

# *The Newspaper*



**University of Kentucky  
Department of Neurology  
October 2023**

## **Table of Contents**

1. Table of Contents
2. [Publications/Presentations](#)
3. [Presentations Cont./Achievements](#)
4. [Faculty Achievements/Trainee Achievements](#)
5. [Faculty and Residents Kudos/Resident Kudos](#)
6. [Staff Kudos/Seen & Heard](#)
7. [Trainee of the Month](#)
8. [Philanthropy](#)
9. [Wellness and Support Resources](#)
10. [Events](#)
11. [Save the Dates](#)

## Publications



Yardi AR, McLouth CJ, Mathias S, Jehi L. Telemedicine as a path to bridging inequities in patients with Epilepsy. *Epilepsia*. 2023 Oct 9. Epub ahead print.



Katyal N, Katsumoto T, Ramachandran K, Yunce M, Muppidi S. Plasma exchange in patients with myositis due to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy. *Journal of Clinical Neuromuscular Disease*. 2023;25:89-93

## Presentations

### American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodagnostic Medicine



Nakul Katyal, MD, presented his research abstract, "Effects of applying inclusion and exclusion criteria of phase III complement and FCRN inhibitors trials to AChR+ gMG patients in routine clinical care," at the AANEM conference.

## Presentations Cont.

### Society of Clinical Neurologists



Zabeen Mahuwala, MD,  
presented, "A rare case of  
Myasthenia at the SCN."

### Women in Neurology Conference



Zabeen Mahuwala, MD,  
presented, "Updates in  
Epilepsy."

### Achievements



**ABRET**  
Neurodiagnostic Credentialing and Accreditation

Long-Term Monitoring Laboratory Accreditation Board (LAB-LTM) of ABRET, accredited the University of KY Epilepsy Monitoring Program for five-year's.

## Faculty Achievements



Sally Mathias, MD, is a Fellow of American Epilepsy Society!



Sharoon Qaiser, MD, was invited to serve on the ABPN Child Neurology Certification and Continuing Certification Test Development Committee.

## Trainee Achievements

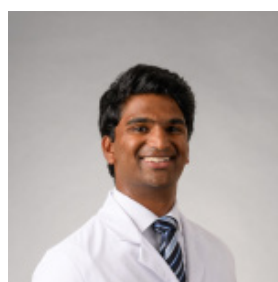
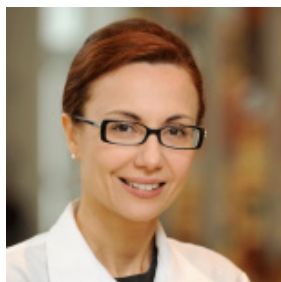
### APBN Boards Passed

Congratulations to our 2023 Trainees and to our current fellows and faculty who passed their boards!

Tonsi Ashwini Kini, MD; Khawla Abusamra, MBBS; Mangayarkarasi Thandampallayam Ajjeja, MBBS, (faculty) Homa Sadeghian, MD (fellow); Elif Pinar Coskun, MD, (fellow); Forrest Sturgill, MD, (fellow).



## Faculty and Residents Kudos



"A relative of mine was in UK's ER recently and needed a neurology consult. On my behalf, Drs. Bensalem and Dr. Slevin kindly contacted and provided information to Dr. Guduru, the attending. Dr. Guduru and his team, including Drs. Siddharthan and Prabu, provided us with excellent care and reassured us that the presenting symptoms would resolve. I wanted to let you know that I was very impressed with Dr. Guduru and his team and the degree of professionalism, respect and care they exhibited to patients and families. The professional advice and assistance of Drs. Bensalem and Slevin were also greatly appreciated."

## Resident Kudos



Misbah Azeem, MBBS, PGY 3, received a wonderful note from a veteran at the VA.

"I just want to say that the adjustment with my prescription has been great to relieve my symptoms the past couple of weeks. I also want to say how appreciative my wife and I were at the latest appointment. For so long I felt as if no one believed my RLS symptoms were as bad as they are. The provider at my last appointment had the most caring attitude and the best reassurance that RLS is not in my head and made up. Thank you so much for listening to me and coming up with a treatment plan."

Dr. Azeem received another review from a VA patient: "The VA here in Lexington is top notch! My dad has been going to the VA for many years and has always received excellent care! He was just hospitalized recently and the doctors and nurses that cared for him were fantastic. Dr. Azeem with Neurology is top notch! He is so knowledgeable and helps you understand exactly what is going on with your family member. He also has a level of compassion for the family. We appreciate him!"

## Staff Kudos



Nicolas Mosely, received a very nice compliment regarding his work at the Ohio Valley Spinal Symposium.

"I wanted to send you a quick note acknowledging the hard work of Nicholas Mosley for the 2023 Ohio Valley Spinal Symposium. Nicholas was thorough, time-sensitive, and accommodating. His accreditation paperwork was accurate & the event coordination was flawless. I have worked on multiple events & this conference was one of the best executed to date. The success is a direct result of Nicholas' dedication & I look forward to seeing the program's evaluations. I suspect they are outstanding."

## Seen and Heard



Nakul Katyal, MD, wrote an article that was featured in *Neurology Live* entitled, "Majority of patients with generalized Myasthenia Gravis fail to meet clinical trial criteria." [Click here](#) to read the article.



## Trainee of the Month - October



**Misbah Azeem, MBBS, PGY 3**

**Communication Skills:** “While he was working with our team on the BHU, he was a wonderful example of what I hope to see in off-service residents rotating through psychiatry. He took great care of his patients at every turn, but remained respectful and very willing to learn, a great balance to strike. His communication, whether with the physician team, nursing staff, patients or family members was wonderful- Respectful, professional, clear and empathetic. He was great with involving medical students in patient care, as well as teaching. During the month, there

were several patients who complained of minor neurological complaints, and Misbah helped us a great deal by reviewing neurological exams, helping us think through differentials, and offering level-appropriate teaching to our team. I was most impressed however at his persistent and genuine thirst to learn while on the service. Routinely, he would pose thoughtful, relevant questions about psychiatric differentials, diagnosis, treatments that had direct relevance to his future practice in neurology. I recall specific examples of his questions that provoked ongoing discussion included asking about the pathways involved in OCD, the mechanism of action of ECT, and treatment of PNES. Overall, he was a great resident to have on the team, and I look forward to working alongside him for patients in the future.”

**Professionalism:** “Dr. Azeem is very professional and is the role model for professionalism and communication skills. He is thorough with his presentations and notes are very detailed. He puts lot of effort to get every detail with history, course of hospital events and takes time to read all the notes thoroughly. Every team member says, "Misbah is the best" and this speaks a lot about his teamwork.”

**Teamwork:** “Dr. Azeem was a fantastic teacher!! Despite his busy schedule, He took time in the afternoons to teach us students and answer our questions. Furthermore, Dr. Azeem exemplified the qualities of a compassionate doctor as well as those of a strong and positive leader amongst the residents. The kind of individual every team desires!”

## Philanthropy

### Robert J. Baumann, MD Resident Endowment Fund

The endowment was established in honor of Dr. Baumann's skills as a clinician and educator. It provides much needed funding for resident learning opportunities and research-related needs that are not otherwise supported.



Education is one of the core missions of our department - we are always looking for ways to improve the curriculum and educational opportunities we provide. Our goal is to continue to attract the highest caliber trainees to our programs, provide comprehensive neurological education, and increase the number of neurologists available in the commonwealth capable of providing cutting edge patient care and who are dedicated to life-long learning. In 2015, the Robert J. Baumann, MD Fund for Neurology Residents was established to help us support our goals for the neurology resident program. Dr. Baumann has been a familiar face among neurology residents at the University of

Kentucky for four decades. Dr. Baumann truly embodies the teaching mission of our department. His devotion to the field of medicine and training the next generation of providers is truly second to none.

In keeping with Dr. Baumann's passion for providing a strong medical education, the endowment will bolster the continued expansion of the Residency Program and ensure that our trainees have a well-rounded experience, positioning us to be among the best,



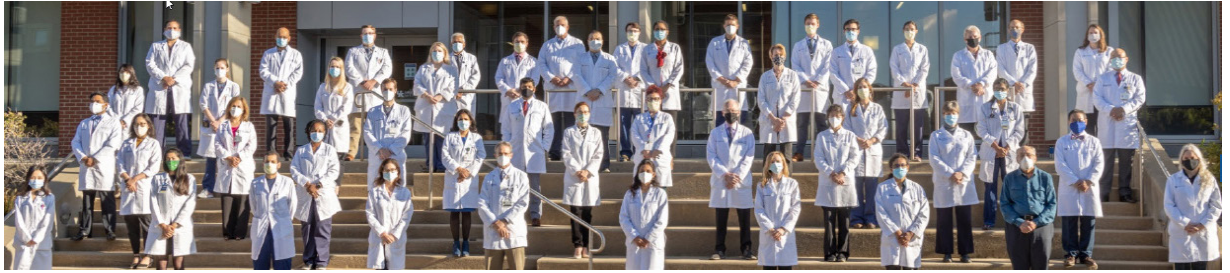
and most sought out programs in the United States. Please consider contributing to the continued growth of our program and making an impact on future neurology residents by making a gift to the Robert J. Baumann MD Fund for Neurology Residents. All donations will be acknowledged and are tax deductible.



Donations can be made by contacting our Director of Philanthropy, Lisa Deaton Greer. (859-323-5374 or [lisa.greer@uky.edu](mailto:lisa.greer@uky.edu)) or by clicking here <https://neurology.med.uky.edu/neurology-alumni>.



# Wellness and Support Resources



[Click here to find more helpful information on our Department of Neurology website.](#)

## UK Wellness Resources

Academic Resources offer a wide variety of online and in-person tips, tools, and suggestions.

## Workplace Safety

UK HealthCare is committed to safety and well-being of patients, visitors, and staff in our enterprise. We take all forms of aggression, violence, and threats seriously. Sometimes frontline staff don't report these incidents, because they feel disruptive behavior is "part of the job". There is uncertainty about how and where to report.

## Childcare

Several childcare facilities are located on or adjacent to the UK campus. Please note that some of these programs have a 9-10 month waiting list, so if you are interested, please talk to the directors as early as possible.

## Financial Health

You and your family have access to live financial experts for guidance on financial questions, big or small.

## Diversity and Inclusion

As healthcare providers, we have an obligation to do no harm. But our obligations go further to prevent harm from befalling others because of our inaction or silence.

## Spiritual

Various resources are available for spiritual support through the GME program.

## Abuse Response and Reporting

For procedures to report abuse, and for details of patient rights, click the title.

## The Vicarious Trauma Toolkit

The *Vicarious Trauma Toolkit* (VTT) was developed on the premise that exposure to the traumatic experiences of other people—known as *vicarious trauma*—is an inevitable occupational challenge for the fields of victim services, emergency medical services, fire services, law enforcement, and other allied professionals; however, organizations can mitigate the potentially negative effects of trauma exposure by becoming vicarious trauma-informed.

## Well-Being

The University of Kentucky GME Wellness In Training Committee is devoted to helping GME learners achieve their highest potential through the integration of the physical, social, emotional, environmental and economic aspects of wellness.

## Physician Support Line

This is a peer-to-peer support line for physicians by physicians that is available to US based DO / MD / International equivalents at the attending, fellow, resident, intern, medical student, or research level. Any discussions are confidential and protected.

## Lexington Medical Society Physician Wellness Program

Services include individual counseling, couples/family sessions, and sessions with spouse/partners alone. These confidential and free counseling services are available to anyone.

## UK Work-Life Counseling

Free and confidential counseling for life stress, work performance, substance abuse concerns, and mental health.

## UK REFER Program

A Family Center Counseling service provided as a benefit to UK employees that focuses on personal, couple, and/or family concerns.

## Emergent Psychiatry Services

UK Department of Psychiatry Outpatient Clinic Access to confidential consultation is available through the UK Outpatient Clinic during business hours, five days per week. Call 859-323-6021 and follow the prompts for the Outpatient Clinic.

## The Ridge Behavioral System

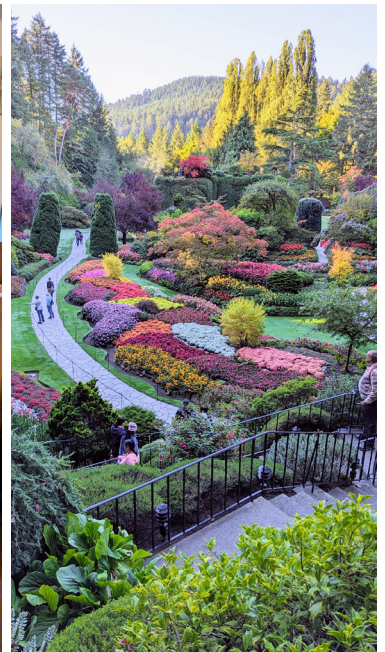
Access to confidential consultation regarding the need for emergency psychiatric services is available to 24 hours per day, seven days a week. The house staff officer is to call 859-268-6400 and ask for the Assessment Office and identify oneself as a UK resident/fellow needing immediate evaluation.

## Events

### CoM Awards Ceremony



### Child Neurology Society



## Save the Dates



## **International Stroke Conference February 7, 2024 - February 9, 2024 Phoenix, Arizona**

Rachel Ward-Mitchell, RN, BSN, would like to invite you to the virtual epilepsy support group via Zoom. This meeting is the first Tuesday of the month from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. If you would like to join the meetings please contact Rachel at 859.218.5053 or through Central Kentucky Epilepsy Network <https://www.facebook.com/CentralKentuckyEpilepsySupportNetwork>.

Please submit contributions for the November  
Newspaper to Lee Anne Rudd, ([lee.rudd@uky.edu](mailto:lee.rudd@uky.edu)).