

Virginia Mason Medical Center (VM) is a 300-bed teaching hospital in downtown Seattle that has been a leader in the care delivered to patients with complicated HPB disease for over 30 years. The volume of HPB cases is exceptionally high and is staffed by a three-surgeon team with varied training backgrounds. In addition to a strong HPB-surgery group, VM's Digestive Disease Institute hosts internationally recognized groups of advanced gastroenterologists and oncologists specializing in digestive disease, an ideal setting for a HPB fellowship and for comprehensive HPB clinical research. The fellow is sure to have a tremendous clinical experience, as well as the opportunity to participate in clinical and translational research.

The program is 2-year. This includes a professional development year that allows the fellow to develop competencies and obtain certification in advanced laparoscopy and robotics. Fellows are clinical busy spending most of their time honing in on their skills in the operating room for open surgery and laparoscopic and robotic surgery. The fellow also has opportunities for scholarly activities with clinical research, clinical reviews, all this is full supported by the staff as well as attendance of local and regional meetings.

VM is a leader in health care quality, and central to our outcomes is the VMPS and Kaizen methodologies applied to healthcare. Exposure to such methodologies positions outgoing fellows to occupy leadership positions within their future organizations

2024 - 2026 FELLOW: MUYOKA RENEE MAINA, MD

## VIRGINIA MASON HPB FELLOWS

2024-2026 Renee Maina, MD

2022-2024 Christine Chung, DO, Kaiser Sacramento

2021-2022 Yasmin Essaji, MD, McMaster University, Ottowa Canada

2019-2021 Russel Kirs, MD, Private Practice Savanah, Georgioa

2019-2020 Morgan Bonds, MD, University of Oklahoma

2018–2019 Janelle Rekman, MD, MAEd (Renfrew Victoria Hospital, Ontario, Canada)

2017-2018 Zaheer Kanji, MD (Royal Inland Hospital, UBC, Kamloops, Canada)

2016-2017 Jad Abou Khalil, MD, MSc (The University of Ottawa, Canada)

2015–2016 Kimberly Bertens MD, MPH (The University of Ottawa, Canada)

2014-2015 Jesse Clanton, MD (West Virginia University, Charleston, WV)

2013-2014 Farzad Alemi, MD (Verity/St. Vincent Med. Center, Los Angeles, CA)

2012-2013 Sameer Damle, MD (Kaiser Permanente, Washington, DC)

#### **CORE FACULTY**



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Lauren Wancata, MD, Program Director, is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed her surgical residency at the University of Michigan Health System. Additionally, she has completed fellowships in Hospice and Palliative Medicine at the University of Michigan Health System and HPB Surgery at Oregon Health & Science University.



THOMAS BIEHL, MD

Thomas Biehl, MD, Associate Program Director is a graduate of UC San Diego School of Medicine and completed his surgical training at Virginia Mason Medical Center. He is Chief of Peri-Operative and Peri-Procedural Services and his areas of expertise are in laparoscopic, biliary, hepatic, pancreatic, endocrine and cancer surgery.



SCOTT HELTON, MD

**Scott Helton, MD, Faculty,** is a graduate of UC Irvine College of Medicine and completed his surgical residency at the University of Washington. He completed fellowships in gastrointestinal peptide physiology at the University of Washington, surgical nutrition and metabolism at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and HPB Surgery and Liver Transplantation at the University of Toronto. He is Past- President of the AHPBA, and AHPBA Foundation, and past Treasurer of the IHPBA. He is current Chair of the Senior Council of the AHPBA.



Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

### FELLOW SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES

#### **Weekly Activities:**

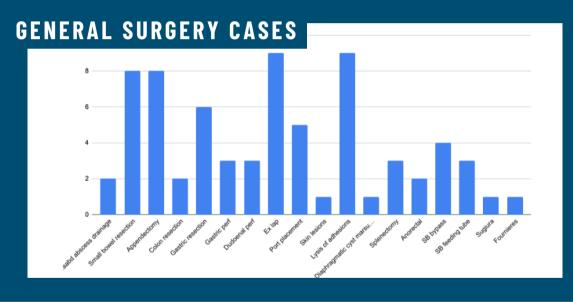
- 3 OR days
- 2 Clinic days
- Fellow-led Indications
  Conference
- M+M Conference
- GI Tumor board
- Liver Tumor Board

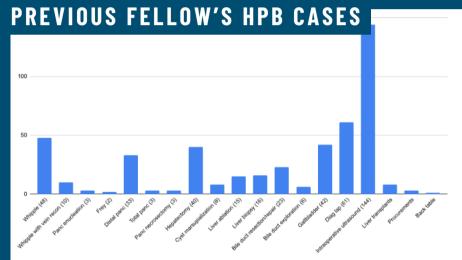
#### Sponsorship to attend:

- AHPBA & SSO Fellows courses
- AHPBA robotics course
- Advanced Laparoscopic Liver Resection course
- Expected clinical research projects & national/international presentations

# HPB FELLOWSHIP GOALS & EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

- Independent and detailed preoperative evaluation and decision making training
- Meticulous intra-operative skills training (open and laparoscopic)
- Independent and thorough postoperative HPB-patient care training
- AHPBA Educational curriculum





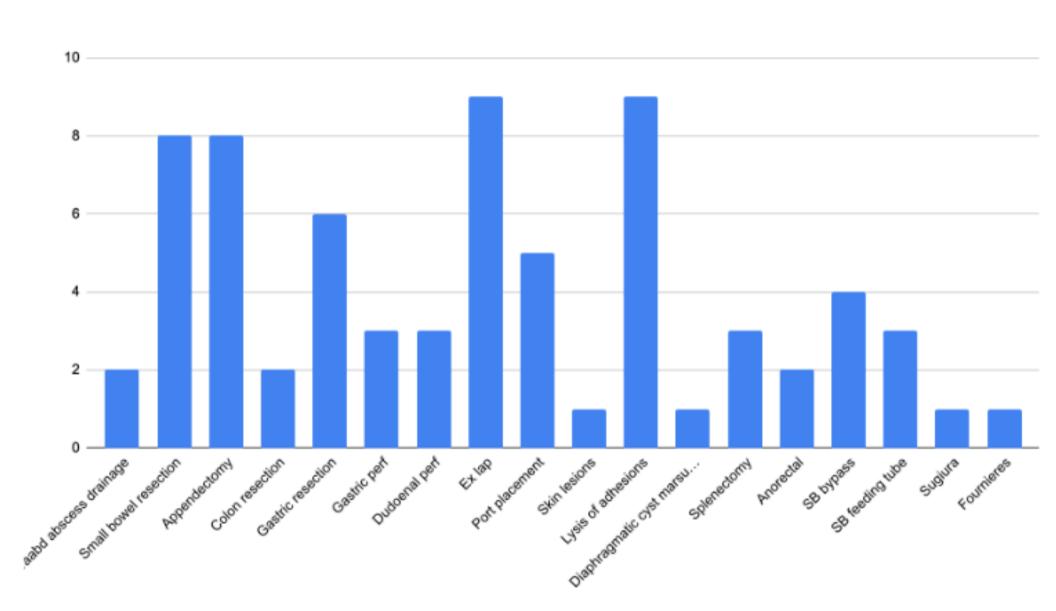
### LIVING IN THE EMERALD CITY

Seattle is the largest city in Washington and the Pacific Northwest, located on the Puget Sound within sight of the Olympic and Cascade Mountains as well as Mount Rainier. With a population of 3.7 million in the metropolitan area and nestled between lakes, mountains and rainforests, Seattle has offerings for the urbanite or ruralist.



# PROCEDURE BREAKDOWN: GENERAL SURGERY CASES





# PROCEDURE BREAKDOWN: HPB CASES



