

ACADEMIC INSIDER



DHRHealth
Graduate Medical
Education

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2025 GME Professionals Day



DHRHealth

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF



Jessica Martin, MD, MHA
Senior Vice President of Medical Education
Designated Institutional Official

Graduate Medical Education (GME) Professional's Day is a dedicated occasion to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of professionals involved in graduate medical education. This day honors program coordinators, administrators, faculty, and staff who play a critical role in supporting residency and fellowship programs. Their efforts ensure the smooth operation of training programs, foster an environment of learning and development, and ultimately contribute to the advancement of healthcare through the education of future physicians. ***GME Professional's Day serves as an opportunity to acknowledge their commitment, dedication, and the essential support they provide to medical trainees and institutions alike.***

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

FAMILY MEDICINE

Our **FAMILY MEDICINE** Program kicked off its **first wellbeing night at Topgolf**—and it was a hole-in-one!

A night filled with fun, laughter, and a little friendly competition brought everyone together to celebrate teamwork, wellness, and community.



GENERAL SURGERY

We are thrilled to announce the outstanding achievements of our **GENERAL SURGERY** residency chiefs!

Our Administrative Chief, Dr. Juanita Rodriguez, has successfully matched into a **Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the Medical College of Georgia**.

In addition, our Chief Resident, Dr. Victor Lopez, has matched into a **Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at Creighton University–Arizona**.

We are incredibly proud of their hard work, dedication, and the excellence they have demonstrated throughout their training. Please join us in congratulating them and wishing them the very best as they take this exciting next step in their careers!



CONGRATULATIONS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

INTERNAL MEDICINE



This month, our dedicated **INTERNAL MEDICINE** residents geared up to take their **In-Training Examination (ITE)**. This important exam helps assess their medical knowledge and readiness as they continue to grow into skilled physicians. We wish them the best of luck and are proud of their hard work and commitment to excellence!



OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY



Our **OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY** residents traded scrubs for boots and had the best time at Hillbilly's learning some line dancing moves!

From laughter to two-stepping, it was the perfect way to **recharge, connect, and celebrate wellness** together outside the hospital.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

The **ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY** Residency Program recently hosted a **wellness event at Dos Lagos Ranch**, bringing together residents, faculty, and their families for an afternoon of connections and restoration. *This event provided an opportunity for residents and faculty to step outside of the clinical environment, strengthen relationships, and promote overall well-being.* We are grateful to everyone who joined and helped make this event a success, and we look forward to continuing to support the personal and professional growth of our residents through ongoing activities throughout the year.



UROLOGY

We are proud to announce that our **UROLOGY** program has received **ACGME Continued Accreditation status**. This outstanding achievement reflects the dedication, excellence, and collaborative spirit of our incredible Residents, Faculty, and GME Leadership. Their unwavering commitment to education, patient care, and innovation has made this milestone possible. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this success. As we celebrate this accomplishment, we remain focused on continued growth and leadership in the field—raising the bar for excellence in urologic education and care.

Additionally, we are thrilled to share that our esteemed alumna, **Dr. Maria Veronica Rodriguez Padron**, has **successfully passed her Urology Board Examination!** Her accomplishment secures a 100% board pass rate for our program—an outstanding testament to the strength of our training and the dedication of our graduates. **Congratulations, Dr. Rodriguez Padron!** We're proud to celebrate this milestone with you.



Congratulations!

INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



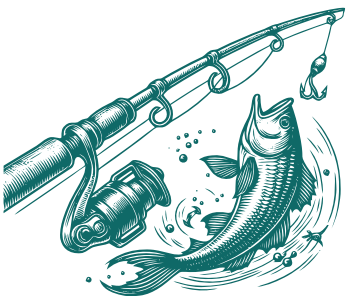
FISHING FOR HOPE

Together, the DHR Health community raised over \$500,000 at the 19th Annual DHR Health Fishing for Hope Tournament!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our sponsors, volunteers, and anglers, this year's tournament was a tremendous success. The funds raised will directly benefit the Hope Family Health Center (HFHC), which provides free medical and counseling services to uninsured and low-income individuals across the Rio Grande Valley.

We are especially proud that our Family Medicine Program Director, Dr. Naomi D'Acolatse currently serves as the Medical Director for Hope Family Health Center, leading efforts to provide integrated, compassionate care to families who might otherwise go without.

At DHR Health, our commitment to supporting health and healing for all is at the heart of everything we do. This event truly reflects that mission, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who made it possible.



INSTITUTION HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

GME PROFESSIONALS DAY

In celebration of **Graduate Medical Education (GME) Professionals Day**, our dedicated GME office staff enjoyed a well-deserved getaway to beautiful South Padre Island! The team embraced fun in the sun while strengthening their bonds through exciting team-building activities, including a sandcastle building class.



This special time was a wonderful opportunity to recognize the hard work and commitment of our GME professionals who play a vital role in shaping the future of healthcare. Here's to many more moments of collaboration, relaxation, and success together!

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Hello!



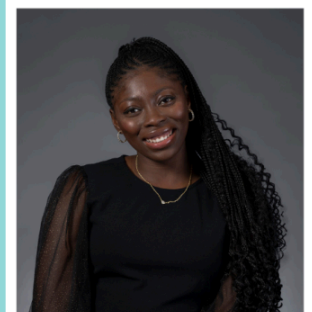

Tilman J. Fertitta Family
College of Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Meet Cameron Cooper

As a native Texan, I graduated with honors from Texas State University with a degree in Microbiology and a double minor in Psychology and Biochemistry. I chose TJFCOM for medical school because I have a passion for serving the underserved and underrepresented. Following graduation, I plan on pursuing a career in a surgical specialty for the U.S. Army and conduct global health missions throughout my career.



Hello!




Tilman J. Fertitta Family
College of Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Meet Chinasa Anokwuru

Chinasa is Igbo and a rising second-year medical student at The University of Houston. She is curious about interested in critical care and cardiopulmonary physiology. Chinasa recently served at a rural clinic in Honduras and hopes to work internationally in Africa. She enjoys art and literature outside of school.



DHR Health GME Well-being Services

We at GME Cares are now offering well-being support services for those in Graduate Medical Education. Our **GME Behavioral Health Specialist, Dr. Jennifer L. Ortega**, is available for all GME Residents, Fellows, Faculty, and Staff who are in need of support and guidance.

GME CARES hopes that Dr. Ortega can be your **first line of support** when dealing with mental, emotional, and professional concerns. However, should you need further specialized care, Dr. Ortega will refer you to our Comprehensive Behavioral Health Care partners or other support services for further assistance.

Dr. Ortega is available **Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm** for in-person and virtual support sessions.

All support services with Dr. Jennifer L. Ortega are **confidential**.

Support Services Offered:

- Individual and Group Support Sessions
- Consultation & Life Coaching
- Didactics
- Wellness Retreats & Workshops
- Grand Rounds
- Balint Group



“Dr. Ortega is an exemplary mental health therapist, knowledgeable educator and a beacon for compassionate care. Her graduate medical education wellbeing services enhanced my residency experience by promoting resilience through insightful lessons and activities. Her work rejuvenated my mind through reflections, group bonding activities, deep discussions and self-care tasks that taught me adaptive coping strategies and skills to approach patient care. I highly recommend her support services because she is one of the best I know.” - Morayo Ejiofor, MD

For More Information or To Schedule an Appointment:

Email: jennifer.ortega@dhr-rgv.com

Cell: 956-358-4895

WELLNESS SUPPORT

The Comprehensive Behavioral Health (CBH) Department at DHR Health provides free, confidential mental health support, resources, and access to appropriate tools for self-screening for every resident. Counseling services provided to residents and faculty are available Monday - Friday from 8 AM - 8 PM and on weekends from 9 AM - 6 PM.

Call 956-362-2732 or the 24/7 registration department at 956-362-2755 to schedule an appointment.

White Coat Dry Cleaning

- Alternate Fridays - Drop off/Pickup

"DM the DIO" DROP BOXES:

- Located in classrooms and call rooms; encouraged to drop any confidential messages

DHR WORKPLACE SAFETY:

- <https://app.convercent.com/enus/Anonymous/IssueIntake/LandingPage/Oc318ea9-5439-ea11-a972-000d3ab9f062>

RLDATIX SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT:

- <https://srm.rldatix.com/landing/DHR/>

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING PORTAL:

- <https://www.dhrhealth.com/education/graduate-medical-education/confidential-reporting/>

SECURITY PHONE NUMBER: 956-739-0717

- ACGME IR: III.B.7.d).(5) - safety and security measures appropriate to the clinical learning environment site

COVID-19/SICK-DAY PROTOCOL: All staff shall notify Employee Health as soon as they receive a positive test result or request a sick day. Staff may may not return to work until cleared by Employee Health. Clearance includes submission of your "Medical Clearance Certificate" to your program coordinator.

- Phone: (956) 362-3655
- Email: EmployeeHealth@dhr-rgv.com



DHR Health - Institute for Research and Development IRB Office

Human Subject Research or Quality Improvement Project:
One-on-One Sessions

- QIP
- Case Report / Case Series
- Research Protocol Development
- IRB Submission



SCAN TO SCHEDULE

For more information, please call/email Liz Elias-Calles Cabanillas

Phone: 956-362-2379
Email: l.calles@dhr-rgv.com