

Stanford



Aussama Nassar, MD, MSc, FACS, FRCSC

Clinical Associate Professor, Surgery - General Surgery

CLINICAL OFFICES

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ACADEMIC CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Alternate Contact**

Nicole Tomimatsu - Administrative Associate

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Bio

BIO

Dr. Nassar is board certified in General Surgery and Surgical Critical Care in both USA and Canada. Dr. Nassar earned an MSc in Health Science Education from McMaster University, Canada. He is currently the director of the surgical critical care fellowship program at Stanford and the director of the surgery resident coaching program. He has more than 12 years of clinical academic experience in tertiary care referral academic health centers in North America. His clinical interests are trauma, acute care surgery, critical care, and expertise in abdominal wall reconstruction. He is a true clinician-educator, certified simulation educator, and ATLS ASSET course director. His research interests are focused on surgical education and, more specifically, on non-technical skill acquisition in surgical training programs. In addition, to developing assessment tools for trainees and assessing burnout among physicians and other healthcare professionals. He has a strong national international presence in the field of surgical education.

CLINICAL FOCUS

- General Surgery
- Acute Care Surgery
- Trauma
- Critical Care
- Hernia
- Abdominal wall reconstruction

- EGD and Colonoscopy

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Clinical Associate Professor, Surgery - General Surgery

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Surgical Subcouncil lead, Stanford Health Care, (2020- present)
- Program Director, Surgical Critical Care fellowship, Stanford University, (2019- present)
- Director, Surgery Coaching Program, Stanford Healthcare, (2019- present)
- Unit Medical Director, Trauma K7 ward, Stanford Healthcare, (2019- present)
- Associate Program Director, Surgical Critical Care, Stanford University, (2018-2019)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Arthur L. Bloomfield Award in Recognition of Excellence in the Teaching of Clinical Medicine., Stanford School of Medicine (2022)
- CSRP (Cost Savings Reinvestment Program) recognition award, Stanford Health Care (2020)
- Staff Award for Outstanding Contribution as Relationship-centered Communication Leader, Stanford Healthcare (2019)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Education Technology Committee Member, Association for Surgical Education (2022 - present)
- Graduate Surgical Education Committee Member, Association for Surgical Education (2022 - present)
- Simulation Committee Member, Association for Surgical Education (2022 - present)
- Critical Care Committee Member, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) (2022 - present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Board Certification: Surgical Critical Care, American Board of Surgery (2021)
- Board Certification, American Board of Surgery , Surgical Critical Care (2021)
- Fellowship: McMaster University Michael G DeGroote School of Medicine Registrar (2012) Canada
- Residency: McMaster University Michael G DeGroote School of Medicine Registrar (2011) Canada
- Board Certification: General Surgery, American Board of Surgery (2011)
- MSc, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada , Health Science Education (2015)
- Board Certification: Critical Care Medicine, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (2012)
- Board Certification, American Board of Surgery , General Surgery (2011)
- Board Certification: General Surgery, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (2011)
- O-IMG Clerkship, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada , Clerkship Undergraduate program (2006)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Developing an Inpatient Relationship Centered Communication Curriculum (I-RCCC) rounding framework for surgical teams.** *BMC medical education*
Nassar, A. K., Weimer-Elder, B., Yang, R., Kline, M., Dang, B. K., Spain, D. A., Knowlton, L. M., Valdez, A. B., Korndorffer, J. R., Johnson, T.
2023; 23 (1): 137
- **Labeled Surgical Caps: A Tool to Improve Perioperative Communication.** *Anesthesiology*
Wong, B. J., Nassar, A. K., Goldhaber-Fiebert, S. N.
2022

- **Education research - Understanding the factors involved in inpatient communication for orthopedic trainees.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Daniel, D., Avedian, R., Johnson, T., Michaud, J. B., Weimer-Elder, B., Kline, M., Nassar, A. K.
2021; 72: 103079
- **Virtual reality (VR) as a simulation modality for technical skills acquisition** *ANNALS OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY*
Nassar, A. K., Al-Manaseer, F., Knowlton, L. M., Tuma, F.
2021; 71
- **Burnout among Academic Clinicians as It Correlates with Workload and Demographic Variables.** *Behavioral sciences (Basel, Switzerland)*
Nassar, A. K., Reid, S. n., Kahn moui, K. n., Tuma, F. n., Waheed, A. n., McConnell, M. n.
2020; 10 (6)
- **Mobile application-based guidelines to enhance patient care and provider education in trauma and acute care surgery.** *Trauma surgery & acute care open*
Hakes, N. A., Kethman, W. C., Spain, D. n., Nassar, A. K.
2020; 5 (1): e000479
- **A National Evaluation of Emergency General Surgery Outcomes Among Hospitalized Cardiac Patients.** *The Journal of surgical research*
Tennakoon, L., Hakes, N. A., Nassar, A. K., Spain, D. A., Knowlton, L. M.
2022; 283: 24-32
- **Firearm-Related Injuries and the US Opioid Epidemic: A Nationwide Evaluation of Emergency Department Encounters**
Tennakoon, L. D., Nassar, A. K., Wanberg, J. A., Knowlton, L.
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2022: S45-S46
- **Faculty Lead Coaching as a Method to Enhance Feedback Culture and Communication Skills Development in Surgical Education-Needs Assessment (Study in Progress)**
Nassar, A., Sasnal, M., Tung, J., Ko, A., Esquivel, M., Knowlton, L.
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2022: S74
- **Introducing advanced surgical tasks simulation for surgical training** *ANNALS OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY*
Tuma, F., Knowlton, L. M., Nassar, A. K.
2022; 77
- **Introducing advanced surgical tasks simulation for surgical training.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Tuma, F., Knowlton, L. M., Nassar, A. K.
2022; 77: 103568
- **The educational value of an audience response system use in an Iraqi medical school.** *BMC medical education*
Tuma, F., Majeed, H., Blebea, J., Nassar, A., Durchholz, W. C., Schofield, S.
2022; 22 (1): 319
- **Building a Trainee-led Research Community to Propel Academic Productivity in Health Services Research.** *Journal of surgical education*
Choi, J., Tennakoon, L., Khan, S., Jaramillo, J. D., Rajasingh, C. M., Hakes, N. A., Forrester, J. D., Knowlton, L. M., Nassar, A. K., Weiser, T. G., Spain, D. A.
2022
- **Virtual reality (VR) as a simulation modality for technical skills acquisition.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Nassar, A. K., Al-Manaseer, F., Knowlton, L. M., Tuma, F.
2021; 71: 102945
- **Applying Bloom's taxonomy in clinical surgery: Practical examples.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Tuma, F., Nassar, A. K.
2021; 69: 102656
- **Actions to enhance interactive learning in surgery.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Tuma, F., Malgor, R. D., Nassar, A. K.
2021; 64: 102256
- **Students and faculty perception of distance medical education outcomes in resource-constrained system during COVID-19 pandemic. A cross-sectional study.** *Annals of medicine and surgery (2012)*
Tuma, F., Nassar, A. K., Kamel, M. K., Knowlton, L. M., Jawad, N. K.

2021; 62: 377–82

- **The impact of trauma systems on patient outcomes.** *Current problems in surgery*
Choi, J., Carlos, G., Nassar, A. K., Knowlton, L. M., Spain, D. A.
2021; 58 (1): 100840
- **Feasibility and acceptability of virtually coaching residents on communication skills: a pilot study.** *BMC medical education*
Sasnal, M., Miller-Kuhlmann, R., Merrell, S. B., Beres, S., Kipp, L., Lee, S., Threlkeld, Z., Nassar, A. K., Gold, C. A.
2021; 21 (1): 513
- **COVID-19 Impact on Surgical Resident Education and Coping.** *The Journal of surgical research*
Wise, C. E., Berekyei Merrell, S. n., Sasnal, M. n., Forrester, J. D., Hawn, M. T., Lau, J. N., Lin, D. T., Schmiederer, I. S., Spain, D. A., Nassar, A. K., Knowlton, L. M.
2021; 264: 534–43
- **Situating Artificial Intelligence in Surgery A Focus on Disease Severity** *ANNALS OF SURGERY*
Korndorffer, J. R., Hawn, M. T., Spain, D. A., Knowlton, L. M., Azagury, D. E., Nassar, A. K., Lau, J. N., Arnow, K. D., Trickey, A. W., Pugh, C. M.
2020; 272 (3): 523–28
- **Situating Artificial Intelligence in Surgery: A Focus on Disease Severity.** *Annals of surgery*
Korndorffer, J. R., Hawn, M. T., Spain, D. A., Knowlton, L. M., Azagury, D. E., Nassar, A. K., Lau, J. N., Arnow, K. D., Trickey, A. W., Pugh, C. M.
2020; 272 (3): 523-528
- **Enterocutaneous Fistula: A Simplified Clinical Approach.** *Cureus*
Tuma, F., Crespi, Z., Wolff, C. J., Daniel, D. T., Nassar, A. K.
2020; 12 (4): e7789
- **Enterocutaneous Fistula: A Simplified Clinical Approach** *CUREUS*
Tuma, F., Crespi, Z., Wolff, C. J., Daniel, D. T., Nassar, A. K.
2020; 12 (4)
- **Motivators and Stressors for Canadian Research Coordinators in Critical Care: The MOTIVATE Survey.** *American journal of critical care : an official publication, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses*
McDonald, E., Zytaruk, N., Heels-Ansdell, D., Smith, O., Borges, D., Hand, L., Clarke, F., Nassar, A., Bennardo, M., Cook, D., Canadian Critical Care Research Coordinators Group
2020; 29 (1): 41–48
- **Precautions for Operating Room Team Members during the COVID-19 Pandemic.** *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*
Forrester, J. D., Nassar, A. K., Maggio, P. M., Hawn, M. T.
2020
- **Creation and implementation of a novel clinical workflow based on the AAST uniform anatomic severity grading system for emergency general surgery conditions.** *Trauma surgery & acute care open*
Bessoiff, K. E., Choi, J. n., Berekyei Merrell, S. n., Nassar, A. K., Spain, D. n., Knowlton, L. M.
2020; 5 (1): e000552
- **The impact of trauma systems on patient outcomes** *Current Problems in Surgery*
Choi, J., Carlos, G., Nassar, A. K., Knowlton, L. M., Spain, D. A.
2020
- **Using a virtual platform for personal protective equipment education and training.** *Medical education*
Nassar, A. K., Lin, D. T., Spain, D. A., Knowlton, L. M.
2020
- **Bedside Optic Nerve Ultrasonography for Diagnosing Increased Intracranial Pressure: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.** *Annals of internal medicine*
Koziarz, A., Sne, N., Kegel, F., Nath, S., Badhiwala, J. H., Nassiri, F., Mansouri, A., Yang, K., Zhou, Q., Rice, T., Faidi, S., Passos, E., Healey, et al
2019
- **Academic Clinicians' Workload Challenges and Burnout Analysis.** *Cureus*
Nassar, A. K., Waheed, A., Tuma, F.

2019; 11 (11): e6108

- **Academic Clinicians' Workload Challenges and Burnout Analysis** *CUREUS*
Nassar, A. K., Waheed, A., Tuma, F.
2019; 11 (11)
- **Developing an Inpatient Relationship-Centered Communication Curriculum for Surgical Teams: Pilot Study**
Nassar, A., Weimer-Elder, B., Kline, M., Minthorn, C., Staudenmayer, K. L., Yang, R., Spain, D. A., Maggio, P., Korndorffer, J. R., Johnson, T.
ELSEVIER SCIENCE INC.2019: E48
- **The MacTRAUMA TTL Assessment Tool: Developing a Novel Tool for Assessing Performance of Trauma Trainees: Initial Reliability Testing** *Journal of Surgical Education*
Nassar, A., Coates, A., Tuma, F., Farrokhyar, F., Reid, S.
2016
- **BURNOUT AMONG ACADEMIC CLINICIANS AS IT CORRELATES WITH WORKLOAD AND DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES**
Nassar, A., McConnell, M.
macsphere.mcmaster.ca. Canada.
2015
- **A novel use of high fidelity simulation to test inter-rater reliability of a TTL assessment tool** *Simulation Summit*
Reid, S., Coates, A., Nassar, A., Farrokhyar, F., Tuma, F., Bhandari, M., Faidi, S.
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.2014: 56
- **BURNOUT AMONG CRITICAL CARE WORKERS** *Canadian Critical Care Forum*
Nassar, A., Meade, M., Reid, S., Kahn moui, K., Karachi, T., Sawchuk, C., Cook, D.
Canadian Critical Care Forum.2014
- **MOTIVATORS AND STRESSORS FOR CANADIAN RESEARCH COORDINATORS IN CRITICAL CARE: THE MOTIVATE SURVEY** *Canadian Critical Care Forum*
McDonald, E., Zytaruk, N., Borges, D., Bennardo, M., Clarke, F., Heels-Ansdell, D., Hand, L., Meade, M., Nassar, A., Cook, D.
Canadian Critical Care Forum.2014
- **The Effect of General Surgery Clerkship Rotation on the Attitude of Medical Students Towards General Surgery as a Future Career** *JOURNAL OF SURGICAL EDUCATION*
Al-Heeti, K. N., Nassar, A. K., DeCorby, K., Winch, J., Reid, S.
2012; 69 (4): 544-549
- **Burnout Among Academic Surgeons** *Canadian Surgery Forum*
Nassar, A. K., Reid, S., Kahn moui, K., McConnell, M.
2015: S177
- **Developing a tool to evaluate trauma team leader performance: initial reliability testing.** *The Trauma Association of Canada Annual Scientific Meeting*
Reid, S., Coates, A., Nassar, A., Farrokhyar, F., Tuma, F., Faidi, S.
2014: S76
- **The mactrauma TTL assessment tool: developing a novel tool for assessing performance of trauma trainees** *Trauma Association of Canada*
Reid, S., Coates, C., Nassar, A., Tuma, F., Farrokhyar, F., Faidi, S.
2013: S13