HENRY FORD HEALTH | Department of Surgery

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2025 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



We are pleased to share the Biannual Newsletter 2026 edition of the Henry Ford Department of Surgery Research Newsletter, highlighting the department's scholarly accomplishments from January through December 2025.

Our faculty, residents, fellows, students, and research staff made substantial contributions through peer-reviewed publications, presentations, published abstracts, textbook chapters, awards, and professional leadership activities.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

110 PEER-REVIEWED PULICATIONS

94 PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

41 TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS & TEXTBOOKS

227 ORAL & POSTER PRESENTATION

65 PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

18 AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Advancing Surgical Care Across Specialties

The department's 2025 scholarly work addressed a diverse range of clinically important questions.

Research explored the use of machine learning in vascular and aortic surgery, innovative strategies for limb salvage, and advances in organ preservation, machine perfusion, and donor utilization.

Investigators also examined pancreatic cancer biology and immunotherapy, trauma transport and traumatic brain injury management, breast lymphedema prevention, and strategies to improve lung cancer screening and environmental health in Detroit.

Additional work focused on reducing disparities by expanding access to genetic testing, transplantation, and high-quality surgical care for vulnerable and underserved populations.

Prepared by Ahmad El Nouiri, MD & Loay Kabbani, MD, FACS



Surgical & Healthcare Database User Guide

A Reference Guide for NSQIP, NTDB, and NIS

Surgical databases are valuable resources for studying outcomes, identifying national trends, and developing research projects. Through the Department of Surgery, researchers have access to three major national databases: NSQIP, NTDB-TQIP, and HCUP-NIS.

ACS TQIP Trauma Quality Improvement Program

ACS NSQIP®

H·CUP HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT

Click on the link below

Milosh Djuric, our data analyst, developed a **Surgical & Healthcare Database User Guide** to help faculty, residents, and research fellows determine which database best fits their research question. The guide reviews the structure and unit of analysis of each database, key variables and definitions, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and important limitations related to CPT and ICD coding, deidentification, and data availability.

This practical resource can save investigators considerable time and reduce trial and error when beginning a new database project. We thank Milosh for creating the guide and encourage anyone planning a database study to review it to better understand which resources are available through the department, how to request data, and what to expect from each database. For questions or assistance, please contact Milosh at mdjuric1@hfhs.org.

Surgery Research Collaborative Meeting

The Surgery Research Collaborative Meeting is a monthly forum where residents, fellows, faculty, and research staff can share new ideas, discuss ongoing projects, review upcoming society and abstract deadlines, and refine posters, and presentations. The meeting also provides an opportunity to address research barriers and receive guidance with study development, IRB processes, data access, and biostatistical coordination.

Meetings are held virtually via **Microsoft Teams on the third Monday of each month** at **6:00 PM ET**. We encourage anyone involved in surgical research—or interested in starting a new project—to attend and participate.

For questions or assistance, please contact Ahmad El Nouiri at aelnou1@hfhs.org.

Surgical Research Team



- Loay S Kabbani, MD, FACS
Vice Chair of Research
lkabban1@hfhs.org



- Katherine Nowak, PhD
Director of Research
knowak2@hfhs.org



- Sarah Meehan, MS
Research Manager
smeehan1@hfhs.org

Research fellows



- Ahmad El Nouiri, MD
aelnou1@hfhs.org

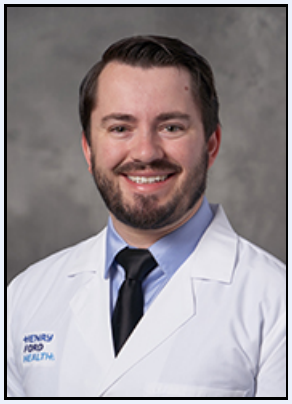


- Karim Koussa, MD
kkoussa1@hfhs.org



- Summer S Yono, MD
Syono1@hfhs.org

Welcoming Our New Research Fellows



Alexander Harper, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Research Fellow
aharper8@hfhs.org



John Shaib, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Research Fellow
jshaib1@hfhs.org



Nadim Oueidat, MD
Vascular Surgery
Research Fellow
noueida1@hfhs.org



Mohammad Almokdad, MD
Transplant Surgery
Research Fellow
malmokd1@hfhs.org

We are excited to have them join our team and look forward to their contributions to the department's research initiatives.