EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENS HERE.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT









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April 2024

Dear Friends,

We are proud to present our 2023 Annual Report, highlighting our successes and reasons to celebrate our extraordinary health system.

After announcing a large main campus expansion, Project Imagine, in 2022, in 2023 we continued to expand our footprint into the suburbs with the opening of our Moorestown Campus. The repurposing of a retail venue into an ultra-modern health care campus garnered national attention for its innovation, foresight, and positive feedback from surrounding communities. We look forward to opening the second phase this year.

We also celebrated the 10-year anniversary of our partnership with MD Anderson Cancer Center, a partnership that has transformed cancer care in our region. We were happy to welcome our colleagues from Houston, Texas, and partners throughout the country to our region for the MD Anderson Cancer Center Partner Summit, the first ever to be held outside of Houston.

And speaking of partnership, in 2023 Cooper announced another joint venture, Cooper and Inspira Neuroscience. This new collaboration builds upon the proven success of Cooper and Inspira Cardiac Care and improves patient access to a comprehensive range of advanced neuroscience care.

Cooper has always led the region in "firsts," and 2023 was no exception. New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy nominated Cooper physician Kaitlan Baston, MD, to serve as the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health. Dr. Baston is the first Cooper physician appointed to the highest public health position in the State of New Jersey. Cooper celebrated another first last year with the launch of the Center for Advanced Practice, a new model to support our advanced practice providers through professional development and other initiatives.

Cooper continues to be nationally recognized by the following prestigious independent organizations:

- Cooper was the first New Jersey Level 1 Trauma Center to earn an "A" hospital safety grade from Leapfrog.
- Cooper was named one of the top 10 hospitals in New Jersey and the Philadelphia region in U.S. News & World Report's 2023-2024 Best Hospitals Survey.
- Cooper earned a place on Newsweek's America's Best-In-State Hospitals 2024 list as the top hospital across the 10 southern counties of New Jersey and sixth overall statewide.
- Cooper was recognized as one of **America's Best-in-State Employers by Forbes** one of only 12 health systems in New Jersey to make the list.
- Cooper has once again been ranked as a **Top Hospital in the region by U.S. News & World Report and as a high-performing hospital nationally in 11 specialty services.**

This report touches on only a small part of the many highlights of 2023. As you read on, you will see why we launched a new advertising campaign that celebrates the remarkable work of our team members. "Extraordinary Happens Here" captures the outstanding reputation, unwavering dedication, and bold innovation experienced every day at Cooper. We imagine, and then we make extraordinary happen.

Sincerely,

George E. Norcross III

Chairman, Board of Trustees

Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD

Co-President/CEO

Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE

Co-President/CEO





As the region's leading cancer center, MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper is nationally recognized for its multidisciplinary, disease-site approach to cancer care – providing each patient with access to advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies, personalized treatment plans, experts in all types of cancer, groundbreaking clinical research, a full array of supportive care services, and an exceptional patient experience. Our clinical, operations, and support teams are focused on improving the quality and accessibility of cancer care and research in the communities we serve.

MD Anderson at Cooper Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary and Hosts Annual Partner Summit

Ten years ago, Cooper partnered with MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, one of the nation's leading cancer centers, to create MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper. Through this partnership, our program has become the foremost cancer center in our region. To celebrate this milestone, we hosted special events and celebrations for our team and patients.

Our 10th anniversary coincided with our hosting of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Partner Summit. During this three-day event, colleagues from MD Anderson partner institutions across the country came together to learn best practices, align strategy, and share ideas on the delivery of cancer care for today and tomorrow. MD Anderson at Cooper experts served as speakers and discussion group leaders.



Above: Touring MD Anderson at Cooper during the summit are (L-R) Toni Abbasi, DNP, RN, MBA, Institute Vice President, MD Anderson at Cooper; Peter Pisters, MD, President, MD Anderson Cancer Center; Generosa Grana, MD, FACP, Director, MD Anderson at Cooper; Chris McKee, Senior Vice President, Strategy and Business Development, MD Anderson Cancer Center; and Jeffery E. Lee, MD, Chief Cancer Network Officer and Deputy Chief Operating Officer at MD Anderson.

Below: Presenting at the summit are Dr. Grana and Deborah Kuban, MD, Vice President, Clinical Operations, MD Anderson Cancer Network.





World's First Patient Enrolls in Metastatic Melanoma Treatment Trial

Researchers at MD Anderson at Cooper are leading the way in treating advanced melanoma using tumor infiltrating lymphocyte (TIL) therapy — a groundbreaking new treatment approach. Our team became the first in the world to offer and enroll a patient in TILVANCE-301, a new randomized Phase III clinical trial evaluating the efficacy of TIL therapy as a first-line treatment versus pembrolizumab (current standard of immunotherapy care) for advanced melanoma.

This clinical trial is part of emerging cell therapy treatments for several types of solid tumor cancers, including non-small cell lung cancer, cervical cancer, and head and neck cancers. Researchers at MD Anderson at Cooper are participating in clinical trials in these areas as well.

MD Anderson at Cooper Experts Speak at Regional Metastatic Breast Cancer Conference

Experts from MD Anderson at Cooper's Janet Knowles Breast Cancer Center were among the region's leading breast cancer specialists presenting discussions at the Susan G. Komen Metastatic Breast Cancer (MBC) Conference in Philadelphia. The conference provides metastatic breast cancer survivors with information, resources, and support.

Pioneering Use of New Lung Cancer Diagnostic Imaging Tool

Interventional pulmonology experts at Cooper were the first in the world to use Boston Scientific's iNod™ Ultrasound Guidance System and Needle in conjunction with the ION robotic bronchoscopy platform. The iNod is used to investigate suspicious peripheral pulmonary lesions in the lung, which can lead to earlier diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer.



Generous Donations Help Support MD Anderson at Cooper Programs and Services

The Cooper Foundation received several generous donations to support MD Anderson at Cooper's programs and research initiatives.

- The Rupp family donated \$40,000 to support ovarian cancer research in memory of their loved one, Susan Marie. The gift recognizes the outstanding care Susan Marie received from the Gynecologic Cancer team.
- The Gynecologic Cancer Center received a \$50,000 gift from the Barbara T. Ferraro Foundation for Ovarian Cancer Research in appreciation of the outstanding, compassionate cancer care Barbara received and to further ovarian cancer research.
- The Camden County Police Department and the family of Officer Matthew Sviben donated proceeds from their "No Shave November" efforts to support MD Anderson at Cooper Gastrointestinal Cancer Center in honor of Officer Sviben.

Pink and Teal Events Benefit MD Anderson at Cooper

More than 450 guests attended The Cooper Foundation's annual Golf Outing and 13th annual Pink Roses Teal Magnolias celebration of cancer survivorship held in April 2023. This inspiring event, which included a merchant fair, a sold-out golf outing, and an awards dinner ceremony, raised \$500,000 for programs and services at MD Anderson at Cooper.



Faculty at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper along with the 13th Annual Pink and Teal honorees: (L-R) Anthony Dragun, MD; David Warshal, MD; and honorees Rebecca Semanoff, APN; Jacqueline Marzan, APN; Kamel Abou Hussein, MD; Phyllis Duda, APN; and Jamin Morrison, MD.

QUALITY CARE RECOGNITIONS

As a leading academic health system, Cooper is recognized both regionally and nationally for the highest quality of care. We are proud to have received the following awards in 2023, recognizing that our efforts place Cooper among the best in the nation.





• U.S. News & World Report recognized Cooper as one of the top hospitals in New Jersey and the Philadelphia region. Cooper also ranked as a high-performing hospital nationally in 11 specialty services: abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, colon cancer surgery, diabetes, heart attack, heart bypass surgery, heart failure treatment, kidney failure treatment, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma treatment, pneumonia, prostate cancer surgery, and stroke treatment.



- Cooper was recognized as a WebMD Patient Choice for outstanding care for blood cancer treatment, cardiology, gastroenterology, heart valve replacement, oncology, orthopaedics, prostate cancer treatment, and skin cancer treatment, and was a Medscape Provider Choice in cardiology and oncology.
- The American Orthopaedic Association presented the Cooper Bone and Joint Institute with the Star Performer Recognition Award for its Own the Bone® program.



(Recognitions continue on next page.)

QUALITY CARE RECOGNITIONS

- Healthgrades ranked Cooper as one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for coronary bypass surgery.
- Cooper was once again named one of **America's Best Employers** by **Forbes**, one of the nation's leading business publications one of only 12 health systems in New Jersey to make the Forbes list.
- Cooper received an "A" rating by Leapfrog for hospital safety, the first Level 1 Trauma Center in New Jersey to receive this rating.
- Newsweek named Cooper one of America's Best Maternity Hospitals.
- The **American Heart Association** awarded Cooper the following recognitions:
 - Get with the Guidelines® Gold Plus with Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite,
 Advanced Therapy: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll
 - EMS Gold Achievement Award with Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll
 - Heart Failure Silver Achievement Award with Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll
- Cooper earned The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval® and the American Heart Association/ American Stroke Association Heart-Check mark for Advanced Certification for Comprehensive Stroke Centers.
- Cooper is recognized as a **Blue Distinction Center+ for Cardiac Care** in the **Blue Shield Association's Blue Distinction Specialty Care** program.



















TO SERVE



TO SERVE



Cooper University Health Care Moorestown Campus

On November 29, Cooper opened the first phase of its newest and largest outpatient campus at the Moorestown Mall.

The 166,000-square-foot, three-story facility, converted from a former Sears department store, has been transformed into a state-of-the-art outpatient campus. The Cooper Moorestown Campus offers patients more than 26 medical specialties, a range of diagnostic services, nearly 100 exam rooms, concierge services, a café, and

other patient amenities. The facility is accessible from the main entrance facing Route 38 and an entrance from inside the Moorestown Mall.

The second phase of services is scheduled to begin in 2024. Once complete, additional services will include physical therapy, medical imaging, infusion services, and outpatient surgery.







Cape Regional Health

Cooper and Cape Regional Health System signed a Definitive Agreement in April 2023 that will bring Cape Regional into Cooper's health system. The acquisition is anticipated in 2024 and will bring together two respected health systems to expand access to specialty health services to the Cape May County region. This transaction is a positive testament to the hard work of the Cooper team members over the last several years to transform Cooper into an elite academic health system. By adding our colleagues from Cape Regional to the Cooper team, we will advance our mission to serve, to heal, and to educate more residents across South Jersey.

Health Care Heroes Violence Prevention Act

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed the Health Care Heroes Violence Prevention Act, which aims to protect all employees in health care settings throughout the state by increasing penalties (imprisonment and fines) for those who threaten or commit acts of violence against health care workers. Cooper played a major role in spearheading this important legislation, and we appreciate our legislative leaders and Governor Murphy for working to protect health care workers.

Cooper Hosts White House Drug Czar Roundtable

Rahul Gupta, MD, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, along with New Jersey Human Services Commissioner Sarah M. Adelman, visited Cooper and joined Cooper leaders and health care providers in a roundtable discussion of medication assisted treatment (MAT) and its success at Cooper. They also discussed the removal of X-waiver requirement for physicians, which will remove barriers to treatment, and highlighted successful initiatives that have improved substance use disorder treatment in the community.

Pictured (L-R): Sarah M. Adelman; Kaitlan Baston, MD; and Rahul Gupta, MD.



New Urology Office Opens in Voorhees

On June 5, 2023, Cooper's Division of Urology celebrated the opening of their newest ambulatory office, located at 2401 Evesham Road in Voorhees. The providers and office staff were joined by members of the Cooper executive team at the ribbon cutting.

EMT Training Program Inaugural Class

As part of its Health Careers Initiative program, Cooper University Health Care, in cooperation with several community organizations, launched a new program for students interested in becoming emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

The Cooper EMT Training Program, developed in partnership with the Camden County Board of Commissioners, Camden County One-Stop, Camden County College, Camden County Workforce Development Board, and Hopeworks, provides low-cost, comprehensive training for an entry-level career in emergency medical services. Applicants who meet certain criteria may qualify for tuition-free training. In addition to providing career opportunities in a rewarding field, the program helps meet the strong demand for qualified EMTs in the community.



New Cooper Care Alliance Washington Township Office Ribbon Cutting

In September 2023, Cooper Care Alliance (CCA) further expanded its care to the community by opening a new primary care office at 302 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road in Sewell. The CCA leadership team was joined by Joseph Cavallaro, DO, and Washington Township Mayor Joann Gattinelli, as well as members of the Cooper executive team, to celebrate the opening.

The Recovery Village Cherry Hill at Cooper

The Recovery Village Cherry Hill at Cooper specializes in evidence-based inpatient addiction treatment. Staffed by licensed physicians, nurses, and therapists, the center provides a full continuum of services, from medical detox to residential programs and outpatient support. Recognizing the urgency of recovery, same-day or next-day admissions are available to provide immediate assistance to those in need.



Empowering Change – Our Impact in the Community

Center for LGBTQ+ Health Participates in Pride Events

For the third consecutive year, patients and team members from Cooper's Center for LGBTO+ Health and across Cooper participated in many pride events celebrating diversity and acceptance throughout the region. Groups walked in the Haddon Township Pride Parade and the Camden Pride Walk. Cooper representatives offered education at the Merchantville Pride Event, Collingswood's Pride Night, and the Haddon Township Community Night. Cooper's program is leading the way in addressing unique medical issues faced by the LGBTQ+ community in a supportive environment. Participating in Pride activities helps bring awareness to our program and Cooper's commitment to serving our community.



Subaru Supports Cooper Patients and Team Members

Subaru of America, Inc. donated \$30,000 to Cooper as part of its ongoing support of Camden-based patients receiving treatment at Cooper. In addition, 1,500 Essential Worker Appreciation Kits were donated to Cooper team members as part of its *Subaru Loves to Care*® initiative.

Supporting Our Community With Career Opportunities

Cooper expanded its critical care technician programs to include a 12-week course that provides career opportunities to local residents at no cost. We've also implemented a new grant program from Camden Works that allows recent graduates from Camden City high schools to participate in the Cooper Community Critical Care Technician Program. There is no fee to attend, and the grant compensates students an hourly wage for participating. Students who successfully complete the programs can apply for critical care technician positions at Cooper and are eligible to test at Cooper for the patient care technician certification offered through the National Healthcareer Association.



Cooper now offers comprehensive dental services for adults through Cooper University Dental Health, located in the Sheridan Pavilion. This new and growing service line, which is part of Cooper's Center for Comprehensive Health, provides patients with preventive and diagnostic dental care, as well as basic and major restorative services, in a new and modern space.

Teddy Goes to Cooper

Cooper offered its annual teddy bear clinic to students at the KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy in May. The Teddy Goes to Cooper program helps alleviate children's fears of visiting the hospital or clinical provider for common medical procedures. Students received a teddy bear (pictured at right) and pretended their bear was a patient, helping students learn about treatments for different conditions. The program also includes educating students on safety and making healthy food choices. More than 100 students participated in the program.



13th Annual Cooper Red Hot Gala

The Cooper Foundation raised nearly \$4 million through its 13th Annual Red Hot Gala, setting a new record for Cooper. The Gala, held in September at the TRIAD1828 CENTRE on the Camden waterfront, was dedicated to the legacy of Bernard and Shirlee Brown. Their children, Sidney and Sandy Brown, Jeff and Tracy Brown, and Anne E. Koons, served as presenting sponsors, along with the family businesses, NFI and Vineland Construction Company.



Celebrating with close to 1,000 guests at the 13th Annual Cooper Red Hot Gala are (L-R) Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE, Co-CEO; Philip A. Norcross, Esq., Chairman of The Cooper Foundation Board of Trustees; George E. Norcross III, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Cooper Health System; and Kevin M. O'Dowd, Co-CEO, Cooper University Health Care.



Enjoying the evening are (L-R) Sandy Brown, Sidney R. Brown, Anne E. Koons, George E. Norcross III, Tracy Brown, Jeffrey S. Brown, Carole Norcross, and Philip A. Norcross, Esq.

Expanding Comprehensive Care for Patients With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Cooper launched a wide-ranging program to enhance care for patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The program, funded in part by a \$2 million grant from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, will allow our team to meet the unique needs of patients with intellectual and development disabilities and provide a more positive patient experience and better outcomes.

Cooper Digestive Health Institute in Mount Laurel Celebrates 15 Years of Exceptional Care

The outstanding team at the Cooper Digestive Health Institute in Mount Laurel marked 15 years of excellence in providing state-of-the-art diagnostic procedures and treatments for patients who suffer from various digestive conditions and associated complications that affect the pancreas, liver, gallbladder, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, and colon. The Digestive Health Institute is consistently recognized by the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy's esteemed Endoscopy Unit Recognition Program, and the Flame Award for Unit Excellence from the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates.



The Edward D. Viner, MD, Chief of Medicine Endowment Largest Endowed Gift in Cooper's History

The Bernard and Shirlee Brown Charitable Foundation and The Brown Foundation pledged \$5 million to create The Edward D. Viner, MD, Chief of Medicine Endowment. This gift represents the largest endowed gift in The Cooper Foundation's history and establishes Cooper's first endowed chief.

The endowment honors the lifetime dedication and commitment of Dr. Edward Viner, Chief Emeritus of Cooper's Department of Medicine. The fund will support the compensation and retention of an exceptional physician in the endowed position who possesses an exemplary record of outstanding performance in teaching, scholarship, research, and service.

Dr. Viner served as Chief of Medicine from 1987 to 2006, and the Viner Intensive Care Unit at Cooper is named in his honor. He served as Founding Director and Senior Advisor to the Dean at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

The Bernard and Shirlee Brown Charitable Foundation and The Jeff and Tracy Brown Foundation have been longtime supporters of Cooper and have provided funding for the Cooper Learning Center, breast cancer programs at MD Anderson at Cooper, summer reading programs for Camden children, and several other initiatives.

The Legacy of Linda Brand

The Linda Brand Scholarship Fund was created to financially support the professional development of Cooper team members who serve in non-clinical roles throughout the health system and demonstrate a financial need. The fund was established in memory of Linda Brand, a beloved member of the Cooper team and former Assistant Vice President for Patient Access and Financial Navigation, who lost her battle with pancreatic cancer in October 2023.

Linda served in many roles throughout her 30 years of service at Cooper. During her career, she demonstrated an unwavering commitment to creating opportunities for others to advance both professionally and personally. The fund is intended to



carry on her mission and vision of creating a pathway for Cooper team members to achieve their highest potential and remove financial barriers that can often stall educational aspirations.

TD Bank Donates \$50,000 to Tackle Social Barriers to Health

Cooper was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, to expand a program that addresses societal barriers to health care access.

The program deploys community health workers in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem counties to improve health care access, reduce inpatient hospital stays and emergency department visits, and increase behavioral and specialty care visits by addressing social barriers to health and improving overall health and well-being.

Military, Veteran, and First Responder Programs

Cooper operates the busiest Level 1 Trauma Center in the Philadelphia/South Jersey region. In 2023, the Trauma Center treated more than 5,000 critically injured and ill patients. Because of its high volume of trauma cases and the team's expertise in surgery and critical care, Cooper is the only hospital in the United States that provides training for elite medical providers from every military branch; multiple local, state, and federal government agencies; and international partners as they prepare for service around the world and in places of conflict.

Cooper Honors Armed Forces Person of the Year

Cooper named Barry Hunter (right), a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and eight-year Cooper team member, the 2023 Armed Forces Person of the Year. In addition to his daily responsibilities as an emergency medical technician, Barry is involved in many community outreach activities, including health education, career mentorship programs, neighborhood clean-up events in Camden, and coordination of the Cooper EMS Services Adopt-a-Family program every holiday season. Barry is pictured with Kevin M. O'Dowd, JD, Co-CEO of Cooper.



The Cooper Heroism Award

In 2023, Cooper honored Internal Medicine residents (L-R) Richard Orozco, DO, and Katherine Kaminski, MD, and fourth-year Cooper Medical School of Rowan University student Anil Bhatnagar with the Cooper Heroism Award for saving the life of a man who had collapsed in a local restaurant.

The colleagues were enjoying a meal at a local restaurant when someone shouted to call 911. They responded and found a customer with no pulse. The team initiated

CPR. The man was resuscitated and transported to the hospital.

This action exemplifies what Cooper Internal Medicine teaches residents and medical students who rotate through our programs – that they are leaders, both inside and outside of the hospital.

The Cooper Heroism Award was established in 2019 to honor Cooper team members who have shown heroic efforts in the community.



HeroCare Connect serves veterans and their family members along with active duty personnel and their families who are referred for specialty care by their primary care physician. Since the program's inception in 2018, nearly 13,078 referrals have been made to the program,







with an average yearly referral rate of 2,124. In 2023, numerous Cooper physicians held lunch and learn education sessions on a variety of topics for primary care providers at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-LakeHurst.

Through the program, Cooper and Deborah Heart and Lung Center combine expertise to support those who have served our nation. One phone call to our dedicated concierge service center provides 48-hour access to non-routine specialty medical and diagnostic testing appointments. Reports are shared with the patient's care team, and all insurance forms and calls are completed by our team. In the rare circumstance when a patient needs a specific specialty or service that is not readily available, the HeroCare Connect team will work to get them the care they need with another provider.

Cooper Hosts Army Retirement Ceremony

Cooper celebrated Colonel Kirby Gross, MD, FACS (center), marking his retirement from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service. Col. Gross is a trauma surgeon assigned to Cooper's Division of Trauma Surgery in the Section of Military, Diplomatic, and Field Surgical Affairs. Col. Gross will continue in his role as a trauma surgeon at Cooper. Helping to honor Col. Gross are Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE, Co-CEO of Cooper (left) and John Chovanes, DO, FACS, USAR, Chief Military Surgeon (right).



TO HEAL





Unrivaled Expertise. Advanced Technology.

Lifesaving Heart Care: New Hybrid Catheterization Electrophysiology Lab

The Cooper Heart Institute, member partner of Cooper and Inspira Cardiac Care, completed an important renovation to its catheterization laboratory, creating a hybrid cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology suite that enables Cooper interventional cardiologists to diagnose and treat cardiovascular conditions and heart rhythm disorders in one location.

The spacious laboratory is equiped with advanced angiography, anesthesia, and electrophysiology technology that can accommodate multidisciplinary teams to perform complex and lifesaving procedures, if needed.

Cooper Care Alliance Grows to Serve the Needs of the Community

Cooper Care Alliance (CCA), one of two physician groups operated by Cooper, has continued to grow from seven providers at its inception in 2020 to nearly 70 providers in 2023, including primary care providers and specialists in endocrinology, gastroenterology, and behavioral health. CCA provides patients and their families expanded access to care and services. The group offers extended patient hours, including evenings and weekends, and provides urgent and routine telehealth visits. Spanish-speaking clinicians are available to address language and cultural barriers.

New Joint Venture: Cooper and Inspira Neuroscience

In July 2023, Cooper and Inspira Health formed a joint venture, creating Cooper and Inspira Neuroscience. This new collaboration builds upon the proven success of Cooper and Inspira Cardiac Care, now celebrating its fifth year. By combining the resources and expertise of our two trusted health systems, more patients have access to the most comprehensive neuroscience program in the region. Patients are able to stay close to home in New Jersey and receive the most advanced, high-quality neurological care, including neurology, neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, neuropathology, neurophysiology, and neuropsychology.



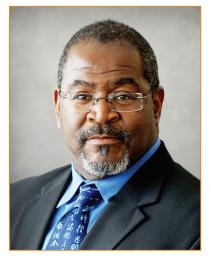
Cooper Faculty Member Selected as the New Jersey State Trauma Medical Director

The New Jersey Department of Health selected John M. Porter, MD, (pictured below) as the State Trauma Medical Director. This appointment is in recognition of Dr. Porter's expertise, leadership, and experience in the field of trauma care.

In this new role, Dr. Porter provides subject matter expertise to assist the leadership of the New Jersey Department of Health in the development and implementation of the statewide trauma system plan. He also helps guide the State Trauma System Advisory Committee's efforts to plan, develop, and enhance the statewide trauma system plan and plays a critical role in developing quality assurance standards for trauma care and assisting in the implementation of quality improvement programs for trauma care in New Jersey.

Dr. Porter remains a full-time Cooper team member in his current role as he fulfills his duties as State Trauma Medical Director.

ROI-NJ Influencers: People of Color 2023





John M. Porter, MD, Division Head of Trauma Surgery (left), and Anthony Welch, Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer (right), key leaders on the Cooper team, were recognized as ROI-NJ Influencers: People of Color.



Distinguished Service Award From the Heart Rhythm Society

Andrea M. Russo, MD, was awarded the Heart Rhythm Society 2023 Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to the field and to the Society. Dr. Russo is a Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, Academic Chief of the Division of Cardiology, Director of Electrophysiology and Arrhythmia Services, Director of the Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellowship Program, and Interim Medical Director for Research Partnership Development at Cooper.

Center for Advanced Practice

In November, Cooper became the first hospital in New Jersey, and part of a small, select group of academic medical centers in the nation, to launch a Center for Advanced Practice (CAP) to promote and support the role of advanced practice providers (APPs) in the health care continuum.

APPs are licensed health care professionals who work collaboratively with physicians and the care team. They comprise physician assistants/associates, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives. APPs are prepared through advanced education, clinical training, and licensing and board certification to provide a wide range of preventive, acute, and chronic health care services to individuals of all ages.

Cooper's APPs are an integral part of the health care team. More than 500 APPs currently practice in numerous specialties across the health system, providing nearly 230,000 patient visits in 2023. Cooper's Center for Advanced Practice not only provides a coordinated platform to support our current APPs through professional development and other initiatives but also enhances recruitment and retention efforts, improves quality, and helps standardize and expand access to care, which ultimately benefits patients.

As the population ages and consumer demand for high-quality health care grows, the role of APPs is expanding across the health care spectrum – in medical practices, hospitals, surgery centers, retail clinics, and urgent care centers across the country.

Cooper Advanced Practice Nurse Recognized Nationally

Cooper Advanced Practice Nurse Evelyn Robles-Rodriguez, DNP, APN, AOCN, was named Advanced Practice Provider of the Year by National APP Week, an organization that honors advanced practice providers for their contributions to health care teams across the nation. Evelyn was selected from among dozens of nominees. Evelyn is an oncology advanced practice nurse and Director of Outreach, Prevention, and Survivorship at MD Anderson at Cooper. She has led our life-saving outreach, prevention, and survivorship programs for more than 20 years as part of the cancer center team. In addition, Evelyn oversees



MD Anderson at Cooper's Cancer Survivorship Program, which helps patients who have completed their cancer treatment transition into wellness-focused care.

Physicians and Providers of the Quarter

The Cooper Physician and Provider of the Quarter distinction recognizes Cooper physicians, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Recipients are nominated by their peers for their professionalism, interpersonal skills, effective communication, teamwork, and dedication to research and education.

PHYSICIANS -

1st Quarter



April M. Douglass-**Bright, MD** Head, Division of General Pediatrics

2nd Quarter



FACOG Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

3rd Quarter



Kathleen Schaeffer, DO, Christopher Noel, MD Division of Critical Care Medicine

4th Quarter



Christina V. Orate-Dimapilis, MD Division of Hospital Medicine

- PROVIDERS

1st Quarter



Phyllis Duda, MSN, APN-C, AOCN Division of Hematology/ Medical Oncology

2nd Quarter



Karima Robinson, MSN, Frank Jackson, MS, **ACNPC, CCRN, CWS** Department of Radiology

3rd Quarter



PA-C, ATC Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

4th Quarter



Julie Carl, APN Division of Urology

Cooper Named Top Organ Donor Hospital in New Jersey

Cooper University Hospital was named a top organ donor hospital in New Jersey by the NJ Sharing Network.

The Network reported that organ donation in New Jersey reached a record high in 2023, with a 7% increase from the previous year. Cooper University Hospital had 28 organ donors, the highest in the state.

We are grateful to our team members, hospital partners, and NJ Sharing Network community for helping us reach new levels of excellence in organ and tissue donation.



Not Just Nurses. Cooper Nurses.

Cooper nurses provide the highest level of compassionate, comprehensive, and evidence-based care to our patients – many of whom are critically injured, ill, and at their most vulnerable. Our nurses are highly skilled professionals who work collaboratively to treat unique and complex cases in inpatient, ambulatory, and community settings. As vital members of the region's leading academic health system, our extraordinary nurses are ready to learn, ready to teach, and above all – ready first.

Highlights this year include:

- Cooper launched the evidence-based Johns Hopkins Activity and Mobility Program in our critical care areas. The program provides nurses with the tools and support they need to create and implement structured quality improvement processes to increase patient activity and mobility and improve outcomes. The program will be expanded to all adult inpatient units in 2024.
- Cooper established a formal academic-clinical partnership with Rutgers University School of Nursing in Camden to leverage the expertise and resources of both organizations in preparing the future nursing workforce in South Jersey. This collaboration supports advancements across education, research, and clinical practice and provides tuition discounts for Cooper nurses pursuing advanced nursing education.
- In 2021, Cooper began offering the only two-year nurse residency program in South Jersey to support nurses' successful transition to professional practice. In 2023, 75 residents graduated from the program's first class and boasted a 12-month resident satisfaction rating of 3.1 on a 4.0 Likert scale, which is above the state and national benchmark of 2.94.

(Highlights continue on next page.)

(Highlights continue from previous page.)

- More than 30 Cooper nurses were trained by experts from the Ohio State University Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for Evidence-based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare during an intensive, immersive program to help implement practices that align with the latest evidence for driving quality patient care.
- More nurses participated in Cooper's Professional Nursing Ladder than ever before. The program provides an opportunity for career advancement and rewards dedicated clinical staff nurses who meet defined criteria, including skills, education, competencies, and professional expertise.

2023 Nursing Excellence Awards

Cooper's Nursing Excellence Awards recognize exceptional professional nurses and advanced practice nurses as well as members of the collaborative care teams that support nursing. Award winners are nominated by colleagues for their commitment to upholding the Cooper mission. Awards are supported by gifts from generous donors to The Cooper Foundation.



Scan to view the full list of award recipients.

Kelly Campbell, BSN, RN 2023 Nurse of the Year

Kelly Campbell, BSN, RN, was named Cooper's 2023 William A. Schwartz, Jr. Nurse of the Year. Kelly, who works in Cooper's Mother Infant Unit, also received The Charlotte Tobiason Memorial Award for Excellence in Obstetrical Nursing as part of Cooper's Annual Nursing Excellence Awards presented during National Nurses Week. The Nursing Excellence Awards recognize exceptional professional nurses and advanced practice nurses throughout the health system as well as members of the collaborative care teams that support nursing.



American Organization for Nursing Leadership Young Professionals

Jennifer McGowan, BSN, RN, Associate Clinical Director, Pavilion 9, was selected as one of only 20 leaders for the American Organization for Nursing Leadership Young Professional Voices Class of 2023. This program recognizes nurse leaders younger than 40 years old who exhibit significant potential and demonstrate exemplary leadership through innovation, influence, and inclusion.

2023 DAISY Award Recipients

The DAISY Award is an international program that recognizes excellence in the nursing profession. It was created by the DAISY Foundation to acknowledge the extraordinary compassion, outstanding clinical skills, and professional care that nurses deliver every day.

OUR 2023 RECIPIENTS

Jillian Cooper, RN, BSN Kelemen 8

Cierra Howard, BSN, RN
Pavilion 7

Caroline Huelster, RN Trauma/Medical Surgery

Kayleigh Lawrence, BSN, RN
Intensive Care Unit

GiGi Martinez, BSN, RN

Pavilion 6

Elaine Nguyen, BSN, RN
Clinical Decision Unit

Lisa O'Brien, BSN, RN

Maternal Care Unit

Laura Profico, RNC-OB, BSN, CBC, CBE
Labor and Delivery

Genevieve Rodriguez, BSN, RN
MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper

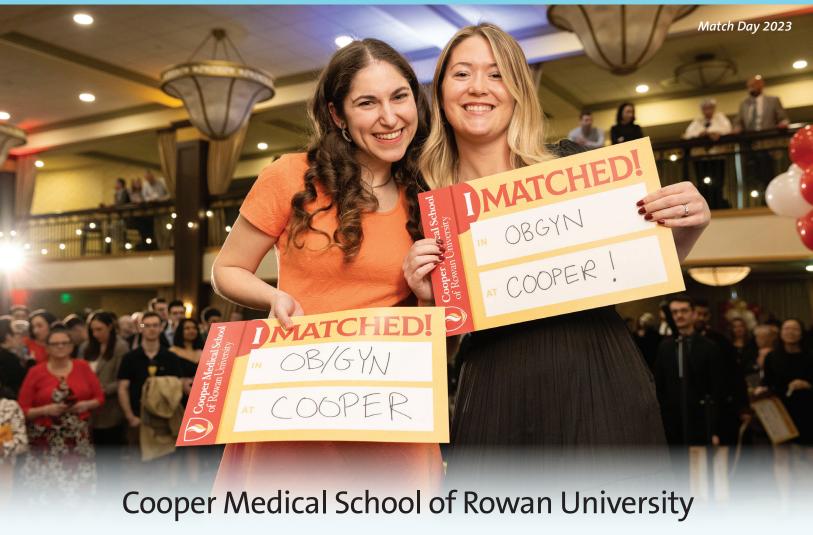
Alivia Siedlecki, BSN, RN
Critical Care Unit

Samantha Smith-Beavers, RN, BSN
Labor and Delivery

Kelly Van, RN, BSN
Kelemen 10







Match Day

On the third Friday of every March, tens of thousands of medical students across the nation simultaneously engage in one of the most exciting rites of their careers: tearing open envelopes or clicking open emails to learn the hospital or clinic where they will train as residents. After four years of medical school, graduates will spend several more years (typically, three to five) learning and practicing as residents in their desired specialties.

Match Day is a particularly special event for Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) fourth-year students and their families, as well as faculty and staff. CMSRU hosts a grand celebration, complete with a New Year's Eve-style countdown and the opportunity for each student to publicly share their Match news. In 2023, 100% of CMSRU students achieved a match, well above the national average. They were offered residency positions at some of the nation's most prestigious and competitive programs.





Graduation

In May, CMSRU held its commencement ceremony for 104 graduates, the largest graduating class since the school's inaugural commencement in 2016. The graduates, along with CMSRU deans and faculty, and leaders from Rowan University, gathered with family, friends, and loved ones at the Rowan campus in Glassboro.

The highlight of the event came with the reading of the names and the doctoral hooding ceremony. One by one, the students stepped forward, their faces beaming with pride and accomplishment. Their physician mentors carefully placed the doctoral hoods over their shoulders, symbolizing their transition into the noble profession of medicine. With diplomas in hand, they were congratulated by Dean Annette C. Reboli.









CMSRU's First Gates Scholar

Jonathan Kanen, PhD, MD, holds a unique position at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU): He is the university's first recipient of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. This highly selective award, sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is comparable to the Rhodes Scholarship. It includes full academic funding, a stipend, and important opportunities for collaboration and connection.

When Dr. Kanen graduated from CMSRU in 2023, he also earned a PhD in psychology at the University of Cambridge between his second and third education years.

At Cambridge, he explored how the brain chemical serotonin affects processes relevant to obsessivecompulsive disorder and substance use disorders. This knowledge can lead to more effective psychotherapy and medications. Dr. Kanen's work has appeared in the Journal of Neuroscience, JAMA Open Network, and Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, among other scholarly outlets.

Dr. Kanen is a co-author of seven peer-reviewed publications and has contributed significantly to scientific understanding of mental illness and potential treatments. His research focuses on the brain mechanisms involved in compulsive behavior, drug addiction, emotions, and memory.

Dr. Kanen also earned the unusual opportunity to give educational talks for physicians while still a student, presenting four "grand rounds" at Cooper University Health Care.

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, while still a medical student, he gave virtual talks to people around the world, including lectures to audiences in Kyoto, Copenhagen, Dublin, Jerusalem, and Berkeley.

He also won a post-doctoral research fellowship at Cambridge, extending his research activities for another year.

After graduation, Dr. Kanen began his residency in a psychiatry/physician-scientist program at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City.







Class of 2027 White Coat Ceremony

CMSRU officially welcomed 113 new first-year students into the profession of medicine during the Class of 2027 White Coat Ceremony held at Pfleeger Concert Hall at Rowan University in September 2023. The White Coat Ceremony included the traditional "cloaking ceremony" and the students' first recitation of the Hippocratic Oath.

Seventy-six percent of the Class of 2027 hail from New Jersey, and 18 are Rowan University alumni.

The first White Coat Ceremony was held in 1993 at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and it has become an important rite of passage of first-year medical students at schools throughout the United States.



Chronic Subdural Hematoma Treatment With Embolization vs. Surgery Study



Ajith J. Thomas, MD, Chief and Chair of Neurosurgery, is one of the four principal investigators awarded a National Institutes of Health grant of \$17.5 million over five years to conduct the Chronic Subdural Hematoma Treatment With Embolization vs. Surgery Study (CHESS) trial.

CHESS is a multicenter, prospective, randomized, open-label, Phase III clinical trial in patients with convexity chronic subdural hematoma to determine the superiority of middle meningeal artery embolization (MMAE) vs. conventional surgery for moderate symptoms. MMAE is a minimally invasive procedure to treat chronic subdural hematomas through an endovascular approach in comparison with the traditional open cranial surgery.

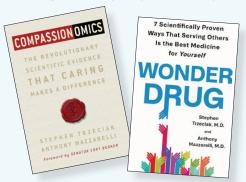
Dr. Thomas has played a significant role in developing and refining this modality of treatment.

Cooper and CMSRU Researchers Receive Federal Grant to Study Disparities in Physician-Patient Relationships

Researchers at Cooper and Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) received a two-year grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to study disparities in physician-patient relationships. The study will measure patients' experience of compassion from doctors during clinic visits, and test for disparities in compassion by patient race and ethnicity as well as the patient's socioeconomic status.

Stephen W. Trzeciak, MD, MPH, Chairman and Chief of Medicine, and Brian W. Roberts, MD, MSc, a physician-scientist in Emergency Medicine at Cooper and CMSRU are among the leading researchers in the field of compassion science. Compassion has always been considered a vital aspect of the "art of medicine," but emerging research has shown that compassion also has measurable beneficial effects belonging in the "science of medicine."

Dr. Trzeciak is the co-author, along with Anthony J. Mazzarelli, MD, JD, MBE, of two highly acclaimed books: Compassionomics: The Revolutionary Scientific Evidence That Caring Makes a Difference (2019) and Wonder Drug: 7 Scientifically Proven Ways That Serving Others Is the Best Medicine for Yourself (2022).



Dr. Roberts has made significant contributions to the field, including the development of the standardized method to measure compassion in clinical practice used in this research, and has led research focused on the relationship between clinician compassion and the development of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms among patients going through lifethreatening medical emergencies.

New Xylazine Research Conducted by Cooper Physicians

Joseph D'Orazio, MD, FAAEM, FACMT, FASAM, FCPP, Addiction Medicine Specialist at Cooper, and Rachel Haroz, MD, FAACT, Medical Director of the Cooper Center for Healing and Division Head of Toxicology and Addiction Medicine, had their study, "Xylazine Adulteration of the Heroin-Fentanyl Drug Supply: A Narrative Review," published in the Annals of Internal Medicine. Together with colleagues, Drs. D'Orazio and Haroz conducted research on the current impact of xylazine in the drug supply, including caring for patients experiencing acute overdose, withdrawal, and associated wounds.



In a significant collaborative effort, the Coriell Institute for Medical Research, Cooper, and Cooper Medical School of Rowan University have launched the Camden Cancer Research Center (CCRC), a partnership to investigate cancer and translate basic cancer science into new treatments. The three organizations have pledged an initial \$30 million to establish this center.

Scientists in the CCRC will hail from the three organizations, and the center will encompass all of Coriell's cancer research efforts, including eight scientists responsible for \$5 million in annual federal research funding currently.

Cooper to Participate in Multisite PAIN Trial

Cooper physicians are participating in a Department of Defense-funded study that seeks to improve the survival rate of severely injured patients. The Prehospital Analgesia INtervention Trial, or PAIN, is a nationwide, Phase III, prehospital clinical trial that aims to compare the effect of two intravenous (IV) pain medications administered to severely injured patients in the prehospital course of treatment.

The PAIN Trial will investigate whether giving fentanyl or a low dose of ketamine to trauma patients with pain, who are in mild shock, affects health outcomes. The medications are given in an ambulance on the way to the hospital.

Fentanyl is widely recognized as a highly potent and deadly street drug, accounting for countless overdose deaths in the ongoing opioid epidemic, but it serves a medical purpose as a very effective emergency pain management medication for severely injured trauma patients. The drug can lower blood pressure and relieve severe pain but can also inhibit breathing reflexes, leading to respiratory problems. The study is assessing whether ketamine, an anesthetic that relieves pain without affecting breathing reflexes, can be a safer option for patients.

The PAIN Trial is being conducted under exception from informed consent for emergency research rules. This means that since the trial requires performing a potentially life-saving procedure in people who are too injured to give permission, patients who have a traumatic injury, are in shock, and need treatment for their pain will be enrolled. Permission for continued participation will be obtained from patients once they improve, or from their family members as soon as possible.

Premier Institutes

- MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, through a partnership with one of the nation's leading cancer
 centers, offers advanced multidisciplinary cancer treatments, innovative technologies, cutting-edge
 clinical trials, comprehensive supportive care programs, and cancer outreach, education, prevention,
 and survivorship services.
- **Cooper and Inspira Cardiac Care** is one of the most comprehensive cardiovascular programs in the region, providing a full range of heart care, from prevention and diagnosis to the most innovative nonsurgical techniques and surgical treatments, including stenting procedures, heart surgery, and minimally invasive procedures. These services span everything from diagnosis to advanced heart surgery to cardiac rehabilitation.
- **Cooper and Inspira Neuroscience** is dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of neurological and neurosurgical issues, including epilepsy, movement disorders, headache, and trauma, as well as brain, spine, and pituitary cancer. Cooper is recognized as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission.
- The Surgical Services Institute offers advanced treatment options in 12 specialty surgical areas, including ear, nose, and throat; pain management; colorectal; general; plastic and reconstructive; oral and maxillofacial; thoracic; urologic; and vascular. It is also home to the Cooper Aortic Center, the Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Center, the Level 1 Adult Trauma Center, and the Level 2 Pediatric Trauma Center.
- The Adult Health Institute is an extensive network of primary and specialty care services, including dermatology and dermatologic surgery, endocrinology, family medicine, geriatric medicine, infectious disease, internal medicine, nephrology, palliative care, and pulmonary medicine. Cooper Digestive Health Institute, the largest freestanding endoscopy center in South Jersey, provides a full range of gastrointestinal services, with satellite offices throughout the region.
- **Cooper Bone and Joint Institute** offers high-quality orthopaedic care with the latest technological advances. The integrated team includes fellowship-trained and board-certified experts in orthopaedics, rheumatology, podiatry, and rehabilitation for arthritis pain, sprains and strains, tendon or ligament injury, tendonitis, broken bones, dislocations, trauma, and more.
- The Women's and Children's Institute is home to the Children's Regional Hospital at Cooper, South Jersey's only acute care children's hospital, offering 27 pediatric subspecialties. Women's health care services include obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, urogynecology, and the Ripa Center for Women's Health and Wellness at Cooper, which provides primary and multispecialty care, radiology services, and wellness education.
- The Urban Health Institute is redesigning health care to meet the needs of an underserved population. Its founding principle is to ensure that community residents have access to quality preventive care and the tools to manage complex medical conditions. This institute includes Cooper Advanced Care Center, with primary care and medical and surgical specialties, and the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers, whose key role is knowledge dissemination and communication among organizations in Camden.

Centers of Excellence

- The Center for Critical Care Services provides the highest level of lifesaving inpatient care for seriously ill and injured patients. The Center is staffed by physician experts in sepsis, cardiogenic shock, and respiratory failure.
- The Center for Urgent and Emergent Services provides 24/7 access to immediate care, through the emergency department, 911 emergency medical services, toxicology, disaster medicine, air medical services, and the transfer center. Cooper urgent care centers take emergency department staffing to the community and offer extended day, evening, and weekend hours for patients of all ages.
- The Center for Population Health engages patients, caregivers, and the community through education, navigation, and direct patient care to deliver excellent community and value-based, patient-centered programs. These innovative programs Transitional Care, Population Health at Home, Post-Acute Care, Complex Care, Remote Patient Monitoring, and Community Outreach reach patients and community members at various stages of their health care journey, from prevention to recovery, including social needs.
- The Center for Trauma Services includes a Level 1 Adult Trauma Center and a Level 2 Pediatric Trauma Center and provides care for severely injured patients involved in motor vehicle crashes, falls, industrial accidents, and acts of violence. It offers an active community education program in trauma prevention and safety. Cooper is the only hospital in the region that provides trauma care for adults and children.



Cooper is a national leader in trauma care and one of the highest-volume trauma centers in the U.S.

Cooper University Health Care operates the only Level 1 trauma center in the nine counties of southern New Jersey and serves more than 5,000 critically ill and severely injured people each year.

Our Mission

To serve, to heal, to educate.

Our Vision

We will be the best place to be a patient, the best place to work, and the best place to learn and practice medicine.

2023 at a Glance

- Hospital Admissions: 31,666
- Emergency Department Visits: 80,900
- Urgent Care Visits: 59,938
- Outpatient Visits: 2,204,331
 - Cancer Visits
 - > Outpatient: 133,024
 - > Inpatient: 3,071

- Surgical Cases: 31,773
- Trauma Cases: 5,037
- Transfers From Area Hospitals: 7,378
- Cooper Team Members: 10,152
- Employed Physicians: 979

- Licensed Beds: 663
- Outpatient Locations: 100+
- Operating Revenue:\$2.2 Billion
- Active Patients:
 From All 50 States and
 More Than 35 Countries



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