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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NORTHEAST GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER  
INCREASES NUMBER OF RESIDENT PHYSICIANS**

GAINESVILLE, Ga. – More physicians are on the way to care for people across the region, as Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) learned Friday who is joining the newest class of resident physicians this summer.

The organization’s seventh class spans seven specialties and increases the number of residents in each specialty to:

- 34 General Surgery
- 60 Internal Medicine
- 36 Family Medicine
- 36 Emergency Medicine
- 22 Psychiatry
- 12 Transitional Year
- 12 Primary Care Track

NGMC also has 17 Cardiovascular Disease fellows and one Hospice and Palliative Medicine fellow working and training, bringing the total number of physician learners to 230.

All new residents and fellows begin work on July 1.

NGMC welcomes:

**Emergency Medicine Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

John Cheek, MD - Mercer University School of Medicine/GA  
Marisol Escanuela, MD - Medical College of Georgia/GA  
Rebekah Fayard, MD - Louisiana State University/TX  
Jevaughn Henry, DO - University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine/FL  
Kelsey Hodge, DO - Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL  
Brandon Kapalko, DO - Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Sophia Lemus, DO - New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Bilal Naeem, DO – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Margaret ‘Jessica’ Nivens, MD - University of South Carolina School of Medicine/GA  
David Park, MD - Mercer University School of Medicine/GA  
Hannah Thomas, DO - University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine/KY  
Elizabeth Vandervort, DO - Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL

**Family Medicine Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Ryan Almodovar, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL  
Mariya Barbarovich, MD - Trinity School of Medicine/FL  
Ghazal Becker, DO - Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Louisiana Campus/MD  
Freeda Cherian, MD - St. George’s University School of Medicine/NY  
Chase Czaykowski, MD - Loma Linda University School of Medicine/GA  
Flavio Flores Ayala, MD - Morehouse School of Medicine/GA  
Jessica Hays, DO - Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Morgan Ivey, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Arcelia ‘Dianne’ Pioquinto, DO - Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA  
Jacob Tadros, MD - Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University/GA  
Rylie Veik, DO - Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Auburn Campus/GA

Alison Young, DO - Lincoln Memorial University – DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

**General Surgery Categorical Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Sara Doerr, MD - Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University/GA

Mohamad Mansour, MD - American University of Beirut/Lebanon

Amir Panah, MD - Justus-Liebig-Universitaet Giessen/Germany

Jonathan Ray, MD - Marshall University Joan C Edwards School of Medicine/WV

Hemant Srivastava, MD - University of Alabama School of Medicine/AL

Ryan Ulibarri, MD - Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine/PA

**General Surgery Preliminary Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Wyatt Erwin, DO - Lincoln Memorial University DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine/TN

Aaditya Jagadish, MBBS - M.S. Ramaiah Medical College/India

Hannah Kruse, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL

Stephanie Reed, MD - St. George's University/ Grenada

**Internal Medicine Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Annelise Bonvillain, MD – Medical College of Georgia/GA

Cameron Chappell, DO – Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine/UT

Mohamad Halwani, DO – Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine/TN

Elijah Humphries, DO – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Devaki Kalvapudi, MD – J.S.S. Medical College/CA

Yuhyun Kang, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Cirilo Lora, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL

Sahir Mohammad, MD – Trinity School of Medicine/IL

Mohamed Nefzi, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL

Derek Nikolaus, MD – East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine/TN

Joy Nish, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Sager Pattani, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Indranie Ramsaroop, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Adejoke, Shitta-Bey, MD – American University of Integrative Sciences School of Medicine/GA

Nabeel Siddiqi, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/CA

Boris Velimirovich, MD – Mercer University School of Medicine/Czechia

Bryant Vickers, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/AL

Emily Willis, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Danny Xiao, DO – Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Mehak Zainab, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

### **Primary Care Track – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Mahnour Azhar, MD – Allama Iqbal Medical College/Pakistan

Jeremy Naylor, DO – Lincoln Memorial University – DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine/AZ

Bryan Turman, MD – St. George’s University School of Medicine/MI

Youjin Yoo, MD – American University of Antigua College of Medicine/PA

### **Psychiatry Residents – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Nathaniel Clem, DO – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Johnathan Grimes, DO – Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine-Auburn Campus/AL

Ramananda Kishore Kavi, MD – Andhra Medical College/India

Karan Soni, DO – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Zuhaab Temuri, MD – University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia/SC

Shandana Younas, MD – Rehman Medical College/Pakistan

### **Transitional Year – Medical School and Home State/Country**

Faustina Adams, MD - Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science/MA

Allen Barbarovich, MD - Trinity School of Medicine/GA

Shyam Chandrasekar, MD - Northwestern University, The Feinberg School of Medicine/CA

Brielle Hentz, MD - George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences/GA

James Iheke, MD - University of Alabama at Birmingham Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine/TX

Anish Mittal, MD - Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine/GA

Joshua Nougaisse, MD - Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University/GA

Syed Shah, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Janice Tong, DO - Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine/GA

Robin White, MD - American University of Antigua College of Medicine/GA

Jerry Yue, MD – Morehouse School of Medicine/GA

Nathan Zhang, DO - Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine/FL

In the months leading up to Friday, medical students participating in the National Resident Matching Program applied to residency programs and interviewed at hospitals across the nation. After those interviews, residency programs ranked the students – and students ranked the programs. Both rank lists were plugged into a national database which crunches the numbers to determine which of the students match with NGMC. Those results are released on Match Day, which was Friday.

“It’s hard to believe this is our seventh Match Day,” says John E. Delzell, Jr., MD, MSPH, vice president of Medical Education for Northeast Georgia Health System and designated institutional official for NGMC. “I’m as excited to introduce this class to the community as I was back in 2019, when our inaugural class was announced. I’m even more

excited to share that more than 75% of our newly matched residents have strong ties to Georgia, which means they are even more likely to stay in our region to practice. This is why NGMC started its Graduate Medical Education program in the first place - the future is bright.”

Resident physicians are licensed doctors training in a specialty. They train for three to 10 years after medical school, providing patient care and performing procedures under appropriate supervision. They can write orders and prescribe medication. Residents also have educational, testing and evaluation requirements. Their training is overseen by Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

“NGMC is one of the largest graduate medical education programs in Georgia,” said Dr. Delzell. “The idea is to train the physician leaders of tomorrow right here in Hall County, so that they will stay to practice in this region and the state.”

Peach State Bank has been a crucial supporter of NGHS’ medical education initiatives. Through their generous donation to the NGHS Foundation, the bank has covered the membership for new residents to join the Downey Society, the organization's philanthropic giving group for physicians. This support underscores the community's commitment to developing future medical leaders in the region.

Learn more about NGMC's residency programs at [ngmcgme.org](http://ngmcgme.org).

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### **ABOUT NORTHEAST GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER**

Since 1951, Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) has been on a mission of improving the health of our community in all we do. With hospitals located in Gainesville, Braselton, Winder, Dahlonega and Demorest, the five NGMC campuses have a total of more than 1,000 beds and more than 1,500 medical staff members representing more than 60 specialties. NGMC is part of Northeast Georgia Health System, a non-profit that cares for more than one million people across more than 19 counties. Learn more at [nghs.com](http://nghs.com).

