

Dear Medical Education Research Community & Supporters,

We are delighted to share our first regional newsletter highlighting Medical Education-led research in the Kaiser Permanente Northern California (KPNC) Graduate Medical Education (GME) community. These quarterly newsletters will update key stakeholders about recent research news, newly implemented projects, recent publications and presentations, research awards, and relevant events. We hope you enjoy!

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# Medical Education Research Newsletter

**Q2: April - June 2025**

*Presented by the Kaiser Permanente Division of Research, [Biostatistical Consulting Unit \(BSCU\)](#).*

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# News and Announcements

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## Newsletter Audio Overview

Would you prefer to listen to these quarterly updates? We have utilized Google NotebookLM to produce a dynamic, [podcast-style overview](#) of this quarter's Medical Education research updates.



## Introducing the Medical Education Navigator Team

Does your current physician trainee seek to work on an existing research project or partner with an experienced researcher? Our Medical Education Navigator Team, comprised of a regional navigator from the Division of Research (DOR) and our GME research project managers, is here to help connect you with an ongoing KPNC investigation or mentor from the DOR or the medical education research community.



For more information on eligibility or to request services, visit our Navigator Team webpage [here!](#)

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# Medical Education Publications

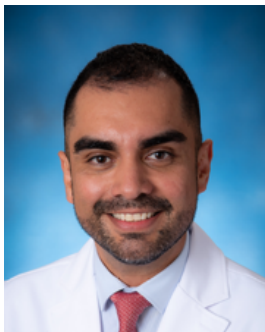
Q2: April - June 2025

Twelve Q2 publications addressed:

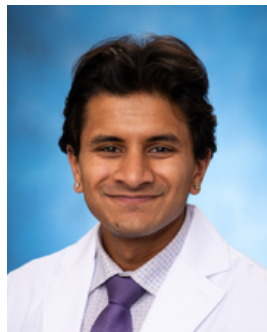
- **Racial and ethnic disparities** in lung cancer screening, surgery outcomes and conditions such as atopic dermatitis, alopecia areata, and Chagas disease (Dahabreh et al.; Dani et al.; Hernandez et al.; Tivakaran et al.; Vasic et al.)
- **Clinical management effectiveness**, including gut-directed hypnotherapy for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), optimal surgical approaches for cervical cancer, and the implications of basal plate myometrial fibers and Müllerian anomalies for obstetric care (Adler et al.; Guerra et al.; Le et al.; Murphy et al.)
- **Health delivery and operational challenges**, such as the impact of telehealth on time toxicity for advanced cancer patients, pediatric blood culture contamination rates, and the importance of precise medical imaging terminology (Childress et al.; DeLancey et al.; Duffens et al.)

## Cardiovascular Disease

**Chagas disease in Northern California: Observed prevalence, clinical characteristics, and outcomes within an integrated health care delivery system**



Salvador Hernandez



Kishan K. Srikanth



Akshay Bommireddi



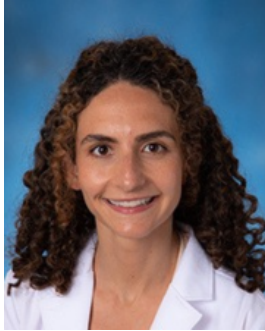
Thomas K. Leong

Additional Authors: David H. Miller, Andrew P. Ambrosy, Jonathan Zaroff

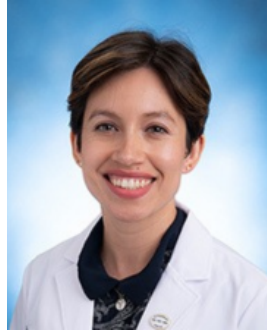
Salvador Hernandez, MD, and team published a manuscript in *The Permanente Journal* involving patients diagnosed with Chagas Disease from 2006-2022, examining demographic and clinical characteristics associated with adverse cardiovascular outcomes. [Publication link](#)

# **Gastroenterology.**

## **Gut-directed hypnotherapy for irritable bowel syndrome: A systemic review and meta-analysis**



Elizabeth C. Alder



Allison N. Ibarra



Eshandeep S. Boparai



Yun-Yi Hung

Additional Authors: Emma H. Levine, Quincy D. McCrary, Jeffrey K. Lee

Elizabeth C. Alder, MD, and team published a meta-analysis in *Neurogastroenterology & Motility* encompassing 12 research studies and 1,158 patients with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), examining the effectiveness of gut-directed hypnotherapy in relieving pain and global IBS symptoms in comparison to standard interventions.

[Publication link](#)

# **General Surgery.**

## **Racial/ethnic disparities in lung cancer surgery outcomes in the USA**



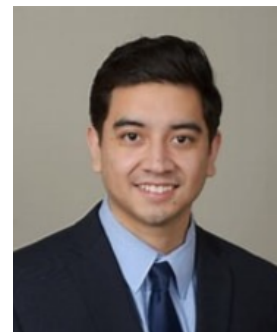
Kian C. Banks



Leyda Marrero Morales



Zeuz A. Islas



Nathan J. Alcasid

Additional Authors: Ivana Vasic, Julia Wei, Cynthia Susai, Angela Sun, Katemanee Burapachaisri, Ashish R. Patel, Simon K. Ashiku, Jeffrey B. Velotta

Ivana Vasic, MD, (not pictured) and team published a manuscript in *Epidemiologia* investigating racial/ethnic outcome disparities in patients undergoing

pulmonary resections for lung cancer by examining length of stay, 30-day return to the emergency department, ICU transfer, 30-day readmission, 30- and 90-day outpatient appointments, and 30- and 90-day overall mortality. [Publication link](#)

## **Gynecology/Oncology**

**Long-term impact of surgical route and tumor size on risk of recurrence among early-stage cervical cancer patients in a managed care population**



Rosa A. Guerra



Lue-Yen Tucker



Ramey Littell

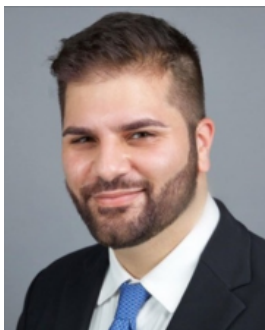


Allison H. Kay

Rosa A. Guerra, MD, and team published a retrospective study in the *International Journal of Gynecological Cancer* comparing survival outcomes among 414 patients with early-stage IA2 to IIA1 cervical cancer who underwent minimally invasive surgery or open surgery. [Publication link](#)

## **Internal Medicine**

**Atopic dermatitis prevalence among Asian American and Pacific Islander children: A retrospective study in a Northern California health care system**



Dante Dahabreh



Joan C. Lo



Albert S. Chiou



Patrick E. McCleskey

Additional Authors: Malini Chandra, Jeanne A. Darbinian, Jimmy Ko, Anna Chen Arroyo

Dante Dahabreh, MD, and team published a retrospective cross-sectional study in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology* aiming to determine the prevalence of atopic dermatitis in Asian American children aged 5-17 between 2017 and 2018.

[Publication link](#)

## **Lung cancer screening disparities in Asian American subgroups in a large integrated health system**



Seth J. Tivakaran



Julia L. Raghu



Jeff C. K. Leung



King Sum Tong

Additional Authors: Nicholas L. Panyanouvong, Carmen Javier, Sheng-Fang Jiang, Lester Andrew V. Uy, Armaan Jamal, Malathi Srinivasan, Nitya Rajeshuni, Gloria S. Kim, Robert J. Huang, Latha Palaniappan, Jeffrey B. Velotta

Seth J. Tivakaran, BS, and team published a retrospective longitudinal cohort study in *The American Surgeon* examining lung cancer screening rates to identify disparities across Asian American subgroups from 2015-2022 under both the 2013 and 2021 United States Preventive Services Task Force screening guidelines. [Publication link](#)

## **Racial and ethnic differences in the burden of alopecia areata in contemporary pediatric practice**



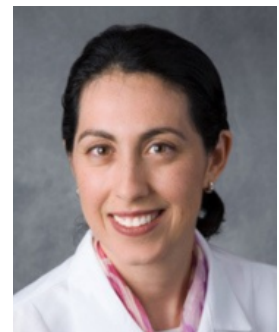
Advika A. Dani



Joan C. Lo



Nirmala D. Ramalingam



Paradi Mirmirani

Additional Authors: Jeanne A. Darbinian

Advika A. Dani, MD, and team published a retrospective cross-sectional study in *Pediatric Dermatology* examining racial and ethnic variation in alopecia areata

prevalence in 598,067 children aged 5-17 years, who received routine pediatric care from 2017-2019. [Publication link](#)

## **Telehealth and health care contact days among patients with advanced cancer after COVID-19**



Ali M. Duffens



Shiyun Zhu



Aida Shirazi



Arjun Gupta

Additional Authors: Raymond Liu

Ali M. Duffens, MD, and team published a retrospective cohort study in *JAMA Network Open* comparing 6,558 pre-COVID-19 (Jan 2015-Feb 2020) and 3,085 post-COVID-19 (Mar 2020-June 2022) patients with stage 4 cancer who died within a year of diagnosis to evaluate how the pandemic affected time toxicity through changes in health care use, including outpatient visits, hospitalizations, and telehealth.

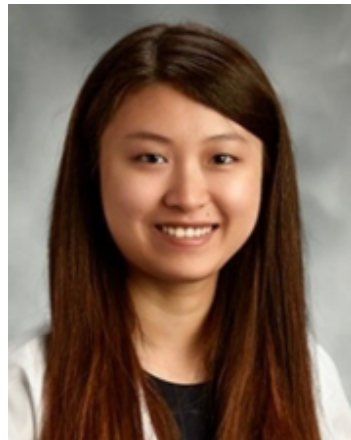
[Publication link](#)

## **Obstetrics/Gynecology**

### **Are the uterosacral ligaments detached in young women with pelvic floor symptoms after birth?**



John O. L. DeLancey



Wenjin Cheng



Luyun Chen

John O. L. DeLancey, MD, and team published a letter to the editor in *Acta Obstetricia et Gynecologica Scandinavica* that discusses why characterizing uterosacral ligaments as "detached" on magnetic resonance imaging in young women experiencing postpartum pelvic floor symptoms can be misleading, and argues that denoting them as "not visible" is a more accurate interpretation. [Publication link](#)

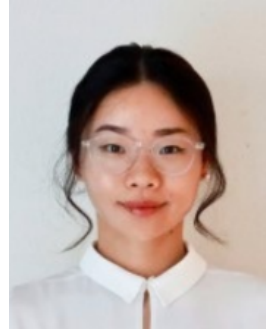
## **Incidentally identified basal plate myometrial fibers and hemorrhage risk in the subsequent pregnancy**



Galen Schauer



Yun-Yi Hung



Yunjie Li



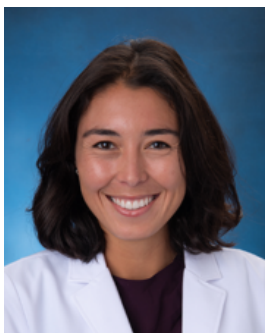
Miranda Ritterman  
Weintraub

Additional Authors: Gianna T. Le, Mara B. Greenberg

Gianna T. Le, MD, (not pictured) and team published a retrospective cohort study in *Reproductive Medicine* examining 140 first-time pregnant patients diagnosed with placenta accreta based on findings of basal plate myometrial fibers (BPMFs), to determine if BPMFs were linked to adverse outcomes in subsequent pregnancies.

[Publication link](#)

## **Preconception counseling in the setting of unilateral cervical atresia in a patient with uterus bicornuate bicollis: A case report**



Hana Murphy



Kathleen O'Brien



Yolanda Smith

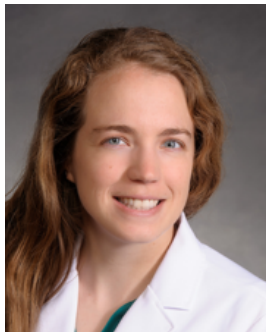


Monica W. Rosen

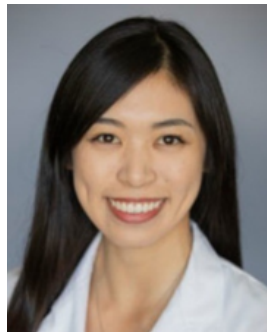
Hana Murphy, MD, and team published a case report in the *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology* involving a 21-year-old patient with no history of pregnancy, who presented with atypical uterus bicornuate bicollis with unilateral cervical atresia and communication between bilateral cervixes. Key aspects of pregnancy counseling included surgical and in vitro fertilization options. [Publication link](#)

## **Pediatrics**

### **Pediatric blood culture contamination rates and risk factors in a large integrated health system**



Kelsey Childress



Nancy Fong



Peter Cooch



Marilyn L. Kwan

Additional Authors: Michael Hartmann and Giselle Fernandes

Kelsey Childress, MD, and team published a retrospective cohort study in *Hospital Pediatrics* analyzing 89,948 pediatric blood cultures collected between 2014 and 2022 across a multicenter healthcare system to identify potential risk factors for contamination, including patient age and type of provider performing the blood draw.

[Publication link](#)

More Publications and Presentations

# Recent Research Events

Each spring, KPNC Medical Education programs facilitate numerous internal research events across the region. This year, the community held 9 research-oriented events! Below is a list of events with some highlights:

## April

- **KP San Francisco Internal Medicine Research Symposium**
- **3rd Annual KPNC Gastroenterology Fellowship Research Symposium**
- **22nd Annual KPNC Obstetrics and Gynecology Resident Research Symposium**



## May

- [4th Annual KPNC Scholarly Cross-residency Output & Presentation Extravaganza \(SCOPE\)](#)
- [9th annual KPNC Regional Cardiovascular Research Symposium](#)
- **7th Annual Napa-Solano Kaiser Permanente Research Week**
- **KPNC Foot & Ankle Summit**

- Santa Clara Internal Medicine Residency Research Symposium
- KP San Francisco Academy of Medical Educators 6th annual Research Symposium



For more information about select Medical Education conferences, symposia and award winners, visit the BSCU's [LinkedIn!](#)

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# New Research Projects

**Q2: April - June 2025**

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Thirty-three resident- and fellow-led projects kicked off this quarter, spanning cardiovascular disease, community medicine, emergency medicine, family medicine, gastroenterology, head & neck surgery, hematology/oncology, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics, pediatric hospital medicine, psychiatry, urogynecology, and vascular surgery.

These diverse studies aim to improve patient outcomes and optimize healthcare delivery, investigating topics such as advanced cancer care, maternal and child health, chronic disease management, the impact of AI scribes, doula care, as well as various disease prevalence and risk factors.

If you are interested in collaborating or notice a potential overlap with an already-existing KPNC investigation, please contact us at [BSCU@kp.org](mailto:BSCU@kp.org).

## **Cardiovascular Disease**

**Study Title:** The International Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection Registry - Aims 1 and 2

**Principal Investigator:** Naderi, Sahar

**Lead Trainee:** Fairman, Alix

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

## **Community Medicine**

**Study Title:** Limited English proficiency and kidney disease outcomes in Hispanic adults in Kaiser Permanente Northern California members

**Principal Investigator:** Gonzalez, Ruben

**Lead Trainee:** Larez, Raymond

**Medical Center:** Vallejo

## **Emergency Medicine**

**Study Title:** The benefits of serial influenza vaccination in children - oseltamivir

**Principal Investigator:** Zitek, Tony

**Lead Trainee:** Al-Najjar, Laith

**Medical Center:** Modesto

**Study Title:** The benefits of serial influenza vaccination in children - influenza infections

**Principal Investigator:** Zitek, Tony

**Lead Trainee:** Yu, Alexander

**Medical Center:** Modesto

### **Family Medicine**

**Study Title:** Evaluating the impact of ambient AI scribes on clinical documentation burden among primary care residents in Kaiser Permanente Northern California

**Principal Investigator:** Friedman, Rachel

**Lead Trainee:** Magan Mendoza, Yimdriuska

**Medical Center:** Santa Rosa

**Study Title:** The impact of doula care on Cesarean rates in first time mothers with singleton term live births

**Principal Investigator:** Whitaker, Aljane

**Lead Trainee:** Zai, Tiffany

**Medical Center:** Vallejo

### **Gastroenterology**

**Study Title:** Improving health outcomes and reducing healthcare costs in individuals with helicobacter pylori infection in a large, community-based population - risk factors of esophageal adenocarcinoma and Barrett's esophagus after H. Pylori treatment among KPNC adult members

**Principal Investigator:** Li, Dan

**Lead Trainee:** Medina, Sheyla

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

### **Head & Neck Surgery**

**Study Title:** The role of glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor agonists in the medical management of spontaneous cerebrospinal fluid leaks

**Principal Investigator:** Liang, Jonathan

**Lead Trainee:** Collazo Melendez, Samuel

**Medical Center:** Oakland

### **Hematology/Oncology**

**Study Title:** End of life outcomes of advanced cancer patients at Kaiser Permanente Northern California

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Nortey, Joel

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Oncology secure messaging in the era of the novel coronavirus pandemic

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Anderson, Brandon

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Unveiling the hidden burden: Prevalence and characteristics of symptomatic cancer diagnosed in emergency and hospital settings - Aim 1

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Anderson, Brandon

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Evaluating the feasibility of a trauma-focused support group for patients with mixed cancer diagnoses

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Anderson, Brandon

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Immunomodulatory drug use and the incidence of secondary primary malignancies in patients with multiple myeloma: A retrospective cohort analysis

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Lynch, Andrew

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

## **Internal Medicine**

**Study Title:** Risk of colorectal cancer after traditional serrated adenoma removal

**Principal Investigator:** Lee, Jeffrey

**Lead Trainee:** Oh, Aaron

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** The initial care of younger adults with newly diagnosed Type 2 diabetes: Examining associations between patient-reported factors and inadequate early disease control (survey study)

**Principal Investigator:** Gopalan, Anjali

**Lead Trainee:** Yin, Chelsea

**Medical Center:** Oakland

**Study Title:** Time toxicity in malignant glioma patients within an integrated healthcare system

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Wabl, Chiara

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Trends of lung cancer in those eligible for screening according to standardized screening guideline

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Song, Janet

**Medical Center:** Santa Clara

**Study Title:** Utility of fluid resuscitation in low-risk patients with severe sepsis - stratified by BMI

**Principal Investigator:** Seigel, Todd

**Lead Trainee:** Shieh, Christine

**Medical Center:** Oakland

**Study Title:** Seasonal and regional variation in systemic reactions to subcutaneous immunotherapy for environmental allergies at Kaiser Permanente Northern California

**Principal Investigator:** Stephen, Ellen

**Lead Trainee:** Bhatnagar, Saheba

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** GLP-1RA efficacy for weight loss in cancer survivors

**Principal Investigator:** Feliciano, Elizabeth

**Lead Trainee:** Song, Janet

**Medical Center:** Santa Clara

**Study Title:** Variable phenotypes of eosinophilic esophagitis: Does gender, age and race play a role?

**Principal Investigator:** Lam, Angela

**Lead Trainee:** Song, Janet

**Medical Center:** Santa Clara

**Study Title:** Improving health outcomes and reducing healthcare costs in individuals with helicobacter pylori infection in a large, community-based population – potential adverse effects of H. pylori treatment on risk of autoimmune disease

**Principal Investigator:** Li, Dan

**Lead Trainee:** Song, Janet

**Medical Center:** Santa Clara

**Study Title:** Can the omega score be used to stratify women with early stage HR+ breast cancer to better understand competing mortality and who would benefit from HRT?

**Principal Investigator:** Liu, Raymond

**Lead Trainee:** Wabl, Chiara

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

## **Obstetrics/Gynecology**

**Study Title:** Performance of transvaginal ultrasound for the diagnosis of uterine cancer in patients with postmenopausal bleeding

**Principal Investigator:** Garcia, Christine

**Lead Trainee:** Wallis-Lang, Kendahl

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

**Study Title:** Maternal and neonatal outcomes associated with inductions of labor and medically-indicated vs. elective induction of labor in a large integrated health delivery system

**Principal Investigator:** Greenberg, Mara

**Lead Trainee:** Mvemba, Audrey

**Medical Center:** Oakland

**Study Title:** Placenta accreta spectrum outcomes with termination versus continuation of pregnancy

**Principal Investigator:** Stephenson, Megan

**Lead Trainee:** Mattson, Anna

**Medical Center:** Santa Clara

**Study Title:** Incidence rate of and risk factors associated with neonatal herpes simplex virus infection - characteristics of the infant HSV cases

**Principal Investigator:** Greenhow, Tara

**Lead Trainee:** Batiste, Kierra

**Medical Center:** Oakland

## **Pediatric Hospital Medicine**

**Study Title:** The impact of adverse childhood experiences on hospitalization outcomes in children with respiratory illness

**Principal Investigator:** Young-Wolff, Kelly

**Lead Trainee:** Rivkin, Lauren

**Medical Center:** Oakland

## **Pediatrics**

**Study Title:** Incidence rate of and risk factors associated with neonatal herpes simplex virus infection – maternal HSV antiviral use for prophylactic versus treatment purposes

**Principal Investigator:** Greenhow, Tara

**Lead Trainee:** Khera, Jaibir

**Medical Center:** Oakland

## **Psychiatry**

**Study Title:** Associations among consumption of self-reported dietary quality and anxiety and depression severity in early pregnancy

**Principal Investigator:** Ferrara, Assiamira

**Lead Trainees:** Abeldt, Brittany and Sedaghati, Shawyon

**Medical Center:** Oakland

## **Urogynecology**

**Study Title:** Association between connective tissue disease diagnosis and the prevalence and surgical management of pelvic organ prolapse in a healthcare maintenance organization

**Principal Investigator:** Alagh, Amy

**Lead Trainee:** Cheng, Wenjin

**Medical Center:** Oakland

## **Vascular Surgery**

**Study Title:** Re-evaluating current post-carotid endarterectomy surveillance: Long-term results from a large integrated regional health system

**Principal Investigator:** Chang, Robert

**Lead Trainee:** Flanagan, Colleen

**Medical Center:** San Francisco

Click [here](#) for a comprehensive list of recent Medical Education research projects.

Did we miss something?

Are there Medical Education-led publications, research awards, or events we should know about? [Click here](#) to let us know!

