Department of Anesthesiology

Anesthesiology is a medical specialty encompassing a broad range of medical and scientific activities. The clinical practice of anesthesiology includes:

1. assessment of, consultation for and preparation of patients for anesthesia and surgery;
2. provision of insensibility to pain during surgical, obstetric, therapeutic and diagnostic procedures;
3. monitoring and restoration of physiologic homeostasis during the perioperative period, as well as homeostasis in the critically ill or seriously injured patient;
4. diagnosis and treatment of painful syndromes; and
5. clinical management and teaching of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

The realm of scientific investigation in anesthesiology also spans a broad range. Scientific efforts at the cellular and molecular levels are directed to understanding the molecular mechanisms of anesthesia and analgesia. Clinical research in anesthesiology includes broad epidemiological approaches to identifying indicators of outcome as well as prospective clinical studies examining new technologies, anesthetic agents and methods.

The Department of Anesthesiology (http://anest.wustl.edu) presents the student with the opportunity to:

1. acquire and apply pharmacologic knowledge related to anesthetic, narcotic, paralytic and sedative drugs and to drugs affecting the autonomic nervous system;
2. understand and apply the basic principles of airway management and mechanical ventilation;
3. understand and apply the principles of cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
4. understand and apply the technical skills and anatomic and pharmacologic knowledge used in performing regional nerve blocks;
5. learn and apply the fundamental principles of acute and chronic pain management; and
6. learn and apply the basic principles of critical care medicine.

Anesthesiology bridges the gap between basic science and clinical medicine. It provides experience in the clinical evaluation and management of patients, and in applied physiology and pharmacology. The Department of Anesthesiology offers student experiences in the operating room, the intensive care unit, the pain clinic and the laboratory.

Website: http://anest.wustl.edu

Degrees & Requirements

While the Department of Anesthesiology does not offer its own degree, some of the department's courses are open to students in the MD and MSTP (MD/PhD) programs. Further information about the MD and MSTP degrees can be found in the Degrees & Programs Offered (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/degrees) section of this Bulletin.

Research

Research Electives in Anesthesiology

Special electives in basic science research as it applies to anesthesiology can be arranged with the principal investigators in the Department of Anesthesiology (http://anest.wustl.edu), in the Anesthesiology Research Unit and the Washington University Pain Center under the direction of Rob Gereau, PhD, or the Division of Clinical and Translational Research under the direction of Michael Avidan, MBCh.

These laboratories focus on various aspects of molecular neurobiology, including ion channel structure and function; G-protein molecular biology; molecular mechanisms of anesthetic action; genetics of anesthetic responsiveness; and the molecular, cellular and genetic basis of acute and chronic pain and itch. Arrangements for these special electives are made through the specific investigators: Walter A. Boyle III, MD; Zhou-Feng Chen, PhD; Alex S. Evers, MD; Narasimhan Gautam, PhD; Richard S. Hotchkiss, MD; Christopher J. Lingle, PhD; Gustav Akk, PhD; Michael Bruchas, PhD; Yu-Qing Cao, PhD; Robert W. Gereau, PhD; DP Mohapatra, PhD; or Jose Moron-Concepcion, PhD. In addition, opportunities exist for clinical research under the direction of Michael Avidan, MBCh; Evan Kharasch, MD, PhD; Peter Nagele, MD; or Ben Palanca, MD, PhD.

Faculty

Department Chair
Alex S. Evers, MD

Department Vice Chair
Ellen M. Lockhart, MD

Visit our website for more information about our faculty (http://anest.wustl.edu/about/faculty) and their appointments.

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M PH University of Pittsburgh 2007
MD University of Pittsburgh 2007

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MBBS Liaquat Medical College 1969
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BS Moscow State University 1991  
PHD State Univ of NY Buffalo 1997

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PHD University of Surrey 2009

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BS Rutgers University 2008  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2013  
BS1 Rutgers University 2008

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MD M.G.R. Medical University 2013

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MBBCH University of the Witwatersra 1991

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MD All-India Inst of Medical Sci 1998  
PHD College of Anesthesiology 2008

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PHD University of MO St Louis 2012

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Assistant Professor of Developmental Biology  
Professor of Surgery (General Surgery)  
MD University of CA San Francisco 1977  
BS University of CA San Francisco 1974

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Associate Professor of Neuroscience  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
PHD Creighton University 2004

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Professor of Developmental Biology  
Professor of Psychiatry  
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BS Wuhan University 1983  
PHD University of Texas Austin 1994

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MS Dalian Medical University 1998  
PHD Peking University 2001  
MBBS Dalian Medical University 1995

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MD Baylor University 1977

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PHD Northwestern University 2012

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BA New York University 2008
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Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD University of Virginia 1985
BA Johns Hopkins University 1981

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BS Tufts University 1988
MD University of Massachusetts 1994

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MD University of Toledo 1997
MD BJ Medical College 1984

Thomas Allen Davis, MD
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MD University of Tenn Memphis 1969

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Professor of Surgery (Cardiothoracic Surgery)
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MD Washington Unv in St. Louis 2006

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Professor of Developmental Biology
Professor of Medicine
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Professor of Pediatrics
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MD Davenport University 1988

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BA Indiana State University 1978
MD University of MO Columbia 1982

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MD University of Connecticut 2004

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Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
Professor of Genetics
MS School Not Listed 1979
PHD University of Bombay 1985
BS School Not Listed 1977

Preeta George, MBBS
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MBBS Bangalore University 1998

Robert W Gereau, PHD
Dr Seymour and Rose T Brown Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
Professor of Neuroscience
BS Southwest Missouri St Universi 1991
PHD Emory University 1995

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BS University of North Carolina 2003
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MD University of London 1986

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BS University of Notre Dame 1980
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MA Hofstra University 1986
PHD Saint Louis University 1994
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PHD University of Valparaiso 2009

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MA Yale University 1988
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MD Wayne State University 2007

H

Charles B Hantler, MA, MD
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MA Davenport University 1973
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Professor of Medicine
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MS Emory University 1993
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MD Martin-Luther-University 1996

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BS California Institute Technolo 1985
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PHD University of Khartoum 1996
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MBA John Hopkins University 2010

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Durga Prasanna Mohapatra, PHD
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PHD University of Erlangen 2011

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Associate Professor of Neuroscience
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PHD Saint Louis University 1974
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MD Florida State University 2015
BS Florida State University 2010

David J Murray, MD
Carol B. and Jerome T. Loeb Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
BS University of Saskatchewan 1973
MD University of Saskatchewan 1978

Guido Musch, MD
Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD University of Milan 1993

Joan M Niehoff, MD
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD University of MO Columbia 1982
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MD University of Iowa 2003
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MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2012
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O

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BS University of California 2004
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MD U Medical-Dental Of New Jersey 2008

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MD SUNY - Empire State College 2008
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BS Lindenwood University 1969
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1974

Mitchell R Platin, MD
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD Kent St University 1987

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PHD Washington ST University 2011

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MD Saint Louis University 1987
MME University of MO Columbia 1982
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MD Juan N Corpas School of Medici 1989

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MD University of Illinois 2007

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Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD1 Northrhein Westfalen Medical 1985
MD Madurai Kamaraj University 1979

Eduardo Reina, MD
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)
MD University of Illinois Chicago 2011

Micheal Todd Rice, MD
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Associate Professor of Psychiatry
PHD University of Pennsylvania 1989
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BA University of Minnesota 1981

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S

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Assistant Professor of Surgery (Cardiothoracic Surgery)
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BS Simpson College 2004

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PHD Southern Illinois University 2013

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MD Johannes Gutenberg University 2008

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Professor of Genetics  
Professor of Pathology and Immunology  
PHD Vanderbilt University 1987  
BS Northwestern University 1981  
MA University of Toledo 1983

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MD Loyola University Chicago 2006

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MD University of Rochester 2010

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Instructor in Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
BS Tufts University 2001  
MD Bharati Vidyapeeth Med College 2000

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Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
BA Government Medical College 1987  
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PHD University of Manchester 2006

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BS University of MO Columbia 1998  
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Tracey Wagner Stevens, MD  
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MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2008

Sanjay Subramanian, MD  
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (Pending Executive Faculty Approval) (primary appointment)  
MD Christian Medical College 1994

Robert A Swarm, MD  
Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
BA Oberlin College 1978  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 1983

Martha Zorko Szabo, MD  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD Medical College of Ohio 1990

Rene Tempelhoff, MD  
Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
Professor of Neurological Surgery  
MD University of Lyon 1974

Ragh P Terkonda, MD  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD University of MO Columbia 1987  
BS University of MO Columbia 1983

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Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
BS University of CA San Diego 1998  
MD University of CA San Diego 2003

Swarup Varaday, MBBS  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MBBS Andhra University 1989

Anandhalakshmi Varadharajan, MBBS, MD  
Instructor in Clinical Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MBBS Sri Ramachandra Medical College 2000  
MD St. Lukes 2007

Molly Rose Vila, MD  
Instructor in Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD U Medical-Dental Of New Jersey 2011

Gershon Ram Volotzky, MD  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD Tel-Aviv University 1979

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Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD University of Arkansas 2011

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Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
MD University of Cincinnati 2004

Brian T Wessman, MD  
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine in Medicine  
MD Commonwealth College 2005  
BS College of William and Mary 2000

Troy S Wildes, MD  
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD Washington Univ in St. Louis 2002  
BS Illinois Wesleyan University 1998

Brett D Wolff, MD  
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology (primary appointment)  
MD Indiana University Bloomington 1985
practical perioperative fluid and electrolyte therapy, along with week rotation, the student will learn airway management skills, patient management and postoperative care. During the four-week rotation, the student will learn the basics of preoperative evaluation and anesthesiology practice. The primary teaching method is patient care in a clinical setting (one-on-one). The student will learn the basics of preoperative evaluation of surgical patients, the use of intraoperative monitoring in patient management and postoperative care. During the four-week rotation, the student will learn airway management skills, practical perioperative fluid and electrolyte therapy, along with

M10 Anesth 805 Anesthesiology
This clinical elective is designed to familiarize the student with basic aspects of anesthesiology practice. The primary teaching method is patient care in a clinical setting (one-on-one). The student will learn the basics of preoperative evaluation of surgical patients, the use of intraoperative monitoring in patient management and postoperative care. During the four-week rotation, the student will learn airway management skills, practical perioperative fluid and electrolyte therapy, along with general and regional anesthetic techniques. As an integral part of the anesthesia care team, the student will participate actively in the anesthetic management of surgical patients. The student’s specific requests to be assigned to certain types of cases will be honored as time and availability dictate. The rotation will include three clinical simulator sessions using a simulator mannequin for practical management of airway problems, resuscitation and trauma emergencies. By the end of the rotation, the student should be able to independently (under supervision) provide anesthesia for uncomplicated surgical procedures. Note: Presence and participation in the three Friday Simulator Sessions and the Presentation on the last day of the rotation are required to receive a grade. If there is a conflict with attendance, prior arrangements can be made to accommodate the student.

M10 Anesth 811 Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology
This clinical elective offers practical experience in the perioperative assessment and management of surgical patients undergoing cardiothoracic procedures. The student, as an integral part of the cardiothoracic anesthesia team that is composed of faculty members, fellows and residents, will learn basic principles of airway management and lung ventilation, essential aspects of pharmacologic treatment of hemodynamic abnormalities and cardiac dysrhythmias, and management of intraoperative coagulation disturbances. Emphasis will be placed on the interpretation of intraoperative hemodynamic data, echocardiographic finding (TEE), and laboratory results. During this rotation, the student will also gain practical experience in endotracheal intubation as well as the placement of intravenous lines and invasive monitoring lines, including radial artery and pulmonary artery catheters. Students will learn how to use these parameters in clinical decision making during anesthesia. At the conclusion of the rotation, the student will have a better understanding of invasive monitoring and data interpretation, as well as a more systematic approach to the management of intra- and postoperative hemodynamic, pulmonary and coagulation abnormalities. The students are expected to attend the didactic sessions of CTA and the Department of Anesthesiology. A presentation will be assigned.

M10 Anesth 812 Pediatric Anesthesia
This clinical elective is designed to teach the theory and practice of pediatric anesthesiology and pain management. It features individualized instruction with faculty who specialize in the perioperative care of pediatric patients. The elective consists of four weeks of active participation with pediatric anesthesiologists at St. Louis Children's Hospital and St. Louis Shriners Hospital learning preanesthetic assessment, the performance of routine anesthetics (which includes instruction and practice in pediatric airway skills), learning other technical skills such as intravenous line placement and the management of post-anesthesia care and pain therapies. The final week may be tailored to meet the student’s individual interests, needs and career goals. Possibilities include exposure to sedation and anesthesia for procedures outside of the operating rooms, and to subspecialties including cardiovascular anesthesia, neurosurgical anesthesia, and acute and chronic pediatric pain management. Students also will have an opportunity to learn the management of some common medical emergencies in the Clinical Simulation Center.

M10 Anesth 819 Cardiothoracic Critical Care
This clinical elective offers practical experience in the postoperative management of cardiothoracic patients. The student will be fully integrated into the intensive care team and
have the opportunity to contribute to the management of critically ill patients. Students will be afforded the opportunity to follow specific patients over the course of their stay on the ICU, during which time they will gain insight into holistic management of patients with multi-organ dysfunction. The CTICU environment is both challenging and exciting. Cardiorespiratory physiology and pharmacology will be demonstrated at the patients’ bedside, an invaluable and unforgettable learning experience. Students will have numerous opportunities to learn and sometimes assist with procedures, such as central lines, chest tubes, bronchoscopy and pulmonary artery catheter insertion. Principles of management and resuscitation of hemodynamically unstable patients following surgery will be emphasized. Students will also see and help manage patients on ventricular assist devices, ECMO, and following heart and lung transplantation. At the conclusion of the rotation, the student will have a better understanding of shock, sepsis, multi-organ failure, organ system support and compassionate withdrawal of life support. In addition to bedside teaching, there will be informal teaching sessions on a wide variety of topics as well as teaching on interpreting cardiac echo exams. Students will be encouraged to present on their patient at morning ward rounds, during which constructive feedback and interactive teaching will occur. Students will present on a topic related to one of their patients at the end of the block.

M10 Anesth 821 Pain Management
Acute pain is the most common symptom of medical illness and is ubiquitous after major surgery. Chronic pain is the leading cause of worker disability. Severe pain afflicts most people with advanced cancer. Learning the fundamentals of pharmacologic, interventional, and multidisciplinary pain management is important for all areas of clinical medicine. Rotation is based at Missouri Baptist Medical Center with focus adjusted to meet student’s interest and career plans.

M10 Anesth 822 Anesthesia for Neurosurgery
Students will help care for patients having challenging neurosurgical procedures. Students will become familiar with complex procedures, brain monitoring, cardiovascular support and airway management and will be exposed to all kinds of neurosurgical pathology. Student must be prepared to participate in the intricate anesthetic management of patients undergoing surgery in our novel intraoperative MRI rooms. For those interested, clinical research projects are ongoing and student participation is encouraged.

M10 Anesth 823 Obstetrical Anesthesia
The medical students will learn the different analgesia/anesthetic options for the labor patient. They will also learn how the physiological adaptations of pregnancy influence anesthetic management. They will be actively involved in the parturient’s management, i.e., starting an IV, placement of spinal, epidural or CSE (combined spinal epidural) anesthetics. They will also attend the OB anesthesia conferences and interview patients in labor (with an OB anesthesia attending).

M10 Anesth 900 Research Elective - Anesthesiology
Research opportunities may be available. If interested, please contact the Department of Anesthesiology.