Thank you for visiting Norwalk Hospital. We are pleased that our Diagnostic Radiology Residency Program is of interest to you, and we appreciate this opportunity to meet you, introduce you to our residents and faculty, and show you our hospital and department.

Our program has many unusual features. We are proud of our tradition of excellence in education and our reputation for outstanding clinical training.

We understand that the residency application and interview process is stressful, but we hope that your visit with us will be relaxing, informative and even fun.

Please find out as much about us as you can. I will try to tell you what I think is most important, but also make a point of talking to our residents, especially between interviews and during lunch. They are honest and can help you figure out whether Norwalk Hospital would be a good choice for you.

If you think of any questions after you leave, please feel free to contact Ariana Lecaj, our program coordinator, or any of our residents or graduates.

Ryan Crawford, MD
Program Director

Norwalk Hospital’s residency in diagnostic radiology provides a clinically intense but highly supportive environment for resident training, which is essential to our educational philosophy and approach to teaching. The program consists of 10 radiology residents, three alternating with two each in the four years. The teaching faculty is comprised of 14 fellowship-trained radiologists, including the various subspecialties of radiology.

Norwalk Hospital does not train fellows in radiology. Training and education are, therefore, focused exclusively at the resident level and provide direct, hands-on training in diagnostic and interventional procedures that are typically reserved for fellows in other programs.

Radiology residents at Norwalk Hospital work closely with faculty members who are highly trained and experienced in their respective subspecialty areas. The relationship between the faculty and residents is close and personal. Unlike many university programs, which may delegate not only clinical responsibilities but also teaching duties to fellows, our attendings work one-on-one with residents throughout each day. Discussion, suggestions and examples lead each resident to a high level of clinical competence and confidence.

In the absence of fellows, residents assume a primary role in management, decision-making, and performance of procedures. This front-line position enables our residents to acquire substantial clinical skills and indeed, our graduates are eagerly sought for fellowship and attending positions in both academic and private practice settings. Our residents have been accepted for fellowship training programs at world-class academic centers and have gone on to pursue successful careers at both academic institutions and private practices.
University Affiliations

Norwalk Hospital is an outstanding, comprehensive, community teaching hospital providing services to a diverse patient population. We are able to provide excellent clinical training in diagnostic radiology. It is our belief, however, that some subspecialties of diagnostic radiology should be studied, at least in part, at a university center. For this reason, we work closely with Yale University and Columbia University, where our residents spend a total of six months of their 48 months of training. The usual rotation arrangement includes three months of pediatric radiology at the Children’s Hospital of New York and two to three months of elective rotations at Yale University.

Norwalk Hospital has an excellent inpatient pediatric unit with outstanding staff pediatricians, a newborn intensive care nursery, and a training program for pediatric physician assistants. While on rotations at Norwalk Hospital, our residents are exposed to a large amount of pediatric radiology, both diagnostic and interventional. However, because sick children are often referred to tertiary care centers, we believe there is value in performing three one-month rotations in pediatric radiology at the Children’s Hospital of New York.

Similarly, residents at Norwalk Hospital acquire intensive experience in neuroradiology while on rotations in computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and interventional radiology. A university-based organ-system rather than modality-oriented rotation is complementary.

Two additional months of elective at Yale-New Haven Hospital can be used for additional rotations in neuroradiology or any other subspecialty. Musculoskeletal and chest radiology have both been especially popular. One or both months can also be used for university-based research and investigation.

Our relationship with Yale University is longstanding. Several current staff radiologists at Norwalk Hospital, including the program director, are former Yale residents, fellows or faculty. Many of Norwalk Hospital’s radiology residents have accepted fellowship and/or faculty positions at Yale. Our relationships with Columbia University and the Children’s Hospital of New York are more recent.

By working closely with Columbia University and Yale University and including appropriate rotations at those institutions, we feel that we have created a program that includes the best of both worlds: the outstanding clinical training a community hospital can provide with enough university experience to complete a well-rounded training curriculum.

Eugene Haviland
Administrative Director

Educational Curriculum

The first two weeks of training are purely didactic, consisting entirely of lectures in basics of radiology, radiation protection, and handling of emergency situations. The next six weeks are spent in abbreviated two-week rotations in ultrasound, computed tomography and fluoroscopy. The remainder of the clinical rotations are in four-week blocks incorporating the usual subspecialties of diagnostic radiology. Many rotations are modality-based rather than organ-system based, which we feel reflects the way radiology is actually practiced.

Yale-New Haven Hospital and Columbia University Children’s Hospital rotations, outpatient center rotations (advanced women’s imaging) and a one-month American Institute for Radiologic Pathology rotation are scheduled during the first, second and third years and during the first half of the fourth year.

In their third and fourth years, residents have elective blocks, which can be used for additional clinical rotations or research. It should be noted that clinical rotations are selected and arranged in order to facilitate and enhance each resident’s training and education; they are not based on merely fulfilling necessities of clinical coverage.

After passing the Core exam, residents may elect to perform one or more mini-fellowships.

There are two conferences each day, usually a morning lecture and midday case conference. Most conferences are given by Norwalk Hospital’s faculty, but we also incorporate guest lecturers, all luminaries in their fields, who provide regularly scheduled lectures and case conferences as well. The majority of lectures and teaching cases are stored on CD-ROM, and are easily available for residents to review. A course in radiation physics and radiation biology is offered near the beginning of the first year and continues through the second year.

Interdisciplinary conferences with other departments are also held regularly, usually on a monthly basis. We currently have joint conferences with pulmonary medicine, gastroenterology, oncology, and orthopedic surgery. Residents prepare and present cases for these interdisciplinary conferences and also for a weekly resident-to-resident conference.
Diagnostic Radiology Residency

Research and Investigation

We feel residents should be encouraged, but not forced, to participate in research during residency training. We are aware that four years is a relatively short time to become a competent clinical radiologist and to receive board certification. Almost all of our graduates go on to fellowship positions, and for some, that may be a more appropriate time to become seriously involved in research. However, it does seem that at least some involvement in investigation makes one a more critical reader and a more well-rounded physician. Accordingly, we try to encourage scholarly pursuits but recognize that some individuals have greater interest and abilities in certain areas than others. We require only that each resident prepare at least one paper suitable for publication during his or her four years of training. Most residents do more than this and some have worked on numerous projects and have prepared and published many papers.

Time is made available for research and investigation during electives and during research rotations at Norwalk Hospital and at Yale University. Norwalk Hospital pays travel expenses for residents attending conferences for purposes of presenting a paper or exhibit.

We have an Interdisciplinary Research Committee which oversees and coordinates projects involving various departments, a departmental research advisor and a hospital-wide research coordinator as well as a biostatistician and other support staff.

On-Call Support

Residents begin taking call after 12 months of training after passing an oral and practical examination in required skills.

CT scans performed after 10:00 p.m. are interpreted by attendings via teleradiology. Residents provide preliminary interpretations of scans performed before 10:00 p.m., but if clinical volume is high or if the resident should be involved with some other clinical activity, studies are interpreted by teleradiology. Residents cannot become “backed up” or fall behind. This system allows residents to develop critical clinical skills without stress or exhaustion.

Two radiology attendings are always on call, one for general and one for interventional radiology. A teleradiology system permits immediate consultation. Because most of the residents live in hospital housing, it is common for junior residents to call upon senior residents to help out in some situations. This has proven most valuable in resident-to-resident teaching. The house staff and fellows from other departments also live, for the most part, in the hospital-housing complex, which has consequently emerged as a social center for house staff and their families.

Hospital Housing

In addition to a competitive salary, Norwalk Hospital provides highly subsidized housing. Residents receive an apartment in one of two buildings on the hospital campus, directly across the street from the hospital itself, at very low cost. Hospital housing serves three important functions, which relate indirectly to education. Because the apartments are on the hospital campus, residents who choose to live there have no commuting expense and spend no time commuting. With a good salary, residents can live comfortably for their four or five years of training at Norwalk Hospital. They are not forced to moonlight or borrow to make ends meet or to begin to pay back student loans. Also, although call rooms are provided by the department, most residents are able to go home at times while on call. This makes being on call much less burdensome and intrusive.

Because most of the residents live in hospital housing, it is common for junior residents to call upon senior residents to help out in some situations. This has proven most valuable in resident-to-resident teaching. The house staff and fellows from other departments also live, for the most part, in the hospital-housing complex, which has consequently emerged as a social center for house staff and their families.

Outpatient Center

The Diagnostic Radiology Department of Norwalk Hospital consists of the facilities at Norwalk Hospital itself and at Norwalk Radiology and Mammography Center, an outpatient facility. The Department, together with Norwalk Radiology and Mammography Center, performs over 120,000 examinations each year, employing state-of-the-art equipment in all areas. Training of these two different facilities (inpatient and outpatient) enables residents to experience different types of patients and diseases. This combination serves to broaden the resident’s clinical experience and practical skills.

Over the last several years, both the Department of Radiology at Norwalk Hospital and Norwalk Radiology and Mammography Center completed major physical and technological renovations. Both centers are currently completely digital (film-less), with state-of-the-art equipment, PACS and RIS systems and voice-recognition transcription. The combined centers operate a total of four CT scanners, four MRI scanners, five digital mammography units, multiple digital fluoroscopy suites, four nuclear medicine cameras, PET/CT and state-of-the-art interventional facilities. We also have three Vireta workstations, which enable us to evaluate both CT and MR images in multiple dimensions, and create 3-D model reconstructions.

Norwalk Radiology and Mammography Center was designated a National Showcase by GE Healthcare for its “exceptional clinical expertise in breast health, use of the latest technology and outstanding patient care.” The center was the only facility in Connecticut to receive this prestigious award. Both centers are accredited by the American College of Radiology.

PGY-1 Year

Norwalk Hospital permits many options for the PGY-1 (internship) year. Any ACGME-accredited approved clinical year is acceptable to us. Many residents have done their PGY-1 year in medicine or surgery, while some have done transitional years. Norwalk Hospital itself offers a PGY-1 year in internal medicine, which is excellent. Candidates who would like to do their PGY-1 year at Norwalk Hospital in internal medicine must apply separately to that department through ERAS. We recognize that some candidates would like to do their PGY-1 year at a different institution than their later training in radiology. Accordingly, we have kept the PGY-1 year separate and do not consider application to Norwalk Hospital’s Department of Medicine a factor either for or against the applicant. Furthermore, some applicants may prefer not to relocate after one year, while others may actually prefer to do so.
Welcome to Norwalk Hospital 2015

In order to serve the lower Fairfield County community’s health care needs well into the future, the Norwalk Hospital Vision 2015 Strategic Plan calls for building a new, state-of-the-art ambulatory care pavilion. This project will provide additional space and modern facilities for growing ambulatory services.

Vacation and Conference Time

Each resident receives four weeks of vacation and three personal days each year as well as one week for continuing medical education. Residents schedule their own vacation time. We ask only that the majority of time be used in blocks (at least one week), although some may be taken as individual days. Residents are also off the day after they have been on call and are excused at 3:00 p.m. before beginning call at 5:00 p.m.

Benefits

- Residents’ salaries are competitive and Norwalk Hospital provides highly subsidized housing. Medical, dental, life and disability insurance are provided for house staff and their families.
- All first-year radiology residents receive, from the faculty, a stipend for the purchase of textbooks.
- For outside rotations, including the American Institute for Radiologic Pathology and clinical rotations at Yale-New Haven Hospital and Columbia University Children’s Hospital of New York, Norwalk Hospital and the faculty pay tuition, travel costs and lodging. There is no expense to the resident.
- Residents are also reimbursed for travel to Grand Rounds at Yale University and to monthly meetings of the New York Roentgen Radiology Society.
- Review courses for Core exams are fully reimbursed.

The Area

Norwalk, Connecticut, is a coastal city in Fairfield County within easy commuting distance of New York City. The City of Norwalk itself, and the communities surrounding it, are attractive, safe, and diverse with many cultural and recreational opportunities.

Just minutes outside of Norwalk is the beautiful Connecticut countryside. Long Island Sound is just a stone’s throw from the hospital itself and provides swimming, boating and fishing.

New York City, with all that it has to offer, is only 45 minutes away by train or car. Many people who live in Norwalk and the Norwalk area work in New York City and commute daily. New Haven, with Yale University, is about 40 minutes away by car or train.

The climate is moderate with dramatic seasons. The school systems are excellent. The variety of restaurants, retail stores, theaters and museums is outstanding. It is hard to imagine a more ideal environment in which to live and work.

Rendering of completed parking garage and ambulatory care pavilion
Present Residents

Shiv B. Bhanu, MD
College: University of California, Berkeley (Molecular and Cell Biology)
Medical school: University of California
Internship: Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Residents’ Email Addresses
Shiv B. Bhanu, MD PGY-4 sbbhanu@gmail.com

Joshua C. Ewell, DO
College: California Baptist University (Bachelor of Biology)
Medical College: College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific
Internship: Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center

Baruch Meer, DO
College: Touro College (Bachelor of Psychology/Judaic Studies)
Medical school: Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine
Internship: Meadowlands Medical Center
Residents’ Email Addresses
Baruch Meer, DO PGY-3 baruchmeer@yahoo.com

Fan Yang, MD, PhD
College: Carnegie Mellon University (B.S., Electrical and Computer Engineering; Biomedical Engineering; minor in Chemistry)
Medical school: Temple University of Medicine (M.D./Ph.D.)
Internship: Temple University of Medicine

J. P. Munger, DO
College: Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Chemical Engineering)
Graduate: University of New England (Public Health)
Medical School: University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
Internship: Berkshire Medical Center

Residents’ Email Addresses
Fan Yang, MD, PhD PGY-4 fannibal@gmail.com
Outcomes

Ten-Year ABR Oral Board Passage Rate:
• 100%

Ten-Year Fellowship Placement History:
2016
• Yale-New Haven Hospital – Neuroradiology
• University of California, San Francisco-Body Imaging

2015
• Stanford University – Pediatric Radiology
• Medical University of South Carolina – Vascular/Interventional
• Yale-New Haven Hospital – Neuroradiology

2014
• NYU Langone Medical Center – Neuroradiology
• Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center – Neuroradiology
• Yale-New Haven Hospital – Nuclear Medicine

2013
• Columbia University – Neuroradiology
• Duke University – Neuroradiology

2012
• University of Maryland Medical Center – Thoracic Imaging
• St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center – Body Imaging
• University of Southern California – Vascular/Interventional

Contact Information

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Core Faculty Educational Background

James S. Bauman, MD
College: City University of New York
Medical school: Cornell University Medical College
Internship: Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Residency: New York Hospital – Cornell University
Fellowship: New York University Medical Center

Steven M. Bernstein, MD
College: Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.
Medical school: Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Internship: Beth Israel Medical Center, N.Y.
Residency: North Shore University Medical Center
Fellowship: NYU Medical Center

Lauren A. Emnberg, MD
College: Brown University, Providence, R.I.
Medical school: Cornell University Medical College
Internship: Pennsylvania Hospital
Residency: New York Presbyterian
Fellowship: Hospital for Special Surgery

Heather I. Frimmer, MD
College: Cornell University
Medical school: Cornell University Medical College
Internship: St. Vincent’s Hospital, N.Y.
Residency: New York Presbyterian Hospital-Cornell, N.Y.
Fellowship: Yale-New Haven Hospital (Body/Breast Imaging)
Core Faculty Educational Background

David S. Klein, MD
College: Cornell University
Medical school: New York University School of Medicine
Internship: NYU and Bellevue Hospital Medical Center
Residency: NYU and Bellevue Hospital Medical Center
Fellowship: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Ronald P. Lee, MD (Chairman of the Department of Radiology)
College: Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science
Medical school: New York University School of Medicine
Internship: Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Brönx Municipal Hospital Center
Residency: New York University Medical Center/Bellevue Hospital Center
Fellowship: Bellevue Hospital Center (Body Cross Sectional Imaging; CTUltrasound/MRI)
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Alan H. Levine, MD
College: Trinity College
Medical school: State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center
Internship: Kings County Hospital/SUNY Downstate
Residency: Kings County Hospital/SUNY Downstate – Chief Resident
Fellowship: Kings County Hospital/SUNY Downstate

Priyanka Deb, MD
Medical school: Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi, India
Internship: Maimonides Medical Center, NY
Residency: Norwalk Hospital, Norwalk, CT
Fellowship: St. Francis Medical Center, Hartford, CT (MRI Fellowship)

Andrew C. Shih, MD
College: University of California at Berkeley, Calif.
Medical school: Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, N.Y.
Internship: Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, N.Y.
Residency: Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, N.Y.
Fellowship: Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, N.Y.

Edward B. Strauss, MD (Vice Chairman of the Department of Radiology)
College: Amherst College
Medical school: Yale University School of Medicine
Internship: Yale-New Haven Hospital
Residency: Yale-New Haven Hospital
Fellowship: Yale-New Haven Hospital

Evan S. Wasserman, MD
College: Washington University
Medical school: Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Residency: Massachusetts General Hospital
Fellowship: Massachusetts General Hospital (MRI)
Memorial Sloan-Kettering (Body/Breast Imaging)

Ryan W. Crawford, MD
College: University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.
Medical school: New York Medical College
Internship: North Shore University Hospital
Residency: Norwalk Hospital
Fellowship: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
Norwalk Hospital Mission

The mission of Norwalk Hospital is to provide uniquely excellent, innovative, and compassionate health care with exceptional outcomes.

Our Values

• Patient-Centered • Excellence • Innovation • Leadership
• Teamwork • Trust and Fairness • Education
• Financial Responsibility • Charity