reeves and MUSC enough for nominating me for this workshop.



WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT

My name is Blair Coleman, and I am excited to be joining you as a new graduate CRNA from the University of South Carolina. I am originally from Columbia, South Carolina, and am thrilled to begin my career in pediatric anesthesia. Outside of the OR, I enjoy spending time exploring Charleston, trying new restaurants, and being near the ocean with a good book and my two yellow Labs. I am so grateful to be a part of this team, and I look forward to learning, growing, and working alongside each of you!



Blair Coleman, CRNA



Callie Shellhaas, CRNA

Hey everyone! My name is Callie and I'm so excited to join the anesthesia team at SJCH! I went to CRNA school at MUSC and recently graduated this past May. I discovered my love for pediatric anesthesia when I was rotating through SJ as a junior student. Prior to CRNA school, I worked in the Cardiovascular ICU at MUSC for 2.5 years. I went to Clemson for undergrad where I majored in nursing and got my BSN! A little bit about me - I grew up right down the road on James Island so the majority of my family is located here in Charleston. I met my husband, Gates, while I was at Clemson. He grew up in Mt. Pleasant and now works as a custom home builder. We have a black lab named Tito who is about 7 years old, we take him everywhere with us! In my free time you can find me on the boat or at the beach, trying new restaurants, or traveling!

I'm Madison, I graduated from the MUSC CRNA program this May. I grew up in Northern California but have been living in South Carolina since college. Studying anesthesia was the best investment I could have made in the last three years, and I am privileged to be a part of this profession. In my spare time I love watercolor painting, collecting shark teeth, and surfing. I am so excited to join the SJ Anesthesia team!



Madison Rumfelt, CRNA

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT



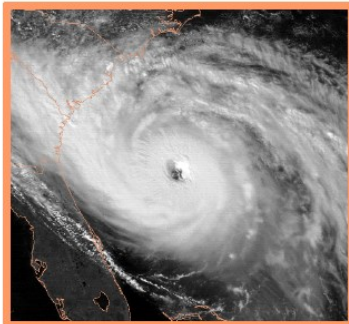
Ashley O'Donnell, CAA

I'm originally from Texas but have lived on Johns Island for the past four years with my husband and two kids (Cullen, 5 and Grace, 4). I graduated from the Nova Southeastern University CAA program in 2013 and have spent my career doing a mix of both adult and pediatric practice, including five years at Dallas Children's Hospital. I love all activities involving water and have been scuba diving all over the world (Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, to name a few) and even did a cage dive with sharks! I'm really excited to join the team and looking forward to meeting everyone.

Hudson Ricard is the new administrative coordinator for the Pain Management Division. As a Greenville, SC native, Hudson graduated from Clemson University and has been part of the MUSC family for over two years. With a love for healthcare and a passion for helping others, Hudson feels right at home at MUSC and is stoked to join the Pain Management team. He looks forward to supporting patients and providers while continuing to grow with MUSC in the years ahead.



Hudson Ricard, MBA



[Click here for the updated Hazardous Weather Plan](#)

**Hazardous
Weather Plan**

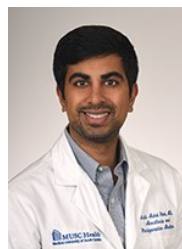
RESEARCH CORNER



Article

Impact of Single-Lumen Versus Double-Lumen Endotracheal Tube on Postoperative Swallowing Function in Lung Transplantation Patients: A Single-Center, Retrospective Cohort Study

Rishi Ashok Patel ^{1,*}, Haley Nitchie ¹, Bethany J. Wolf ², Cecilia Taylor ¹ and Loren Francis ¹



Rishi Patel, MD



Haley Nitchie, MHA



Bethany Wolf, PhD



Loren Francis, MD



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Neuropharmacology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/neuropharm



Effect of an astrocyte calcium exporter on orbitofrontal cortex neuron excitability, astrocyte-synaptic interaction, and alcohol consumption

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Michael Scofield, PhD

RESEARCH CORNER

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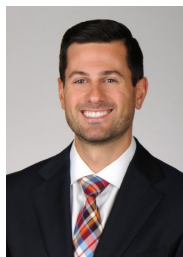
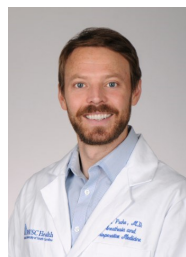
Original Contribution

Ultrasound assessment of preoperative gastric volume in fasted diabetic surgical patients: A prospective observational cohort study on the effects of glucagon-like peptide-1 agonists on gastric emptying

Christopher D. Wolla, M.D.^{a,*}, Travis J. Pecha, M.D.^a, Joel M. Sirianni, M.D.^a,
Lexi M. Schorg, B.S.^a, Bethany J. Wolf, Ph.D.^b, Sylvia H. Wilson, M.D.^a

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Journal of Clinical Anesthesia

An International Journal of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

June 2025

Dr. Christopher Wolla



Ultrasound assessment of preoperative gastric volume in fasted diabetic surgical patients: A prospective observational cohort study on the effects of glucagon-like peptide-1 agonists on gastric emptying

[Click here to watch
an
interview with
Chris Wolla, MD
regarding this
recent
publication.](#)

3 STAR QUALITY RATING FROM THE STS ADULT CARDIAC SURGERY REGISTRY FOR CABG



STS CABG Composite Quality Rating
Participant: 30520
STS Period Ending Dec 2024

Domain	Rating	Participant		STS				
		Score	95% CI	Score	Min - Max	10th	50th	90th
Overall	★ ★ ★	97.96%	(97.26-98.52)	97.05%	(88.40-99.19)	95.61%	97.26%	98.28%
Absence of Mortality	★ ★	98.04%	(97.09-98.80)	97.64%	(91.97-99.43)	96.35%	97.82%	98.71%
Absence of Morbidity	★ ★ ★	93.18%	(91.44-94.72)	90.82%	(68.83-96.97)	86.97%	91.26%	94.15%
Use of IMA	★ ★ ★	99.89%	(99.63-99.99)	99.53%	(84.05-99.99)	99.01%	99.76%	99.95%
Medications	★ ★ ★	99.59%	(99.05-99.99)	95.72%	(20.90-99.98)	90.39%	98.05%	99.70%

PATIENT PRAISE FOR DR. MARYAM SIDDIQUI

From June 30, 2025—Dr. Siddiqui was amazing! She talked to my daughter and explained the whole process and allowed her to ask questions. She was very supportive and caring.



GRAND ROUNDS—AUGUST 2025**“Aisys CS2 End-tidal Control Training”****Robert Harvey, MD, Assistant Professor****August 5, 2025****Dept. of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina****“Perioperative Antibiotics: Updates and Frequently Asked Questions”****Hannah Bell, MD, Assistant Professor****August 12, 2025****Dept. of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina****“NORA: Keeping Your Head Above Water”****Cameron Sutton, MD, Assistant Professor****August 19, 2025****Dept. of Anesthesiology
Wake Forest University****“Behind the Drapes: Cost Drivers and the Hidden Value of Anesthesia in the Academic Health System”****Carlee Clark, MD, Professor, ICCE Chief****August 26, 2025****Dept. of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina**

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[CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Future Events/Lectures

CA 1 Lecture Series

8/5—Post Anesthesia Care—Joseph Abro

8/6—Inhalation Anesthetics—Emily Nasser

8/13—Nonvolatile Anesthetic Agents—Ryan Wilson

8/20—Perioperative Emergencies & ACLS—Molli Walker



I HUNG THE MOON

Please don't forget to nominate your co-workers for going 'Beyond the Call of Duty.' I Hung The Moon slips are available at the 3rd floor front desk and may



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Twitter:



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Holiday Party
Saturday, December 6, 2025
Carolina Yacht Club

[ONE MUSC Strategic Plan](#)

We Would Love to Hear From You!

If you have ideas or would like to contribute to *Sleepy Times*, the deadline for the September edition will be August 18, 2025.