

Department of Surgery Town Hall

September 14, 2026

Mission and Vision



Mission

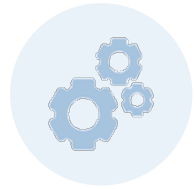
Pursuit of excellence in surgical care by
constant innovation and education to
give every patient the best care



Vision

The Future of Surgery Today

Core Values



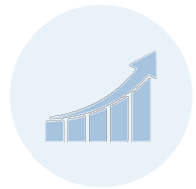
Integrated Effort

Develop and maintain strategic partners in the health system and the community. Continue expanding our multidisciplinary, team-based approach and integrated health care delivery.



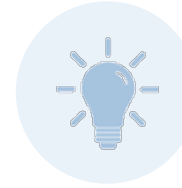
Patient-Centered Care

Offer the most innovative programs, treatments and surgical care in the region. Expand footprint in the community to improve access and patient experience.



Performance

Be financially sustainable and implement continuous performance improvement.



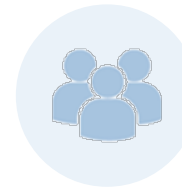
Education

Become one of the best surgical training programs in the U.S.



Research

Be the top surgical department in research funding.



People

Create a collaborative environment. Focus on wellness and leadership development.



Quality and Safety

Be a national leader in surgical quality and safety.

INTEGRATED EFFORT
PATIENT-CENTERED CARE
PERFORMANCE



EDUCATION
RESEARCH
PEOPLE
QUALITY & SAFETY

THE FUTURE OF SURGERY TODAY

The pursuit of excellence in surgical care by constant innovation and education to give every patient the best care.



UNDENIABLE PROOF
VCU Medical Center ranked #1 in Virginia

Department of Surgery's Top Docs

Of the 1,310 providers who made the list, we are proud to share that more than 370 VCU Health team members are considered "Virginia's Top Doctors" by Virginia Business. The publication's 2026 list is compiled from peer nominations of high-quality health care professionals among 87 specialties.

The Department of Surgery accounted for 41 of the 370 VCU Health team members recognized.

Breast Surgery

Kandace P. McGuire, M.D.

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Josue Chery, M.D.
Vigneshwar Kasirajan, M.D., FACS
Brian Kogon, M.D.
Patricia Nicolato, D.O.
Mohammed A. Quader, M.D.

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Jaime L. Bohl, M.D., FACS, FASCRS
Emily Rivet, M.D.
Nicole Wiegard, M.D., FACS, FASCRS

General Surgery

Michel Aboutanos, M.D.
Jonathan D. Bennett, M.D.
Patrick Melmer, M.D.
Levi Procter, M.D.
Edgar Rodas, M.D.
Jennifer Salluzzo, M.D., FACS
Ashley Slaughter, M.D.

Oral And Maxillofacial Surgery

A. Omar Abubaker, D.M.D.
Yotom Rabinowitz, DDS
Shravan Renapurkar, DMD
Robert A Strauss, DDS, M.D.

Pediatric Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Jennifer L. Rhodes, M.D., FACS, FAAP

Pediatric Surgery

Charles E. Bagwell, M.D.
Laura A. Boomer, M.D., FACS, FAAP
Jeffrey Haynes, M.D., FACS, FAAP
Patricia A. Lange, M.D.
David Lanning, M.D., Ph.D.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Michael Feldman, M.D.
Paschalia Mountziaris, M.D., Ph.D.

Surgical Oncology

Amelia Grover, M.D.
Leopoldo Fernandez, M.D.
Adam Khader, M.D.
Raphael Louie, M.D., MPH
Jose Trevino, M.D., FACS

Thoracic Surgery

Anthony Cassano, M.D.
Rachit D. Shah, M.D.

Vascular Surgery

Francisco Albuquerque, M.D.
Robert A. Larson, M.D.
Mark Levy, M.D.
Daniel Newton, M.D.

Weight Loss Surgery

Guilherme M. Campos, M.D., PhD, FACS, FASMBS
Ryan Fairley, D.O.



VCU DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY- YEAR OF FIGHTING AGAINST DISEASE



16

Outpatient Clinic Locations



665,181

wRVUs



15,138

OR Cases



368

Faculty, APPs, and Staff



8.5%

Growth in Research Direct \$
Awards over the last 3 FYs



400+

Publications



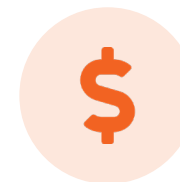
95,813

Clinic Visits



99

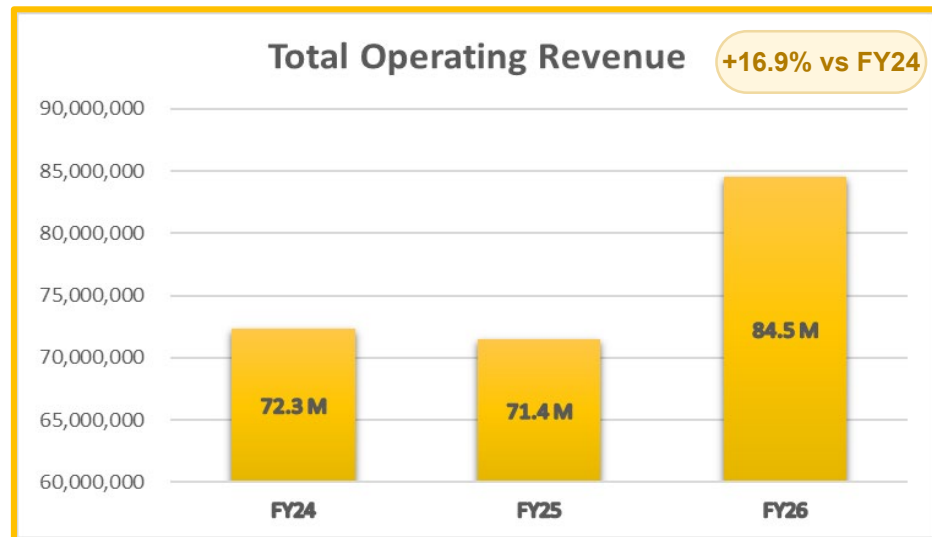
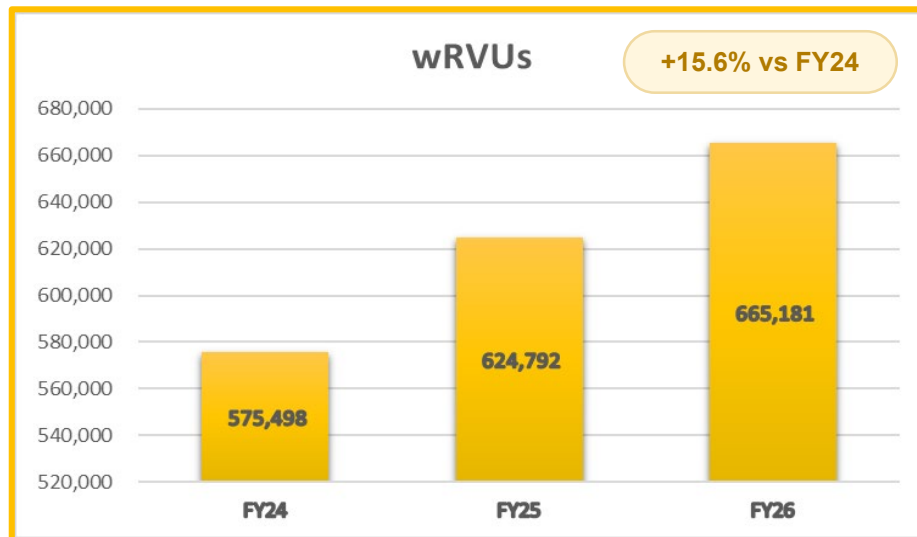
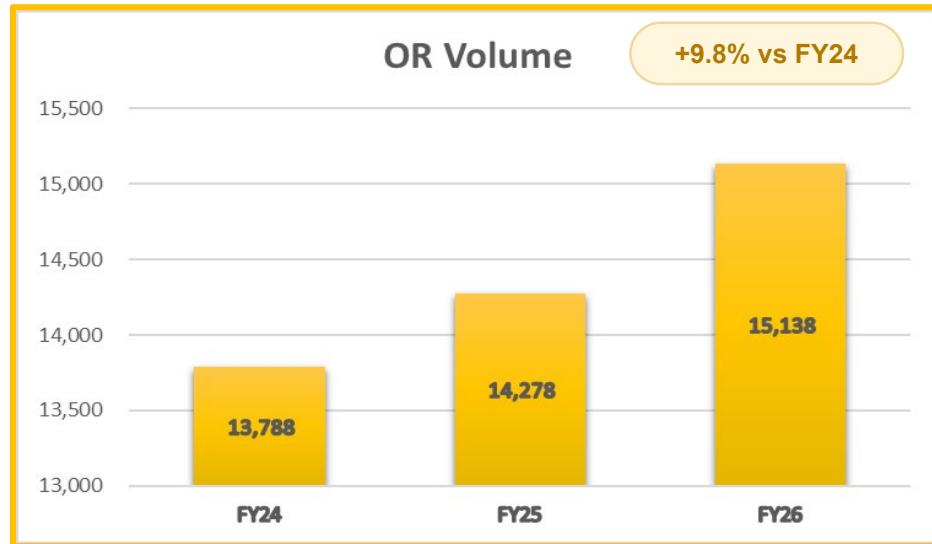
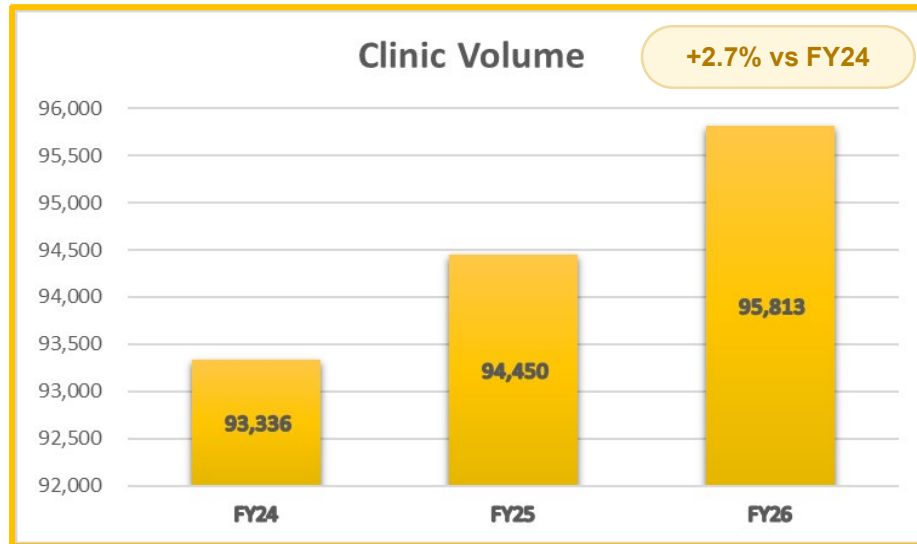
Residents and Fellows



84.5M

Revenue

Statistics (FY24 – FY26)





Fighting Disease | Educating the Next Generation

Educational Programs



99

GME Housestaff



187

M3 Students



100%

Board Pass Rate

How are we performing



Accreditation & Board Success

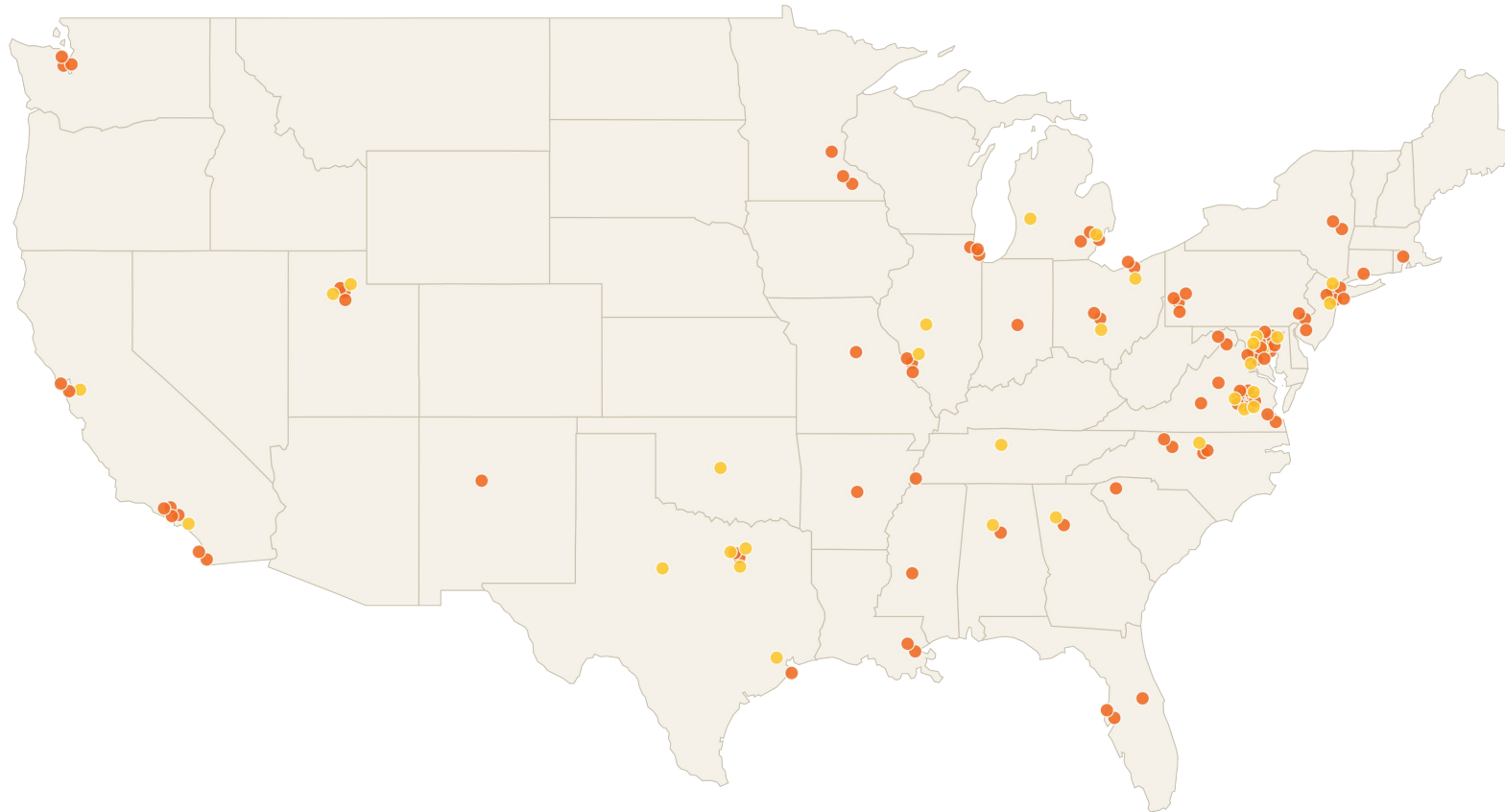
- **No citations** across General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Fellowship programs
- **100% Board Pass Rate**
- **+ 5 Complement increase** for General Surgery Residency Program!



LCME Learning Environment

- **Increased educational opportunities** and exposure to surgical specialties
- **70% reduction** in Shelf Exam failures
- Expanded **didactic sessions**
- **10% improvement** in overall educational experience

Alumni Practice Locations



● **General Surgery** — 107 Alumni

● **Plastic Surgery** — 35 Alumni

Graduated Fellows — 194 Alumni

5 additional alumni practice internationally and are not shown on this map: London, UK • Toronto, Canada (2) • Nassau, Bahamas • Kaohsiung, Taiwan



Thank You

To Our Educational Leaders



Thank You
To Our Educational Staff



SERVICE AWARDS
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION & MENTORSHIP

Excellence in Surgical Education (Faculty)



Recognizes exceptional teaching, mentorship, curriculum development, or trainee advocacy.

Excellence in Education & Mentorship

Nominees

Nicholas Roney, MD

Patrick Melmer, MD

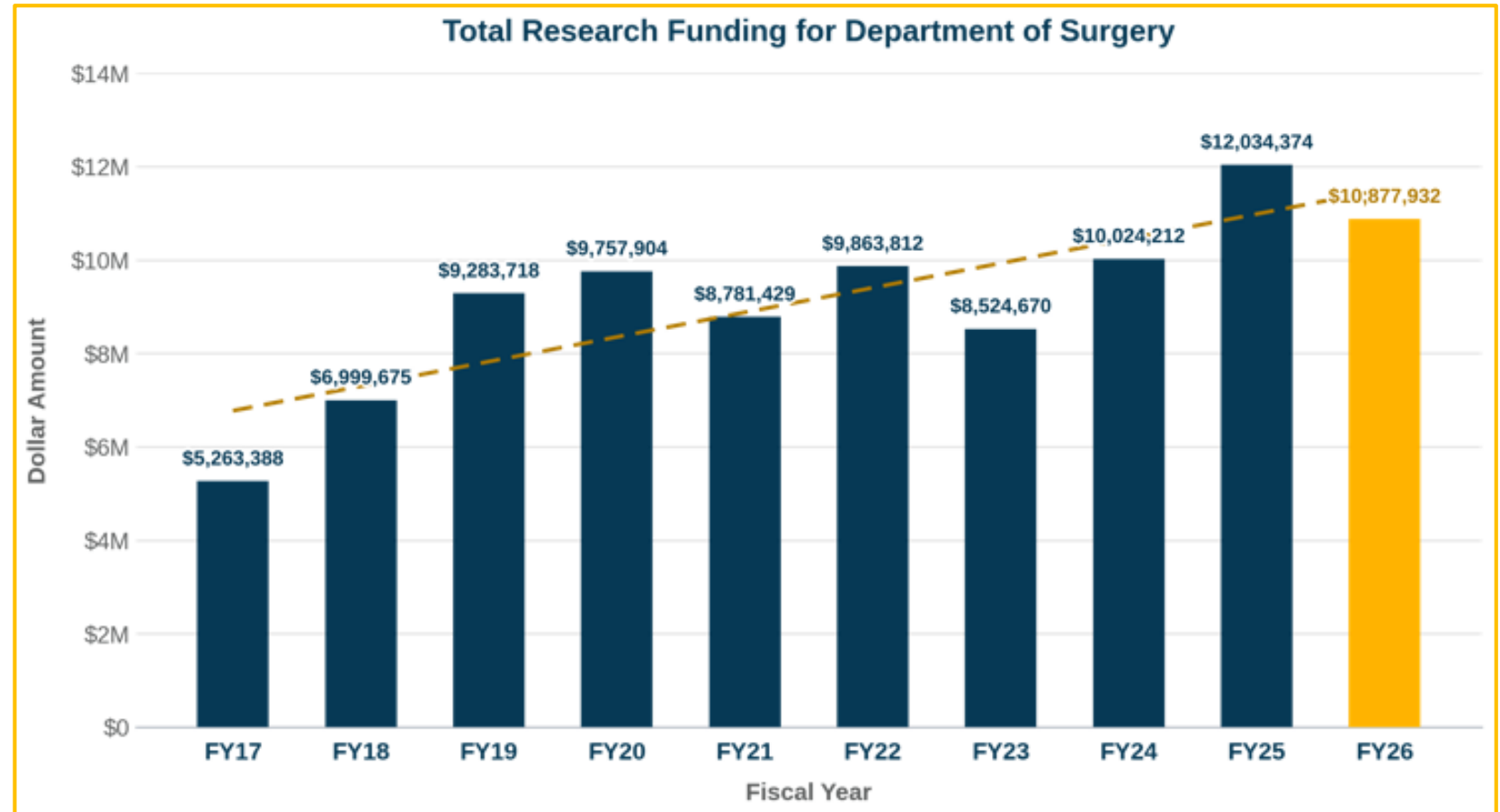
Ricardo Bello, MD

Honors a faculty member who has made significant contributions to surgical education through exceptional teaching and mentorship. Recognizes leadership in curriculum development and a steadfast commitment to trainee success.



Fighting Disease | Advancing Research, Transforming Tomorrow

Research





SERVICE AWARDS - RESEARCH

Distinguished Achievement in Surgical Research (Faculty)



Recognizes consistent research excellence through funding and national recognition.

Research

Nominees

Omar Rokayak, MD

Victoria Findlay, PhD

Honors outstanding faculty researchers with a distinguished record of sustained funding and national recognition. Reflects a lasting commitment to advancing surgical research and discovery.



SERVICE AWARDS - RESEARCH

Emerging Research Leader (Housestaff)



Recognizes exceptional contributions to surgical research, innovation, scholarly productivity, or program development.

Housestaff Research

Nominees

Vignesh Vudatha, MD

Kyle Alexander, MD

Stephanie Shin, MD

Recognizes a resident who demonstrates exceptional promise and achievement in surgical research. Honors meaningful contributions to innovation, scholarly productivity, and the advancement of academic surgery.



Fighting Disease | Working Together to Advance Patient Care



SERVICE AWARDS
CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Clinical Excellence in Surgery

(Faculty, APP, Housestaff, RN)



Honors extraordinary patient care, clinical leadership, quality improvement, and professionalism.

Clinical Excellence Award

Nominees

Addison Taylor, NP

Mohamad Chehab, MD

Brian Kogon, MD

Demitra Chavez, MD

Leopoldo Fernández, MD

Recognizes outstanding achievement in surgical care through excellence in clinical practice, leadership, and patient-centered service. Celebrates a commitment to quality, professionalism, and teamwork that advances the highest standards of care.



SERVICE AWARDS
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION & MENTORSHIP

Best APP Collaboration with Faculty (APP)



Recognizes an APP as a trusted partner who brings people together, encourages diverse perspectives, and advances shared priorities through teamwork.

Best APP Collaboration with Faculty (APP)

Nominees

Addison Taylor, NP

Hannah Sadek, NP

Erin MacMillan, NP

Hugh Cline, PA

Recognizes an APP who serves as a bridge between faculty and care teams, fostering exceptional collaboration across the academic health system. They are a trusted partner who brings people together, encourages diverse perspectives, and advances shared priorities through teamwork.



SERVICE AWARDS - RISING STAR AWARD

Rising Star Award



Recognizes early-career faculty demonstrating exceptional talent.

Rising Star Award

Nominees

Brianna Stephenson

Julian Marable, MD

Patrick Melmer, MD

Rebecca Deitch, MD

Recognizes an individual early in their career who demonstrates exceptional talent, initiative, and promise. Honors emerging contributions that are advancing the department's missions of clinical care, education, research, or service.



SERVICE AWARDS - ADMINISTRATIVE

Administrative Excellence to the Department of Surgery (Staff)



For those who go beyond their role to strengthen the department, committees, initiatives, or culture, develops strong relationship among teams.

Administrative Excellence to the Department of Surgery (Staff)

Nominees

Angel Medina

Rulla Haboush

Nikki Longest

Honors a staff member who goes above and beyond their role to strengthen the Department of Surgery through exceptional service and leadership. Recognizes meaningful contributions to departmental initiatives, committee work, and the cultivation of strong, collaborative relationships among teams.



Why are we here?

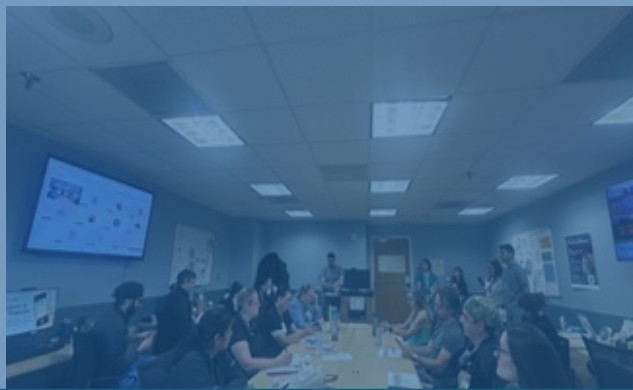
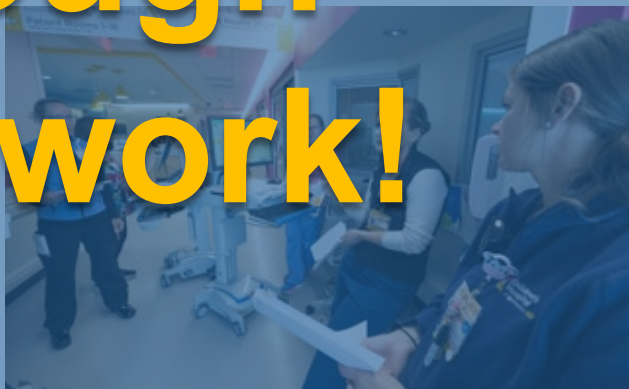




How are we fighting disease?



Through
Teamwork!





Thank You

Please join us for light refreshments on the 3rd floor



VCUHealth™