2022 Honorees

**OUTGOING PRESIDENT**
Jeffrey Jacobson, MD

**PRESIDENT-elect**
Bruce Molinelli, MD

**“FRIEND OF THE SOCIETY” Awardee**
John W. Lombardo, MD
Chief Medical Officer, MLMIC

**“FRIEND OF MEDICINE” Awardee**
Sherlita Amler, MD, MS, RN, EdS, CEM
Commissioner of Health
Westchester County Department of Health
BEST WISHES
Westchester County Medical Society

CONGRATULATIONS

Bruce Molinelli, MD
Incoming President

Jeffrey Jacobson, MD
Outgoing President

John W. Lombardo, MD
Chief Medical Officer, MLMIC
“Friend of the Society” Awardee

Sherlita Amler, MD
Commissioner of Health - Westchester County
“Friend of Medicine” Awardee

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Practice Administrator,
Neurosurgical Practice

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2022 Westchester County Annual Meeting Program:

6:00 pm — Networking Reception with Sponsors & Guests  
*Please be sure to visit all of our sponsors!*

7:00 pm — Dinner

7:15 pm — Call to Order

- Recognize Special Guests, MSSNY Officers, WCMS/WAM Officers,
- Past Presidents, WCMS Staff, Sponsors & Supporters

7:45 pm — Meeting called back to order

- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Academy Program—WESEF Award Winners
- Remarks of MSSNY President Parag Mehta, MD
- 50 Year Citation Awards
- ―Friend of the Society Award‖
- ―Friend of Medicine Award‖
- Outgoing President’s Award
- Outgoing President’s Remarks
- Introduction of New President
- Incoming President’s Remarks
- Adjournment
GARFUNKEL WILD IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY & WESTCHESTER ACADEMY OF MEDICINE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING
WE JOIN IN CONGRATULATING THIS YEAR’S HONOREES

GARFUNKEL WILD, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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We Proudly Support the
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And **Congratulate**
Jeffrey Jacobson, M.D.
Outgoing President
Bruce Molinelli, M.D.
President-Elect

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The Westchester County Medical Society
Administrative Staff

Would like to thank
Outgoing President, Jeffrey Jacobson, MD for all of his effort and hard work throughout the year.

We would like to offer Best Wishes to our President-elect, Bruce Molinelli, MD.
We are looking forward to the upcoming year working with you!

We would also like to thank all of our members for a great year!

---

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Would like to recognize the following Physicians for 50 years devoted to the service of the public in the practice of medicine:

- Mordcai Blau, MD
- Maxwell Mani Chait, MD
- Sue Y.E. Hahm, MD
- Jonathan Mardirossian, MD
- Stephen Mark Renzin, MD
- Robert Siskind Reiffel, MD
- Patricia Romano, MD
- Andres Sanchez-Manjon, MD
- Nahid Shirazy-Majd, MD
- Sol Usher, MD

Congratulations on such a tremendous achievement!
Past Presidents of the Westchester County Medical Society

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**2021-2022 Executive Committee**

**President**
Jeffrey Jacobson, MD

**President-elect**
Bruce Molinelli, MD

**Immediate Past President**
Peter Acker, MD

**Vice President**
Tobi Klar, MD

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Janine Miller
Executive Director

Kalli Voulgaris, MPH
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Rhonda Nathan
Accounts Manager

**Westchester Delegates 2022**

Peter Acker, MD
Ranjana Chaterji, DO
Daniel Gold, MD
Robert Lerner, MD
Peter Liebert, MD
Bruce Molinelli, MD
Marshal Peris, MD

**Westchester Alternate Delegates 2022**

Kham Ali, MD
Karen Arthur, MD
Eric Grossman, MD
Evan Hawkins, MD
Heather Katz, MD
Samia Sayegh, MD

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Anais Carniciu, MD
Elaine Healy, MD

**Committee Chairs 2021-2022**

**Ethics**
Ronald Jacobson, MD

**CME**
Marshal Peris, MD

**Budget & Finance**
Andrew Kleinman, MD

**Delegates**
Bonnie Litvack, MD

**Legislative**
Daniel Gold, MD

**Membership**
Anu Pani, MD

**Communications & Public Relations**
Anais Carniciu, MD

**Socio Medical Economics**
Thomas Lee, MD

**Public Health**
Robert Lerner, MD

**Workers Compensation**
Omar Syed, MD

**Young Physicians**
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CONGRATULATE
Incoming President
Bruce Molinelli, MD
Outgoing President
Jeffrey Jacobson, MD
“Friend of Medicine”
Sherlita Amler, MD
“Friend of the Society”
John Lombardo, MD
Dr. Sherlita Amler is the Commissioner of Health in Westchester County. She reports to County Executive George Latimer and works closely with the Board of Legislators, Board of Health, hospital administrators and health providers to address vital community needs and improve quality of life for all of Westchester.

Dr. Amler has led Westchester’s public health Covid response since January 2020 – an intensive, resolute collaboration to block viral transmission at every opportunity and ensure a safe environment for children, families, and seniors. Among the actions she has overseen have been case identification and tracking, quarantine and isolation, testing strategies, vaccination and booster strategies, and school system policies. She oversaw and implemented safety programs for restaurants, fitness centers, summer camps, private businesses, and congregate facilities.

Dr. Amler has more than 40 years of public health experience at the federal, state, and local levels. She has practiced as a general pediatrician, CDC physician, State district nursing services specialist, microbiologist, and disease investigator. As Westchester’s health commissioner, she directs all public health services in accordance with State and County Sanitary Code provisions. Among these services are communicable disease control with clinics for STDs, tuberculosis, and immunizations; community health assessments; health education for healthy living and chronic disease prevention; and services for home health care, early intervention, and preschools. She also directs inspection and certification of restaurants and food vendors, swimming pools, public water systems, sewage treatment and disposal systems, as well as rabies, influenza, and Lyme control, lead poisoning prevention, and public health preparedness.

Dr. Amler helped launch the Center for Disaster Medicine at New York Medical College, where she is Adjunct Professor of Public Health and Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics. She serves on the county’s Child Fatality Review Team, Board of Managers for Laboratories and Research, and the American Heart Association’s Westchester Board of Directors.

While at CDC, Dr. Amler oversaw medical monitoring for anthrax on-site investigators and focused on prevention of mercury and lead poisoning, as well as all-hazard disaster mitigation and incident command, in particular hospital surge capacity and consequence management from large-scale events. She was recognized with the HHS Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service. She was named Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate and twice named a Doctor of Distinction in Westchester. She received her education at University of Texas at Arlington, Arkansas State University, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and Louisiana State University, with specialized training at CDC and FEMA’s Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center.
John W. Lombardo, MD has over 45 years of experience in the field of medicine and is the Chief Medical Officer of MLMIC Insurance Company, the largest medical malpractice insurance company in New York State. Dr. Lombardo is a graduate of Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons where he obtained his medical degree in 1973. He is Board Certified in both Psychiatry and Ophthalmology and practiced as a surgical ophthalmologist for over 40 years.

During his career as a surgical ophthalmologist, Dr. Lombardo secured MLMIC for his medical professional liability insurance and soon after became an active member of MLMIC’s claims committee, underwriting committee, peer review committee, patient safety & education committee and board of directors. His extensive review of cases, private practice experience, hospital appointments and involvement with the medical society led him to become an expert in risk management.

Dr. Lombardo has appeared on the New York Times List of New York’s “Super Doctors”. He has presented for the Medical Society of the State of New York, the New York State Ophthalmological Society, dozens of hospitals and MLMIC Risk Management programs.

Dr. Lombardo is Chief Medical Officer of MLMIC and continues to be an advocate for organized medicine, patient safety and risk management.
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“FRIEND OF THE SOCIETY” Awardee
John Lombardo, MD, FACS,
Chief Medical Officer MLMIC

“FRIEND OF MEDICINE” Awardee
Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner of Health
Westchester County Department of Health

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AND CONGRATULATES THIS YEAR’S NOMINEES:
Outgoing WCMS President, Jeffrey Jacobson, MD;
Incoming WCMS President, Bruce Molinelli, MD;
"Friend of the Society" Awardee, John Lombardo, MD, FACS;
"Friend of Medicine" Awardee, Sherlita Amler, MD

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The Nominating Committee of the Westchester County Medical and the Westchester Academy of Medicine met on May 23, 2022, and hereby nominates the following candidates for election at the Annual Meeting on June 29th to take office effective **July 1, 2019**:

**Note: Per the Bylaws, the current President-elect, Bruce Molinelli, MD, automatically assumes the Office of President and the current President, Jeffrey Jacobson, MD assumes the Office of the Immediate Past President.**

**President-elect**
Tobi Klar, MD

**Vice President**

**Treasurer**
Thomas Lee, MD

**Secretary**
Kham Ali, MD

**Delegates to the MSSNY House of Delegates**
(Four for two years; term ending 2024)
Anaïs Carniciu, MD  Thomas Lee, MD
Elliot Barsh, MD  Joseph Tartaglia, MD

**Alternate Delegate to the MSSNY House of Delegates**
(Three for two years; term expiring 2024)
Karen Arthur, MD  Maria Paone, MD
Elaine Healy, MD

**Delegates to the MSSNY House of Delegates**
(One for one year; term ending 2023)
Kham Ali, MD

**Alternate Delegate to the MSSNY House of Delegates**
(One for one year; term expiring 2023)
Marshall Farris, MD

*Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the WCMS/Academy Annual Meeting, provided that each nomination is supported by a petition signed by at least 100 members, as specified in the Bylaws.*
Bruce Molinelli, MD, FACS, FASMBS
2021-2022
President-elect
Westchester County Medical Society

A board certified general surgeon, Bruce Mollinelli, MD, FACS, FASMBS is Director of the Acute Care Surgery Program and Medical Director of the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Program at Northern Westchester Hospital. As an expert in minimally invasive laparoscopic general surgery including robot-assisted surgery with the da Vinci Surgical System and single incision laparoscopy, he has taught many national courses to other surgeons in these techniques. His focus is on abdominal surgery including hernia, gallbladder, hepatobiliary, pancreas, stomach, colon, intestinal, appendix and cancer surgeries.

Education
MD- New York University School of Medicine

Residency General Surgery- St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Columbia University

Board Certification Surgery- American Board of Surgery

Clinical Trial & Research Interest
Course Director Single Site Hernia Surgery, Didactic and Cadaver Lab, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY, April 2013, Course Director, Single Site Surgery, Didactic and Cadaver Lab, Hahnemann University Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA, November 2012, Course Director, Single Site Surgery, Greenwich Hospital, Yale New Haven Health System, Greenwich, CT, September 2012, Single Incision Multi-Port Laparoscopic (SIMPLE) Cholecystectomy: The Single Incision Technique that Resembles the 4 Instrument Conventional Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy, A Compilation of a Single Surgeon’s Experience Over 3.5 Years and 218 Patients, Poster Session, New England Surgical Society (NESS) Annual Meeting, Rockport, Maine, September 2012, Course Director, Jackson Surgical Single Site Surgery Course, Didactic and Training Module Lab, Alpharetta, Georgia, June 2012, Low Volume High Quality Bariatric Centers of Excellence; Presented at the ASMBS Annual Meeting San Diego, California, June 2012.

Awards & Professional Recognition

Professional Membership
Fellow, American College of Surgery; Fellow, American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgeons; Society of Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons; New England Surgical Society; Westchester County Medical Society; Fairfield County Medical Society; Connecticut State Medical Society

Community & Humanitarian Involvement
Nigerian Christian Hospital, Imo State, Nigeria, Delegation Leader, Dr. Maurice Hood 1987; Soros Foundation Excursion to Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. Presentation: Surgical Oncology. Delegation Leader, Dickerman Hollister, MD, 1997; People to People Ambassador Program, Surgical Education Program, Vietnam and Cambodia, Delegation Leader Margaret Kemeny, MD, 2006

Family
Dr. Molinelli has grown children and is happily married to Elizabeth Molinelli, MD an OB/GYN who practices at Greenwich Hospital. Dr. Molinelli grew up In Westchester (Briarcliff Manor).
Jeffrey M. Jacobson is a hand surgeon and plastic surgeon who has been in practice in Westchester since 2012. Currently in private practice, Dr. Jacobson specializes in hand and wrist surgery as well as peripheral nerve surgery in both adults and children. He has been an active member of the Westchester County Medical Society and Medical Society of the State of New York, serving as a MSSNY delegate as well as the County Medical Society Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, President-elect, President and now Immediate Past President.

Dr. Jacobson was raised in Northern Westchester and received his undergraduate degree in Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University before going on to medical school at Stony Brook University School of Medicine. He completed his internship in Surgery and Residency in Plastic Surgery at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC and his Fellowship in Orthopaedic Hand Surgery and Microsurgery at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He is Board Certified in Plastic Surgery and additionally board certified in Surgery of the Hand.
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ABSTRACT—Investigating the drug target-potential of the Nav1.3 voltage-gated sodium channel utilizing the scorpion venom-derived peptides Tf2 and Atto550-Tf2

Mentor: Dr. Frank Bosmans, Ghent University

Chronic pain is a major health issue worldwide, affecting nearly 15% of the worldwide adult population. However, current treatments for chronic pain can cause detrimental side effects. In order to improve the efficacy of treatments for chronic pain, novel approaches must be identified. It has been shown that Nav channels, a family of ion channels that carry electrical signals that humans recognize as somatic sensations, can modulate pain sensation. Nav1.3, a subtype of Nav, has been shown to be involved in neuronal hyperexcitability associated with central neuropathic pain when upregulated after spinal cord injury, meaning that Nav1.3 may be involved in pain. Thus, modulation of Nav1.3 may be used to reduce or alleviate chronic pain. However, few studies have explored the role of Nav1.3, making the role of Nav1.3 in pain unclear. In order to assess the viability of Nav1.3 as a pain-relieving drug target, my study elucidated the role of Nav1.3 in pain sensation using the Nav1.3 activating β-scorpion toxins Tf2 and Atto550-Tf2. Using TEVC and Whole-cell patch electrophysiology to measure currents from Nav1.3 expressed in HEK293 and Xenopus laevis oocytes using Tf2 and Atto550-Tf2, we verified that Nav1.3 played a role in pain sensation. We also used fluorescent imaging with Atto550-Tf2 to show that Nav1.3 was expressed in the CA1 region of the hippocampus in mouse slices. Although further testing is needed to assess the viability of Nav1.3 as a drug target, the information in this study may be used to help create pain treatments based off Nav1.3.

WORK SUMMARY

Conducted scientific research with lab group under professor Frank Bosmans. Learned how to perform methods including transformation of competent E. coli cells, picking of bacterial colonies, DNA extraction of bacterial colonies, restriction enzyme digestion of DNA, gel electrophoresis, linearization of DNA, DNA cleanup, transcription of RNA, cleanup of RNA, measuring RNA concentration, selection and removal of the vitelline membrane of Xenopus laevis oocytes, microinjection of Xenopus laevis oocytes, and TEVC electrophysiology. Also examined and learned how to care for lab mice and African Clawed Frogs (Xenopus laevis). Data was analyzed by a mentor using two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-test.

FUTURE GOALS

I want to be able to continue exploring my passion for science during and after college. I hope to major in Biology or Neuroscience in college, ideally being able to continue conducting research during and after college. Alternatively, I am also considering taking pre-med courses during college and going into the medical field. In addition to being passionate about science, I am also a student-athlete. Being on the Notre Dame fencing team is an incredible privilege and opportunity, and I aim to fence compatibility in college and beyond.
ABSTRACT - SMART-Screen: A Point-of-Care COVID-19 Active Replication Detection System

COVID-19 is caused by an RNA virus called SARS-CoV-2. PCR testing is a gold-standard method for COVID-19 diagnostic testing. However, there exists no COVID-19 diagnostic test that has the capability to detect infectivity. The Subgenomic mRNA Active Replication Test (SMART) is able to provide this insight. By detecting a specific type of viral RNA known as subgenomic RNA (sgRNA), the SMART Assay is able to accurately identify an active replicator of COVID-19. Subgenomic RNA indicates the presence of replicating intermediates within the virus. The SMART Assay has been developed as a laboratory-based test. By utilizing a portable real-time PCR machine, we converted the existing SMART Assay into a point-of-care test, hereby referred to as SMART-Screen. Using samples of purified RNA, qPCR was performed in the laboratory as well as in the point-of-care setup. The results were compared to see if SMART-Screen was equally sensitive and specific as the laboratory-based SMART Assay. This test has immense benefit as it can detect an active spreader of COVID-19 within an hour. SMART-Screen can provide for improved treatment for COVID-19 patients. SMART-Screen can provide for more accurate quarantining guidelines, as only actively spreading individuals and their immediate contacts must quarantine themselves. Onsite testing locations in places like airports and nursing homes can greatly benefit from this system for identifying individuals that should be isolated immediately. A non-contagious individual can test positive for COVID-19 in a traditional PCR test and will have to unnecessarily quarantine themselves, despite not contributing to the chain of infection. We found that SMART-Screen is equally sensitive and specific as the SMART Assay and can be administered within an hour.

FUTURE GOALS AND INTERESTS

In the fall, I will be attending Binghamton University to study cellular and molecular biology on the pre-med track. In the future, I want to bridge the connection between the laboratory and the clinic and implement novel medical technologies into practice.

Outside of science, I love to travel and explore different places and cultures. So far, I have traveled to 23 countries. I also am an avid reader and I particularly enjoy reading works of fiction.
Future of Medicine Award Winner:
Katherine Valente—Medicine & Health Sciences
Pelham Memorial High School

ABSTRACT
Food allergies (FA) are a rapidly-growing, worldwide health issue which significantly diminishes the quality of life for people with food allergies. Despite recommendations to avoid the food to which they are allergic, accidental ingestion is common and potentially deadly. Avoidance remains the most effective strategy against FA, but this is very difficult to accomplish, particularly in a real world setting such as a restaurant. Current methods to detect allergens within the food itself (such as the NIMA sensor and Allergy Amulet) are difficult to use, single-use, and able to sample only one small portion of the food item in a separate machine, leaving the individual uncertain about the safety. With this, a device that can detect whole food samples in a consumer friendly way is necessary. In this study, a pattern recognition system that articulates peanut sensory information through a novel machine learning algorithm coupled with a sensor array was used. Patterns were depicted based on electrochemical changes in the individual arrays. Suppressed electrochemical response is shown by a blue color for peanut samples. This study primarily justifies the capabilities of sensors in conjunction with novel machine learning algorithms to identify peanut in an array for the later configuration of a portable probe used for the detection of peanut allergens in food. This will establish a new standard for accessible food allergy relief across all demographics.

The Westchester County Medical Society on behalf of the 9th District Medical Societies of Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland & Westchester would like to thank Thomas T. Lee, MD for his service as the 9th District Councilor over the last several years. Your dedication to our counties and the district have been much appreciated.

We would like to welcome our new 9th District Councilor, also from Westchester, Daniel Gold, MD. We know that you will do an amazing job representing us at MSSNY Council as well as throughout the district. Our counties look forward to working with you.
Congratulations

TO THE 2022 WESTCHESTER SCIENCE &
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Tista Goswami—Medicine & Health Sciences
Mamaroneck High School

David Pavlenishvilli—Cellular & Molecular Biology
Byram Hills High School

Katherine Valente—Medicine & Health Sciences
Pelham Memorial High School

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The Westchester County Medical Society has many opportunities for our members to become involved and get to know your colleagues. We hold several membership meetings throughout the year and invite you to attend:

**Annual Meeting**

**Golf Outing**

**New York Medical College Student Wine Tasting**

**Networking Events**

We are also involved in several other events during the year which include:

**Westchester Science & Engineering Fair**

**Doctors of Distinction**

**MSSNY Legislative Day**

**MSSNY House of Delegates**

We also have a monthly meeting of the Board and Executive Committee. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the Society or the Academy, consider becoming the Chair of a Committee.

**Contact our office for more information!**

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Annual Meeting and Program

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