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Jeffrey P. Gold, MD

Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., is a nationally recognized leader and tireless advocate for transforming higher education, academic medicine and health care delivery.

He became the eighth chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), Vice President of the University of Nebraska System and the chair of the board of UNMC's principle clinical care academic health system partner, the Nebraska Medicine Health System, in January of 2014.

Introductory Message

Jeffrey P. Gold, MD

Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is with great pleasure that we celebrate the 5-year anniversary of the UNMC Department of Dermatology. Since its inception, this Department has worked tirelessly to provide exceptional patient care, to advance medical research, and to educate the next generation of dermatologists.

The UNMC Department of Dermatology was established in 2016 by the College of Medicine with the appointment of Dr. Ashley Wysong as its founding chair. Dr. Wysong is truly a renowned dermatologist and at the same time, a pioneer in the field. She has been instrumental in the creation of the department, in the recruitment of top-notch faculty from around the country, and in programmatic development at UNMC and with our clinical partners Nebraska Medicine, Children's Nebraska, and the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Omaha.

The department has grown significantly over the last 5 years, and we owe this success to the dedication and hard work of our faculty and staff. During this time the department has become a center for dermatologic research, education, and patient care. Together, we have made tremendous strides in the diagnosis and treatment of skin diseases and have continued to contribute to the development of new therapies and cures.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue our mission to lead the world in transforming lives to create a healthy future for all individuals and communities. We remain committed to excellence in all that we do and will continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in dermatology for all of the communities that we serve.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we embark on the exciting next chapter of our journey.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Gold, MD



Lauritzen Outpatient Center, headquarters of the Department of Dermatology.

James Linder, MD

CEO, Nebraska Medicine

The rate of growth, as well as the breadth and quality, of the department of dermatology at five years is far beyond anything that was envisioned when the decision to create the department was made. The tremendous success of its academic mission and the demand for the clinical expertise it provides is something that is a tribute to Dr. Wysong's leadership and the effort and dedication of the department's faculty, staff, and residents. Congratulations on an exceptional five years and we look forward to an even greater future.



*James Linder, MD
Nebraska Medicine CEO*

Bradley Britigan, MD

Dean, College of Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Stokes-Shackelford Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

In just 5 years the Dermatology Department has addressed key goals of the Medical Center. They are training a much needed workforce of dermatologists, collaborating with researchers to understand skin cancer and providing patient care to thousands of patients throughout Nebraska. Most importantly the physicians that Dr. Wysong has recruited, and the culture of the department sets the stage for amazing growth and opportunities.



*Bradley Britigan, MD
Dean, College of Medicine*



History





Dr. Oscar S. Hoffman

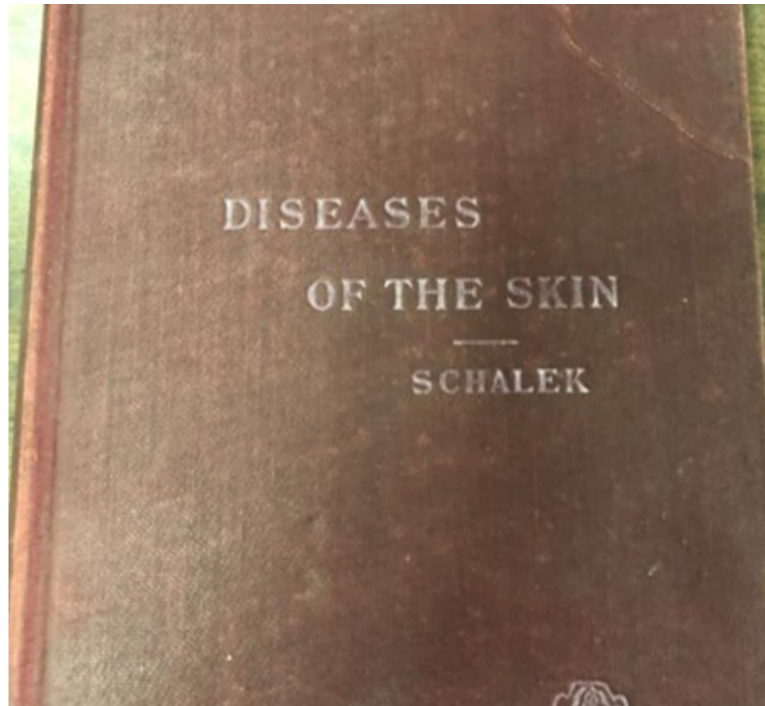
The first dermatologist at Omaha Medical College.

History of Dermatology in Nebraska:

The Department of Dermatology may be one of the younger departments on campus, but its history is tied to events that date back over 100 years. In 1883, the Omaha Medical College opened and was a part of the University of Nebraska. In 1892, the first dermatologist began practicing at the Omaha Medical College, Dr. Oscar S. Hoffman.

In 1907, Dr. Alfred Schalek was appointed Professor of Dermatology and Genito-Urinary Diseases and served as the Head of Dermatology from 1919-1935. Dr. Schalek was an attending dermatologist in multiple hospitals and the Child Saving Institute. He was active in multiple dermatology societies and wrote "the book" on dermatology at the time entitled "Diseases of the Skin."

In 1970, Ramon Fusaro, MD, Ph.D., was named Professor and Head of Dermatology at UNMC. He received his medical degree from the University of Minnesota, where he worked from 1957-1970. In 1975, he was appointed to Creighton University School of Medicine and remained on faculty at both universities until 2008. Dr. Fusaro contributed more than 264 articles to professional publications, 37 book chapters, and abstracts to professional societies. Dr. Fusaro was instrumental in discovering Familial Atypical Multiple Mole Melanoma (FAMMM) Syndrome.

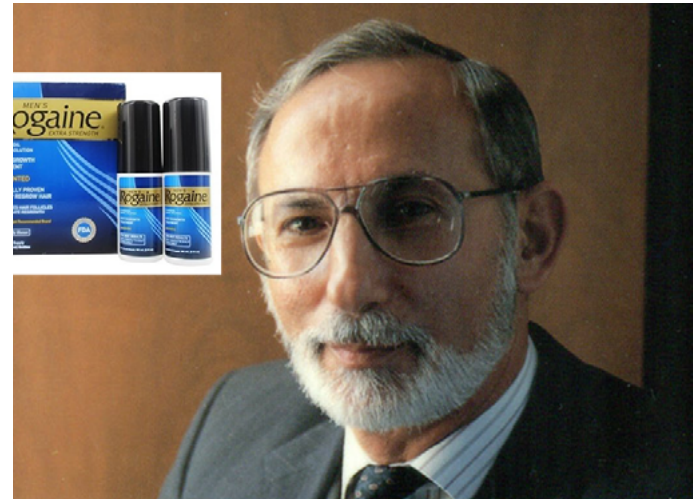


Dr. Schalek, author of "Diseases of the Skin."

In 1988, Dr. Guinter Khan discovered minoxidil (Rogaine), the first FDA-approved treatment for hair growth. He and Dr. Paul Grant applied for a patent for the topical version of minoxidil after discovering that patients receiving it orally to treat hypertension grew hair. Dr. Kahn was born in Trier, Germany, in 1934 and immigrated to Omaha in 1938. Dr. Kahn graduated cum laude from the University of Nebraska Omaha in 1954, earning a bachelor's degree in biology. Dr. Kahn was a major philanthropic supporter of UNMC, having funded an endowment to the McGoogan Library of Medicine.

In 1996, Dr. Kristie Hayes was named section Chief of Dermatology in the Department of Internal Medicine. She held this role until 2006. It would be another ten years before the University of Nebraska Medicine would approve the Department of Dermatology.

Before 2018, Nebraska had about one dermatologist for every 52,000 people — the poorest ratio of any state in the Midwest region. The American Professors of Dermatology recommends a goal of having one dermatologist for every 20,000 to 30,000 people.



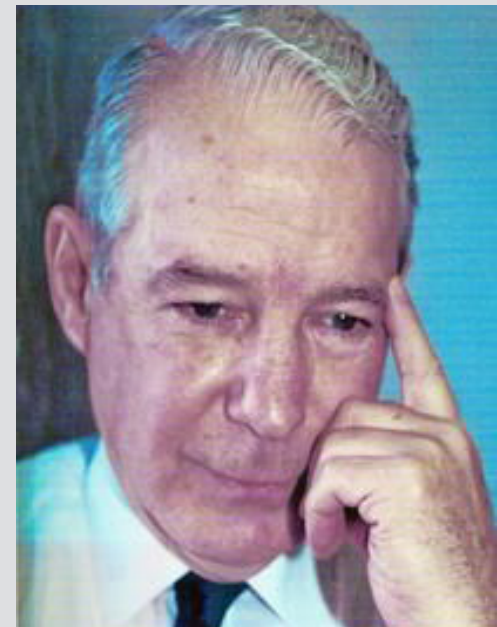
Dr. Guinter Khan and his discovery of minoxidil (Rogaine).

Dr. John Latenser graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine in 1946. Dr. Latenser was a pioneer and innovator. He served as a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corp and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center for over fifty years. Although he comes from a family of architects (his grandfather John L. Latenser, Sr. designed Central High School) he chose medicine and started private practice in general surgery as a general surgeon and volunteer faculty member who saw private patients, made house calls, and rollerbladed every day.

Dr. Latenser was a founding member of the American College of Chemosurgery. (Dr. Frederick Mohs was the founder), now called the American College of Mohs Surgery.



The founding members of the American College of Chemosurgery.



Dr. John Latenser.

Founding of UNMC Department of Dermatology:

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) Department of Dermatology was approved on May 25, 2016, by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. After a nationwide search, Dr. Ashley Wysong was recruited as the Founding Chair, and the UNMC Department of Dermatology was officially started on May 1, 2018. Despite a rich history of dermatology in Nebraska dating back to the end of the 19th century, the University of Nebraska had never had a Department of Dermatology. When the first department was founded in 2018, there were no board-certified dermatologists on faculty at UNMC and the state of Nebraska had one of the lowest number of dermatologists per capita in the United States.

Dr. Wysong immediately began recruiting academic dermatologists and staff from around the country dedicated to training the next generation in diseases of the skin. Since 2018, the new UNMC Department of Dermatology has invested tremendous efforts to develop robust educational programs in dermatology for physicians/APPs, resident physicians (graduate medical education), medical students (undergraduate medical education), graduate students (PhD, MS, MPH), the community, and beyond.

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Wysong join UNMC/Nebraska Medicine," Dr. Britigan said. "She stood out in the interview process and was unanimously the first choice of the search committee. She will bring a lot of energy to the position. I have no doubt that she will do an outstanding job of building the department and making it a source of pride for our university."



Ashley Wysong, MD, MS (2018)

A fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon and procedural dermatologist, Dr. Wysong's clinical areas of expertise are skin cancer, reconstructive surgery, and high-risk transplant dermatology. Her formal training in epidemiology and biostatistics drives her research interests in prevention of skin cancer and in characterizing novel clinical and genetic factors in high-risk and rare skin tumors.

A native of Nevada, MO., Dr. Wysong has served on the dermatology faculty in the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California since 2014, holding the position of director of Mohs and Dermatologic Surgery. She has ties to Nebraska, as her paternal grandfather was born in Bayard, Neb.

"The chance to build a new department of dermatology is an extremely unique opportunity. The need for dermatologic care in Nebraska is enormous. This is one of the aspects that drew me to the position," said Dr. Wysong.

Dr. Wysong receiving the Circle of Distinction award from Chancellor Gold. This event celebrated the 108 endowed chairs, professorships and fellowships held by 105 of its faculty members and recognized the benefactors who made the awards possible.



Key Timeline of Events

2016

May 26th, 2016: The University of Nebraska Board of Regents approved the formation of a new UNMC Department of Dermatology.

2018

May 1, 2018: After a nationwide search, Dr. Ashley Wysong was named Founding Chair and William W. Bruce M.D. Distinguished Chair in Dermatology at UNMC.

July 23, 2018: Dr. Adam Sutton joined the faculty as Director of Mohs & Dermatologic Surgery.

August 15, 2018: Dr. Ryan Trowbridge joined the faculty.

August 20, 2018: First day of clinic for Nebraska Medicine Dermatology.

August 22, 2018: Dr. Megan Arthur joined the faculty as Director of Rheum-Derm/ Autoimmune Skin Diseases.

October 1, 2018: First day of inpatient consultative dermatology service.

October 16, 2018: First day of Mohs surgery.

November 6, 2018: First UNMC Department of Dermatology Grand Rounds.

December 20, 2018: First day of vein procedures.

2019

January 1, 2019: Dr. Jennifer Adams joined the faculty.

December 1, 2019: Dr. Kristie Hayes joined the faculty.



The "Fab Four" founding faculty. (Right to Left) Ryan Trowbridge, MD; Ashley Wysong, MD, MS; Megan Arthur, MD; Adam Sutton, MD, MBA.



Kristie Hayes, MD, using the Lumio on a patient.

2020

January 1, 2020: Launched dermatology program at the NWI-VAHCS. Dr. Ashley Wysong named Chief of Dermatology at the VA.

April 1, 2020: Dr. Ronald Sulewski joined the faculty.

July 1, 2020: UNMC Dermatology welcomed its first class of resident physicians in dermatology.

September 1, 2020: Dr. Corey Georgesen joined the faculty.

2021

January 5, 2021: First day seeing veterans at VA-NWIHCS in dermatology.

August 2, 2021: Dr. Matthew Stephany joined the faculty.

August 2, 2021: Dr. Lauri Vargo joined the faculty.

October 1, 2021: Dr. Melodi Whitley joined the faculty.

October 1, 2021: Dr. Nicole Harter named Chief of Pediatric Dermatology at UNMC Dermatology and Children's Nebraska.

October 26, 2021: First pediatric patients seen at Children's Nebraska.

2022

October 1, 2022: Dr. Erin Barrett joined the faculty.

October 1, 2022: Dr. Sarah Lonowski joined the faculty.

2023

June 25, 2023: UNMC Dermatology graduates its first class of resident physicians in dermatology.



Dr. Nicole Harter cutting the ribbon at the Grand Opening Celebration of the Children's Nebraska Pediatric Dermatology Clinic.



Dr. Wysong presenting her lecture "A Seat at the table: Strategies to Advance" at the 2022 Brave Enough conference.

Key Accomplishments

Recruitment

Successfully recruited 16 board-certified dermatologists in 5 years.

Matched #1/#2/#3 ranks in first NRMP Match, consistently matching in top ranks.

Research

Created a foundational research infrastructure for translational and clinical/outcomes research with publication of 193 research/scholarly articles and significant increases in grant funding.

Education

Developed a 4-year robust curriculum in dermatology for medical students: didactic curricula (M1/M2), five clinical rotations in dermatology, and a residency preparatory course for medical students who match in dermatology.

Received ACGME accreditation for a new dermatology residency program to train physicians.

Developed PhD, MS, and MPH graduate programs in dermatology, cancer biology, and epidemiology.

Designed formal medical student mentorship program with 100% match rate for students in dermatology (12/12).

Started Dermatology Grand Rounds, Inpatient Grand Rounds, Nebraska Dermatology Society Annual Meeting, and other continuing medical education (CME) conferences.

Clinical Excellence

Created a robust Teledermatology Program — eConsult, eVisit, Video Visit, Phone Visit.

Built a comprehensive dermatology clinical program with 6 Nebraska Medicine locations with specialty and subspecialty services.

Produced ambulatory clinic visit year-over-year growths of 83%, 27%, 45%, 19% at Nebraska Medicine with over 85,000 patients seen at Nebraska Medicine.

Developed first ever pediatric dermatology program at Children's Nebraska.

Developed Multidisciplinary Clinics in Rheum-Derm, HIV dermatology, cutaneous lymphoma, autoimmune bullous diseases.

Negotiated start-up and built comprehensive dermatology program at VA-Nebraska Western Iowa Health Care System (VA-NWIHCS), now with 5 clinics per week.

Community Service & Outreach

Hosted 81 community service and outreach events.



Faculty





Ashley Wyssong, MD
Department of Dermatology

Kristie Hayes,
Dermatology



Dr. Jennifer Adams

MD

Assistant Professor, Residency Program Director,
Director of Teledermatology, and Director of
Tropical and Infectious Disease Dermatology

How did you choose UNMC?

Although I was born and raised in Omaha, I had spent the last 15 years of education & training on the East coast with no particular thoughts of returning to Nebraska. I found myself searching out academic dermatology positions in July 2018 and decided to Google search if anything had started in Nebraska and found an article on the recent hiring of Dr. Wysong. I reached out to find out more and quickly found myself caught up in Dr. Wysong's enthusiasm and excitement around the opportunity to build the ideal program from the ground level up. I haven't looked back since!

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

Before the department was here, Nebraska was 50 out of 50 states for dermatologists per capita. It is clear that the department continues to provide stellar care that continually expands access for Nebraskans. That chasm of care is quickly shrinking for Nebraskans thanks to UNMC Derm.

What do you want to be remembered for?

As a passionate educator that provided compassionate and excellent clinical care for my patients.

What leads you to stay at UNMC Dermatology?

The people! Everyone is so passionate about what they do and being a part of a team. We are all here to take excellent care of patients and each other. The people in the department create the culture- which I know is a rare unicorn!

“

“Success is liking yourself, liking what you do,
and liking how you do it.” — Maya Angelou

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Dr. Megan Arthur

MD

Assistant Professor, Associate Residency Program Director (APD), Director of Medical Student Education, and Co-Director Multidisciplinary Autoimmune Skin Diseases Clinic

How did you choose UNMC?

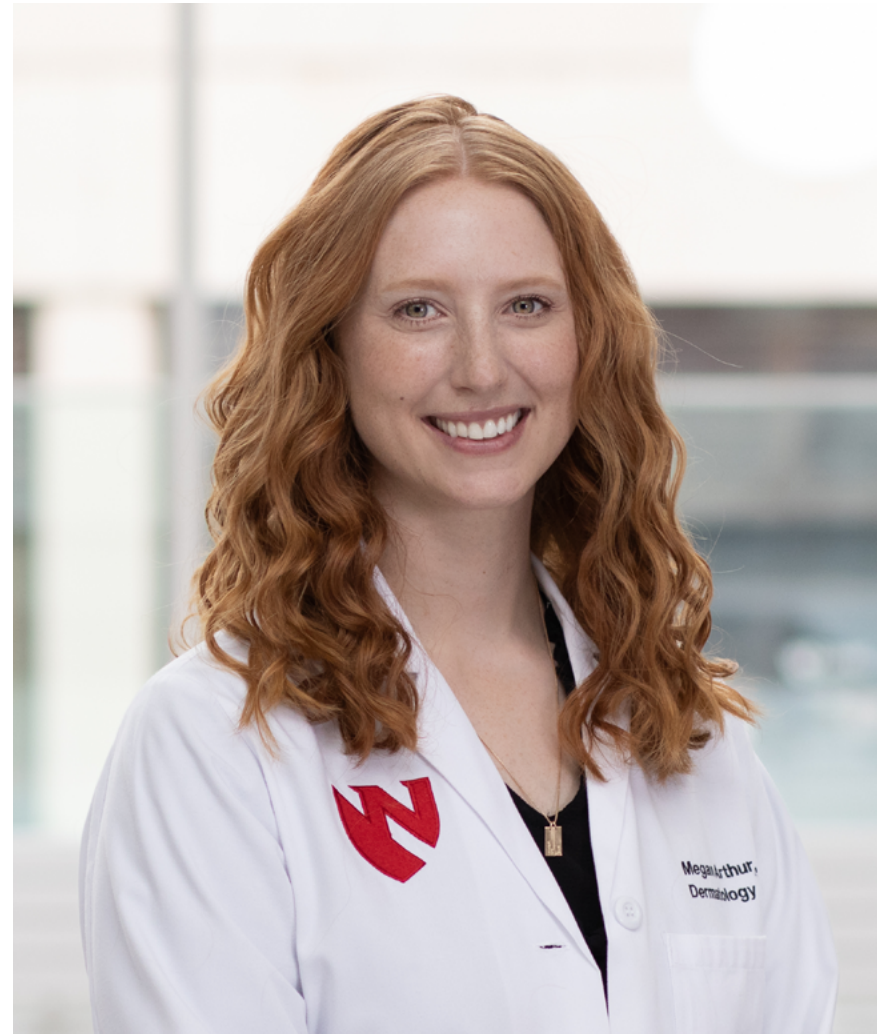
In 2013, as a UNMC medical student, I found myself enamored with the field of Dermatology. I knew that the road to Dermatology would be challenging, but the added layer of no home Dermatology program made the path a bit more complicated. In that moment, I started to daydream about my future career and saw a clear path that would lead me back to UNMC; to care for patients, but also to mentor and guide students. Fast forward to 2018 and I get a phone call from Dr. Wysong. I can still remember the evening I first spoke with Dr. Wysong about building the Department of Dermatology at UNMC. It sounded like a dream. Her aspirations were colossal, her energy boundless, and her heart exuded authenticity. The opportunity was truly one of a kind in every way. After just one short conversation there was no doubt in my mind: I was all in!

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

I feel so honored to get to personally meet with and mentor each and every UNMC medical student who is interested in learning about Dermatology. Being the “go to person” for our UNMC students has really brought things full circle for me. Offering guidance to these students during an incredibly stressful and somewhat uncertain period of their lives is such a privilege!

What do you want to be remembered for?

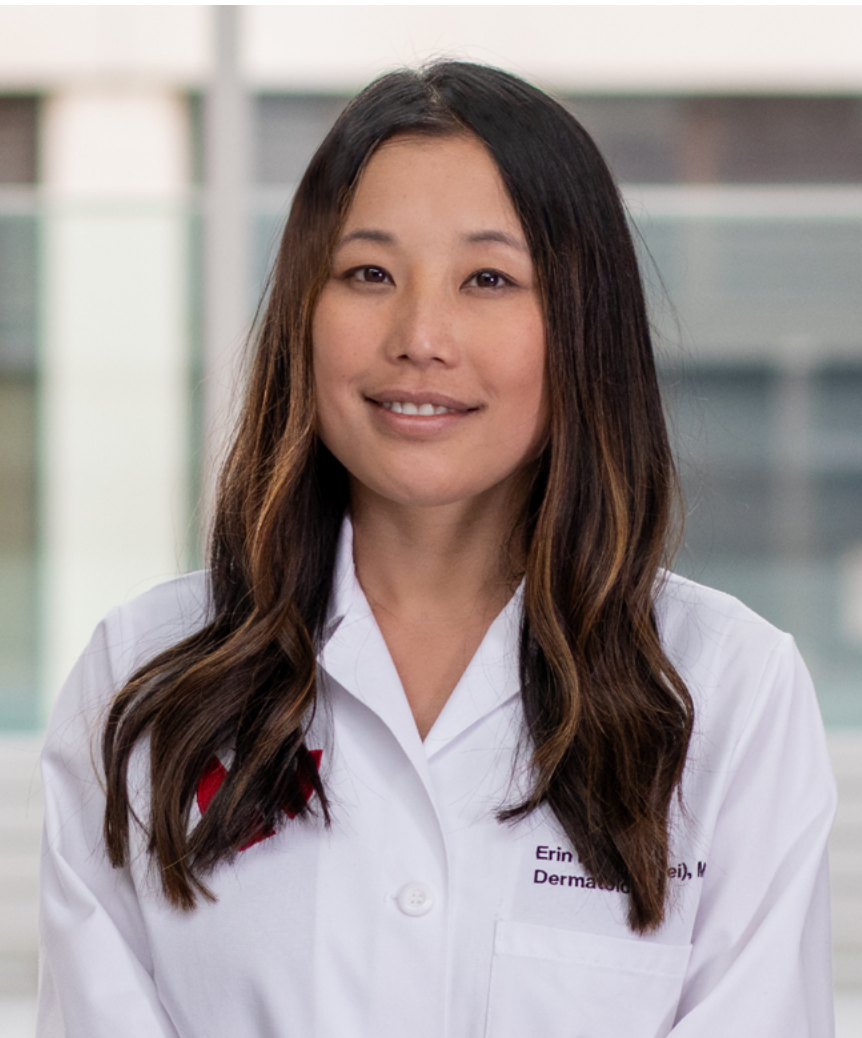
I hope that I will be remembered as a person who cares deeply: for my family, colleagues, and the people who I have the privilege to provide Dermatologic care for.



“

“Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself.” — St. Francis de Sales

”



Dr. Erin Barrett (Wei)

MD

Associate Professor, Director of Clinical Trials,
and Co-Director of the Bullous Disease Clinic

How did you choose UNMC?

I was drawn to the start-up culture, which values innovative problem solving, non-hierarchical and open communication. I am really drawn to the opportunities for me to grow.

What has been your most proud moment in the last 5 years professionally?

In terms of research, I am very proud of being a co-investigator on the \$1,000,000 BTCA award on an innovative treatment for pemphigus that has the potential of transforming how we treat all antibody driven diseases. In terms of patient care, I was very proud of being chosen for the BWH "Brigham Way" Award after being personally nominated by then president of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Betsy Nobel, for "exemplifying best of what the Brigham has to offer" in my care of autoimmune blistering disease patients. Beyond that, I am honored and proud whenever a patient expresses that they are happy and grateful for my medical care.

What do you want to be remembered for?

I want to be remembered for how I made people (patients, coworkers, my family) feel-for being kind and loving. I hope my presence made them feel calmer, more positive and happier about themselves.

What leads you to stay at UNMC Dermatology?

Having my work matter, feeling valued, and the potential for growth are what keeps me here.

“

“The truth is everyone is winging it. So spread your wings and follow your dreams.”
— Charlie Mackey “The Boy. The Mole. The Fox. The Horse.”

”

Dr. Corey Georgesen

MD

Assistant Professor

How did you choose UNMC?

I am a former medical student graduate from UNMC. After leaving Nebraska, and during my dermatology training, I learned about the establishment of an academic dermatology program at UNMC. I was recruited by Dr. Wysong and the founding staff - and the choice was rather easy - an opportunity to re-join Nebraska Medicine as faculty seemed like a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

I established the dermatopathology program within the department and created a dermatopathology curriculum from scratch. I believe this will have long lasting contribution for many years to come.

What do you want to be remembered for?

I want to be remembered for my relentless pursuit of betterment for patients, the department, my colleagues, and the community.

Who is someone you admire in your medical field and why?

Bernie Ackerman: He was a famous dermatopathologist and teacher who pioneered many of the modern day concepts that we use to this day.

Favorite Ackerman Quote: "The great challenge for a teacher is to elicit the very best that a student has in him, and the greatest triumph for a teacher is a student who exceeds him."



“

“If you can’t fly then run, if you can’t run then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.”
— Martin Luther King Jr.

”



Dr. Nicole Harter

MD

Associate Professor and Chief of Pediatric Dermatology

How did you choose UNMC?

I have known Dr. Wysong for several years, she was my attending and mentor during residency. She contacted me after becoming Chair of UNMC Dermatology and helping lead a thriving, growing department, and it was an exciting opportunity to be part of growth and development of a new peds derm division in an area that was underserved with our specialty.

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

Opening of our dedicated pediatric dermatology clinic/division.

What do you want to be remembered for?

As a passionate educator that provided compassionate and excellent clinical care for my patients.

Who is someone you admire in your medical field and why?

Dr. Anthony Mancini, my fellowship director – leader in our field with clinical expertise, research, division chief – innovative, brilliant, all while remaining relatable, empathetic, and somehow still with the ability to keep his family as a top priority.

What 3 words would you use to describe UNMC Derm?

Innovative, collaborative, team-focused

What leads you to stay at UNMC Dermatology?

The culture, growth, and opportunity for development

“

“There is no passion to be found in playing small—in settling for a life that is less than you are capable of living.” — Nelson Mandela

”

Dr. Kristie Hayes

MD

Associate Professor and Director of Diversity

How did you choose UNMC?

I rejoined UNMC in 2019, after a stint in private practice. I initially joined UNMC in 1994, right after completion of my dermatology training at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

I believe that the development of a dermatology residency training program will benefit the state of Nebraska immensely. I want to thank Dr. Wysong for bringing this vision to life; it was a need expressed by decades of UNMC affiliated dermatologists.

What has been your most proud moment in the last 5 years professionally?

I have had several; but the honor of having a departmental visiting student fellowship and scholarship in my name for students underrepresented in medicine and dermatology is very, very special for me.

What do you want to be remembered for?

I would like to be remembered for trying to make every patient interaction one rooted in addressing the patients' concerns with empathy, integrity, and compassion, and for a commitment to treat all people equally with consistent delivery of quality care.

What leads you to stay at UNMC Derm?

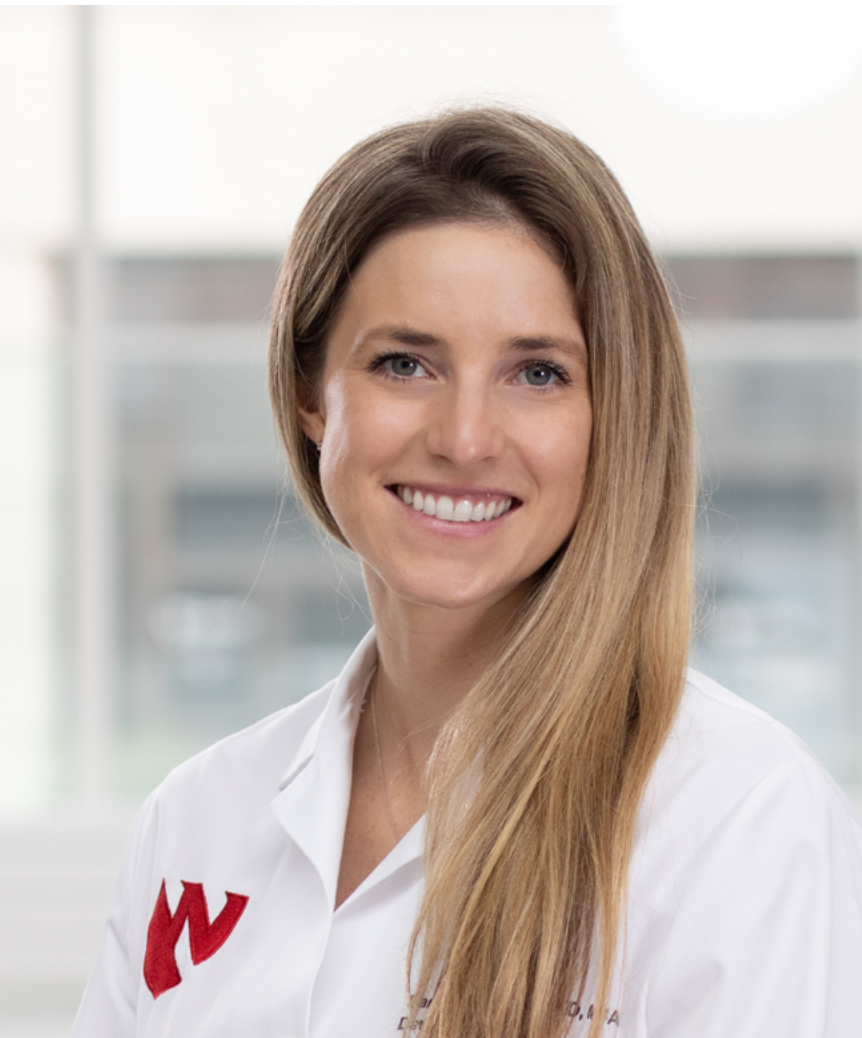
Training future providers in dermatology is so important, and each trainee will impact so many lives and communities; it is important to pour into them what we have learned in our careers



“

“The future belongs to those who believe in the power of their dreams.” — Eleanor Roosevelt

”



Dr. Sarah Lonowski

MD, MBA

Assistant Professor and Co-Director of the
Multidisciplinary Autoimmune Skin Disease/
Derm-Rheum Program and Director of the
Psoriasis-Psoriatic Arthritis Clinic

How did you choose UNMC?

When I completed my dermatology fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, I set out to find an academic institution that would support me in my unique clinical interests, but also hoped to find a place with a strong culture and a positive energy – UNMC checked all these boxes!

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

Starting specialty clinics (psoriasis/psoriatic arthritis, dermatology, connective tissue disease) that broaden our department's ability to serve the needs of patients and to provide an excellent learning experience to trainees.

What do you want to be remembered for?

My #1 professional goal is to be remembered as a doctor who took excellent care of her patients. And hopefully along the way, was also a great mentor, teacher, and friend.

Who is someone you admire in your field?

My former fellowship director, Dr. Ruth Ann Vleugels. She is an absolute rockstar. What I love about her in addition to her brilliance is her passion for taking great care of patients. She is never hesitant to go the extra mile, try a new treatment, and ask a difficult question. Her clinical excellence has garnered her respect nationally and internationally. All while becoming a mother to four children!

“

“Whatever you choose to do, leave tracks. That means don't do it just for yourself. You will want to leave the world a little better for your having lived.” — Ruth Bader Ginsburg

”

Dr. Matthew Stephany

MD

Assistant Professor and Medical
Director, General Dermatology

How did you choose UNMC?

Entering my final year of residency I began to evaluate what was important for my development and next step in my career. I had a pull towards academics and everything fell perfectly into place with regards to the department being formed.

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

Expansion of the multidisciplinary cutaneous T-cell lymphoma clinic in collaboration with Dr. Matt Lunning in oncology. Within the first year of taking over the program we doubled our patient population and had a catchment area of a 5 hour radius.

Who is someone you admire in your medical field and why?

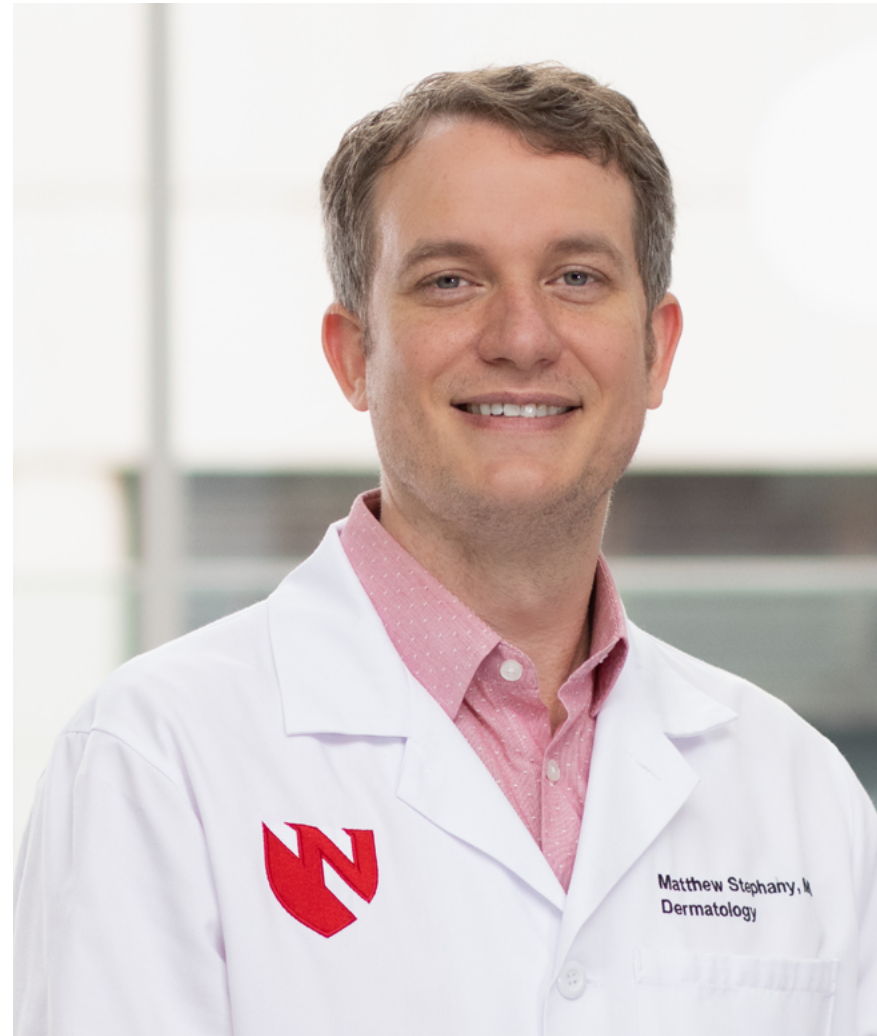
Thomas Stasko. He is an incredible clinician who has accomplished more than I can ever hope but maintains the level of humility that few can match.

What 3 words would you use to describe UNMC Derm?

Cordial

Scholarly

Fearless



“

“Worrying is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do but it doesn’t get you anywhere.” — Erma Bombeck

”



Dr. Ronald Sulewski

MD

Assistant Professor and Director of
Laser and Aesthetic Dermatology

How did you choose UNMC?

I reached out to Dr. Adams through our program director when we were at the University of Miami (Dr. Elgart) to see what Omaha dermatology was like. She told me about a few practices in the area, but said, “Ron, you have to check out what we have going on here at UNMC!” I met Dr. Wysong soon after and the rest is history!

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community

I hear all the time sentences that end with “... but we never had derm.” Whether or not it is a rheumatologist on faculty that would regularly get called in for drug rashes or primary care physicians that wished they got better dermatology training when they were once residents here. I think overall delivering great care to our patients has been our best achievement.

What has been your most proud moment in the last 5 years professionally?

Building a cosmetic program that includes great treatments for patients and a comprehensive training for our residents and students.

What leads you to stay at UNMC Derm?

The team that our leaders and we have built is a great team. We are bringing together the best that’s out there to give the best care to our patients.

“

“Tomorrow is no place to place your better days.”
— Dave Matthews

”

Dr. Adam Sutton

MD, MBA

Assistant Professor and Director of
Mohs and Dermatologic Surgery

How did you choose UNMC?

Prior to 2018 there wasn't an academic dermatology department in Nebraska. It wasn't until mid-way through my Mohs Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology fellowship in San Diego that the University of Nebraska Medical Center recruited and hired Dr. Ashley Wysong as Chair of the Department of Dermatology to launch the inaugural department. The University was committed to building a department to serve the community and I was excited about the prospect and opportunities that a new department presented.

After months of discussions and strategic planning I eagerly accepted an academic position, embraced the unique opportunity to help shape a department and program and moved back to Omaha to continue my professional career. The opportunity to be a part of a team of passionate leaders to help start a residency program was something that I knew I wanted to be a part of. As a lifelong learner I wanted to work across specialties and work towards shaping our next generation of leaders in dermatology. In addition, I was excited about the prospect and potential of building a comprehensive skin cancer and vein program, with the goal of offering services and expertise that were not previously offered at the University of Nebraska Medical Center or in the community.

What do you want to be remembered for?

Compassion, excellence and innovation.

What leads you to stay at UNMC Derm?

The healthcare community, our team members and our patients. I am driven to continue to build a dermatologic surgery program that is regionally and nationally known for exceptional and innovative patient care. We have the very best team here at UNMC and it an absolute privilege to work towards our collective goals together.



“

“Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.”
— John Wooden

”



Dr. Ashley Wysong

MD, MS

Founding Chair and Professor with Tenure

William W. Bruce, MD Distinguished
Chair of Dermatology

Tell us about your story of joining UNMC

I will never forget the first day I received a recruiting call to become the Founding Chair of a newly formed Department of Dermatology at UNMC. At the time, I was Chief of Mohs & Dermatologic Surgery at the University of Southern California and Los Angeles County Hospital. In retrospect, I was certainly not looking to make any professional changes. However, now, looking back over 5 years later, I am so grateful I had the courage to go for it as moving to Omaha, joining the UNMC community, and having the opportunity to lead this team has been the best “unplanned journey” of a lifetime!

Share an achievement that you believe has contributed most to UNMC Derm and/or the larger community.

The achievements of our education team at UNMC dermatology in building robust training programs for resident physicians, medical students, and graduate students (PhD, MS, MPH) and CME programs like Grand Rounds and other teaching conferences has contributed tremendously to the entire UNMC community and will pay off for generations to come. In addition, I believe our comprehensive clinical programs in general dermatology, mohs & dermatologic surgery, pediatric dermatology, dermatopathology, laser & aesthetic dermatology and teledermatology have dramatically expanded access to specialized dermatologic care for our entire region!

“

“Always remember who you are, where you are from, and where you are going.” — Kathi Wysong

”

What has been your most proud moment in the last 5 years professionally?

My most proud moment in the last 5 years is right now; as we've taken the time to truly pause and reflect on all we've accomplished together and to archive our achievements, I am astounded! I am most proud of the outstanding people we've recruited and the strong inclusive culture we've built together. With people and culture as our foundation, what we've accomplished is nothing short of a miracle including: phenomenal clinical programs at Nebraska Medicine, the VA, and Children's Nebraska; comprehensive educational curricula for medical, MPH, MS, and PhD students at UNMC, a new residency program in dermatology, clinical and translational research programs, a huge DEI presence, a robust community service and outreach mission, and so much more!

What do you want to be remembered for?

A personalized approach to mentoring and helping others to "do that which only they can do"

What 3 words would you use to describe UNMC Derm?

Innovative, Compassionate, Courageous

What leads you to stay at UNMC Derm?

The people and the culture that we all invest in every single day.

Additional Comments

For the next 5 years, our team at UNMC Dermatology will be laser focused on achieving the "100 year dermatology plan" to ensure the future success of the department for many years to come through sustainable programmatic expansion, long-term strategic planning, ongoing recruitment, personalized leadership development, active succession planning, and a permanent space on UNMC campus.

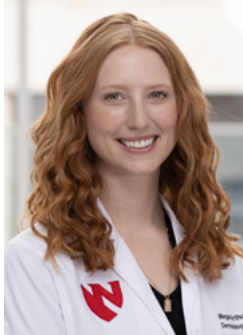


Dr. Wysong performing Mohs surgery.

Education







Dr. Megan Arthur, Director of Medical Student Education, Assistant Professor, and Associate Residency Program Director (APD)

Education

From the beginning, a key educational initiative in our department was to have a strong presence in Undergraduate Medical Education at UNMC. We strive to fulfill this mission through the following essential aspects:

1. Early and sustained exposure to Dermatology during the non-clinical didactic years (Phase 1 and Phase 2)
2. Ample opportunities for students to complete both clinical and research rotations in Dermatology
3. Mentorship through all years of undergraduate medical training and beyond

Phase 1: Musculoskeletal and Integument Block

The Dermatology content in the MSK-I Block has transitioned dramatically since 2018. In 2019 Dermatology lectures and workshops included: Morphology, Common Dermatology I and II, as well as 3 Dermatopathology lectures titled Normal Skin, Skin Cancer, and General Dermatology. Workshops included: Biopsy Demonstration (Advanced Anatomy Lab).

The MSK-I Block lecture topics in 2023 now include 7 hours of Dermatology specific lecture content and 9 hours of hands-on workshop / lab training:

- Sharps and Suturing — Dr. Sutton + Residents
- Morphology — Dr. Arthur
- Histology Lab — Dr. Gould, Dr. Lauer, Dr. Georgesen + Residents
- Skin Biopsy Demo — Dr. Arthur + Residents
- Clinicopathologic Correlations — Dr. Arthur
- Cutaneous Neoplasms — Dr. Stephany
- Dermatopathology Lab — Dr. Lauer, Dr. Georgesen + Residents
- Dermatology Review — Dr. Arthur
- Rheumatology Dermatology — Dr. Arthur
- Phase 2: Multi-Organ Systems Block
- Dermatology for the USMLE (2 hours lecture) — Dr. Arthur

Phase 2: Curriculum Enhancement Series

The Curriculum Enhancement Seminar (CES) occurs during phase 3 and is a set of required lectures as well as elective opportunities titled Enrichment Experiences (EE). The required portions of this rotation cover an assortment of high-yield topics including the care of special populations, discussions of diversity, equity and inclusion, evidence-based medicine, health system sciences, foundational and translational science, palliative care, leadership, personal finance, interviewing, social media awareness, current topics in medicine (opioids & vaccinations), social determinants of health, neurology skills, and ACLS.

Dermatology further participates in the CES by giving a “Current Topics in Medicine Lecture” titled Skin comes in many shades, so do rashes and neoplasms.

Phase 3: Residency Preparatory Course

The Residency Preparatory Course (RPC) is a required course for all senior students and occurs in April of their fourth year. It is designed to provide practical knowledge/skills to better prepare students for the challenges of internships. The first two weeks are occupied by a mix of lectures and hands-on activities for all students, including sessions on EHR order entry, patient handoffs, social media awareness, financial and debt management, and introduction to ACGME Milestones, regulatory issues, delivering difficult news, pain management, antibiotic stewardship, and basic teaching skills. For the remaining two weeks, students take part in programming developed by the Career Specialty Track director of the specialty in which they are entering, with content designed to poise learners for success as they enter residency.

The Dermatology specific 2-week RPC content includes the following lectures / workshops:

- Acne and Rosacea, Atopic Dermatitis, Autoimmune Connective Tissue Diseases, Bedside Diagnostics, Contact Dermatitis, Dermopath Unknowns, Dermoscopy, Derm Surg Potpourri, Hands On Workshop: Suturing, Nails (paired with resident didactic), Inpatient Dermatology, Kodachromes, Laser and Cosmetics Basics, Morphology, Pediatric Dermatology, Psoriasis and Other Papulosquamous, Skin Cancer, Topical Steroids Crash Course



Dr. Lee instructing medical student, Madison Grinnell, at the Residency Preparatory Course.

Dermatology Rotations

3-Week Selective Rotation. Students who are completing the Internal Medicine Core Clerkship have the opportunity to complete a 3 week Selective Rotation in Dermatology.

DERM-714: Advanced Clinical Dermatology (Sub-Internship)

Fourth year UNMC Sub-Internship Rotation. This four-week elective in Advanced Clinical Dermatology offers students a comprehensive dermatology experience. This course is intended for students who are considering going into the field of dermatology. Students can expect exposure to general dermatology, dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology, and inpatient dermatology consultative services. Students will learn to diagnose and treat common dermatologic conditions (i.e. acne, seborrheic dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, warts). They will become comfortable performing a complete skin examination, identifying worrisome lesions that require intervention, and providing counseling to patients on warning signs of skin cancer and sun-protective behaviors. Lastly, they will become familiar with the wide range of dermatologic procedures that can be performed, including cryotherapy, shave biopsy, punch biopsy, excision, and Mohs micrographic surgery. This course fulfills the sub-internship requirement.

Visiting Student Longitudinal Opportunities (VSLO)

In the fall each year, students selected through the AAMC Visiting Student Learning Opportunities (VSLO) participate in a month-long rotation in our department. Students attend resident lectures and workshops as well as shadow in clinic. They meet with the resident program director and associate director twice throughout their rotation for mentorship opportunities. At the end of their rotation, they present the interesting cases that they saw during their rotation to residents.

DERM-720: Clinical Dermatology

This four-week elective in Clinical Dermatology offers students a comprehensive dermatology experience and is designed for medical students applying to residency in other fields of medicine but who would like exposure to dermatology. Students can expect exposure to general dermatology, dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology and inpatient dermatology consultative services. Students will learn to diagnose and treat common dermatologic conditions (i.e. acne, seborrheic dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, warts). They will become comfortable performing a complete skin examination, identifying worrisome lesions that require intervention and providing counseling to patients on warning signs of skin cancer and sun protective behaviors. Lastly, they will become familiar with the wide range of dermatologic procedures that can be performed, including cryotherapy, shave biopsy, punch biopsy, excision and Mohs micrographic surgery.

DERM-764: Off-Campus Dermatology Clerkship

This course is intended for students who are interested in pursuing a career in Dermatology. Students who plan to pursue a career in the field of Dermatology are eligible to apply for an Off-Campus Dermatology Elective. Off-Campus electives should occur at Universities or Teaching Hospitals. This rotation should serve to further enrich the student's experiences within the field of Dermatology and assist in solidifying their desire to pursue this area of medicine. The course fulfills the sub-internship requirement.

DERM-790: Dermatology Research

This course is intended for students who are interested in pursuing a career in dermatology. Students who plan to pursue a career in the field of dermatology are eligible to apply for a month of research in the department. The student will meet with the Director of Clinical Trials and Research Fellows in the department to design a research project proposal and to identify a faculty mentor. The intended outcome of the rotation is a research abstract, presentation or manuscript.



Mentorship

Dermatology Interest Group Association (DIGA)

The Dermatology Interest Group Association is for UNMC medical students interested in dermatology. One of our faculty serves as the faculty advisor, and all residents and faculty members provide mentorship to these students. Multiple faculty lectures are presented throughout the year.

Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP)

MSSRP is an opportunity for medical students to engage directly with dermatologic research. Students are paired with dermatology faculty depending on their research interests and meet with their mentor once a week to discuss their research projects. At the end of the 10-week program they present their findings to faculty members and other students. Many times, these efforts lead to manuscripts and abstracts. Students' satisfaction with what they have learned and the support our department provides is evident in their feedback.

Scholarship and Research Fellowships

Karle Cordova Olnes UNMC Dermatology Summer Medical Student Research Fellowship

The UNMC Dermatology Karle Cordova Olnes Medical Student Summer Research Program — this award will allow medical students interested in dermatology to gain experience with research in healthcare disparities, underserved populations, and/or dermatologic conditions that disproportionately impact underrepresented populations. Specifically, the program will allow medical students to perform basic, translational, clinical or outcomes-based research with a dermatology faculty mentor during the summer between M1 and M2 years in medical school. A reimbursement stipend is open to UNMC and outside medical students. This research opportunity is typically held annually in June, July, and August.

Dr. Kristie Hayes Visiting Medical Student Externship in Dermatology

The UNMC Dermatology Dr. Kristie Hayes Visiting Medical Student Externship in Dermatology — this visiting externship is available for a 4th year medical student who is interested in dermatology, has demonstrated commitment to service and volunteerism, and/or has experience in working on healthcare disparities in dermatology to receive a reimbursement stipend for travel, lodging, and board for a 1 month sub-I clinical rotation at UNMC Dermatology.

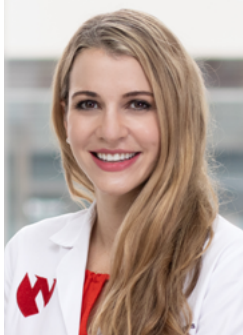
Year-long Medical Student Predoctoral Research Fellowship

Year-long research medical students that join our department are paired with a faculty mentor depending on their area(s) of interest and meet regularly with our Director of Clinical Trials. They are encouraged to develop their own projects and research interests in dermatology during an intensive yearlong research fellowship to help launch their careers in dermatology.



Dr. Ashley Wysong instructing a medical student.

Graduate Medical Education



*Dr. Jennifer Adams,
Assistant Professor and
Residency Program Director*

The dream of building the first dermatology residency training program in the state of Nebraska in almost 40 years was intertwined with the origins of the Department of Dermatology itself. It was always in the blueprints to create our “ideal” residency program. Dr. Wysong kicked things off with the ACGME initial application back in 2018/2019 (well over 100 pages compiled within)! With initial accreditation in place, we welcomed our first three residents in July 2020. Despite the fact that we were just a few months into a global COVID pandemic with rapid and alarming changes throughout the house of medicine and the world, our inaugural residents epitomized adaptability and excellence (Drs. Dillon Clarey, Tyler Evans, & Ritu Swali). These three created their own “Residency Code of Conduct” to outline their expectations for themselves and accountability for each other.

The emphasis on resident culture was a foundation capstone that the program flourished from as we continued to grow to a complete resident complement of nine by July 2022. At each step of the way, resident and faculty feedback and continued adaptability has been our “secret sauce” for the incredible success and growth. We are currently working on expanding our resident complement to 12 while creating 4 new sub-specialization fellowships. The lack of complacency and constant push to continuously “be even better” has quickly led to recognition nationally in graduate medical education (most recently through our initiatives in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity and holistic application review). Dr. Ashley Wysong wore the hats of chair and program director during the initial stages of the residency and passed on the program director reins to Dr. Jennifer Adams for the start of the 2021 academic year. Dr. Megan Arthur has served in her education dual capacity as Associate Program Director for the residency in addition to Director of Medical Student Education.



The First day of the Dermatology Residency Program, July 1st, 2020.

The UNMC Dermatology Residency Program was the first program at UNMC to match #1, #2, & #3 ranked spots in NRMP match (of 3 total positions). The program received 63 applications in the first year, 446 applications in the second year, and 557 applications in the third year as a competitive program. The ACGME resident survey and faculty surveys both had 100% participation, and both rated 5 of 5 for overall evaluation of the residency program.

The most recent 1st year resident test average was 93rd percentile of Dermatology resident trainees nationally. The UNMC Dermatology Residency Program had a 100% resident pass rate of each American Board of Dermatology exam to date by resident physicians in dermatology with 2 residents recently receiving 99th and 100th percentile on their "CORE exam" sections.

We have received superior evaluations from rotating medical students, residents, and fellows from external programs; these learners rotate directly with our faculty. Positive evaluations from external rotators are considered in the bonus compensation structure, which serves to reward faculty for excellence in teaching for all learners.

The demand for our high-quality teaching paired with excellent reputation within the UNMC community has led to high volume of requests from other programs and departments to have rotators; which we have gradually increased with expansion of the dermatology department at a rate that ensures commitment to high-quality experience. We have a range of rotators from various colleges and programs: UNMC and Creighton medical students (1st & 2nd year shadowers & 3rd & 4th year rotators), medical student rotators from around the country, external dermatology resident rotators (through mentorship awards), UNMC resident physician programs (pediatrics, med-peds, internal medicine, family medicine), UNMC fellowship programs (geriatrics, rheumatology, infectious diseases, etc.).

The Department of Dermatology has been credited with creating many cornerstone programs including the first ever ACGME-accredited graduate medical education program in dermatology within the University of Nebraska. The department also developed PhD and master's student programs in cancer biology and dermatology with highly successful alumni to date (matching into dermatology and receiving employment after graduation), extensive publications in peer-reviewed literature, and high rates of student participation in national meetings (AAD, APD, SID, WDS, and numerous others).

MPH programs in dermatology were also created, with alumni receiving strong employment after graduation. A yearlong post-doctoral research fellowship program with high rates of publication, participation in national meetings, and matching into graduate medical education programs in dermatology was developed and so was a yearlong pre-doctoral research fellowship programs with high levels of engagement, publication, student presentation, and outcomes (matching into dermatology residency).



Dr. Siller and Dr. Swali practicing on Dr. Evans.

Didactic Curriculum

Our resident didactic curriculum takes numerous innovative approaches to teaching and providing comprehensive learning opportunities:

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

We are one of 6 residency programs nationally to incorporate DEI efforts into the curriculum through the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) Curriculum for Advancing Racial Equity (CARE) pilot program.

Another novel DEI teaching approach is through the integration of community teachers into curriculum. For example, we paired faculty-delivered lectures on hair disorders with a barber and hair stylist who specialize in kinky/coiled hair. Learning experiences like these ensure residents are familiar with a variety of hair care practices and the needs of those with skin of color.

Business of Medicine

The Business of Medicine curriculum teaches lessons on topics beyond the textbooks including the practical knowledge a resident should know when transitioning to a 'real world' practice. This holistic curriculum educates residents on often-overlooked realities in medicine such as infertility, raising families in medicine, medical debt, fatigue, and burnout and encourages a multidisciplinary approach to teaching.



Dr. Siller (right) instructing a 4th year medical student on proper suture techniques.

Resident Preparatory Course

Residents are not only students but are also allowed to 'become the teacher' and teach medical students in hands-on-workshops on suturing during the yearly Resident Preparatory Course (RPC). RPC, a two-week workshop in April that our department hosts, provides 4th year medical students who have been accepted into a dermatology residency program with a crash course in dermatologic conditions and terminology.

Teledermatology

Development of clinical teledermatology curriculum utilizing new teledermatology platform technology: Residents spend time throughout residency learning and seeing patients through our newly developed teledermatology platforms to provide ambulatory and inpatient synchronous video, asynchronous patient to provider and asynchronous provider

to provider platforms both locally and throughout the region (with emphasis on rural areas in need of access to care).

Video-based Instruction

Our dermatologic surgery faculty have developed a video-based teaching method by filming clinic procedures and surgeries to highlight techniques used and give real-time surgery feedback. This will allow residents to be critiqued on their own techniques and skills and create a visual for them to assess with faculty. While video recording isn't a new technique, it isn't widely used in resident physician education.

Novel Use of Whole Slide Digital Pathology for Teaching Dermatopathology

Our dermatopathologist uses a software called Kiko that allows residents to review slides in a more meaningful and realistic way. Before, the residents and medical students were limited to reviewing a picture of a slide on a textbook or under a microscope. This new software allows them to zoom in to get a better assessment of the pathology slide. It is a fun and engaging way for residents to review slides and to take quizzes that faculty create for them.

SkinSim Modules and Cadaver Workshops to Teach Hands-On Procedural Techniques

The department received education grants over the last two years to purchase anatomically correct simulation models complete with simulation filler and use for surgical procedures and Silhouette Instalift. The other grant was used to fund cadaver workshops to further hone surgical techniques including an emphasis on nail surgery in addition to the purchase of silicone fingernail kits to practice nail procedural techniques.

Creation of New eModules for Dermatology Teaching

The department has been engaged in developing innovative e-modules for teaching and learning dermatology. Faculty and students were trained to develop E-modules now available via Canvas for the Musculoskeletal-Integument block and the Multiorgan Systems Block. Topics include:

- Cutaneous Manifestations of Systemic Disease
- High Yield Infections of the Skin
- Structure and Organization of the Skin
- Dermatologic Terms and Review of Skin Cancer
- Inpatient Dermatology



Dr. Adams holding two of the SimSkin Modules.

Clinical Curriculum

UNMC- Specialty clinical rotation gives residents the chance to learn through multidisciplinary (MD) and specialty clinics including MD rheum-derm and autoimmune skin diseases, ethnic skin/skin of color clinic, MD cutaneous lymphoma clinic at the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center (FPBCC), MD HIV clinic at the Specialty Care Center (SCC), high-risk skin cancer, autoimmune blistering/bullous disease clinic, comprehensive venous diseases clinic, aesthetics & laser clinic, and wound care clinics. The residents also rotate with UNMC Plastic Surgery, Oculoplastics, PT/OT (lymphedema & wound clinic), Allergy/Immunology, Rheumatology. They also spend time with financial counselors, pharmacy benefits, and other ancillary service team members in order to get a complete view of encompassing interdisciplinary care for our patients.

On a typical “clinic” month, residents will spend seven half days in Nebraska Medicine general dermatology clinics. This will include seeing patients at the academic health sciences center (Lauritzen Outpatient Center) as well as in our “frontline dermatology clinics” with our faculty at Village Pointe, Chalco, Elkhorn, and Fontenelle ambulatory clinics. Residents see a wide range of patients with skin, hair, nails, and mucous membrane disease including the rare “academic” presentations as well as more “bread and butter” community dermatology. Our patient population in Omaha is diverse with exposure to patients with all Fitzpatrick Skin Types. Rotations also include teledermatology including video synchronous visits, eConsults (asynchronous “store and forward” physician-to-dermatologist), eVisits (asynchronous “store and forward” patient-to-dermatologist), and telephone visits.

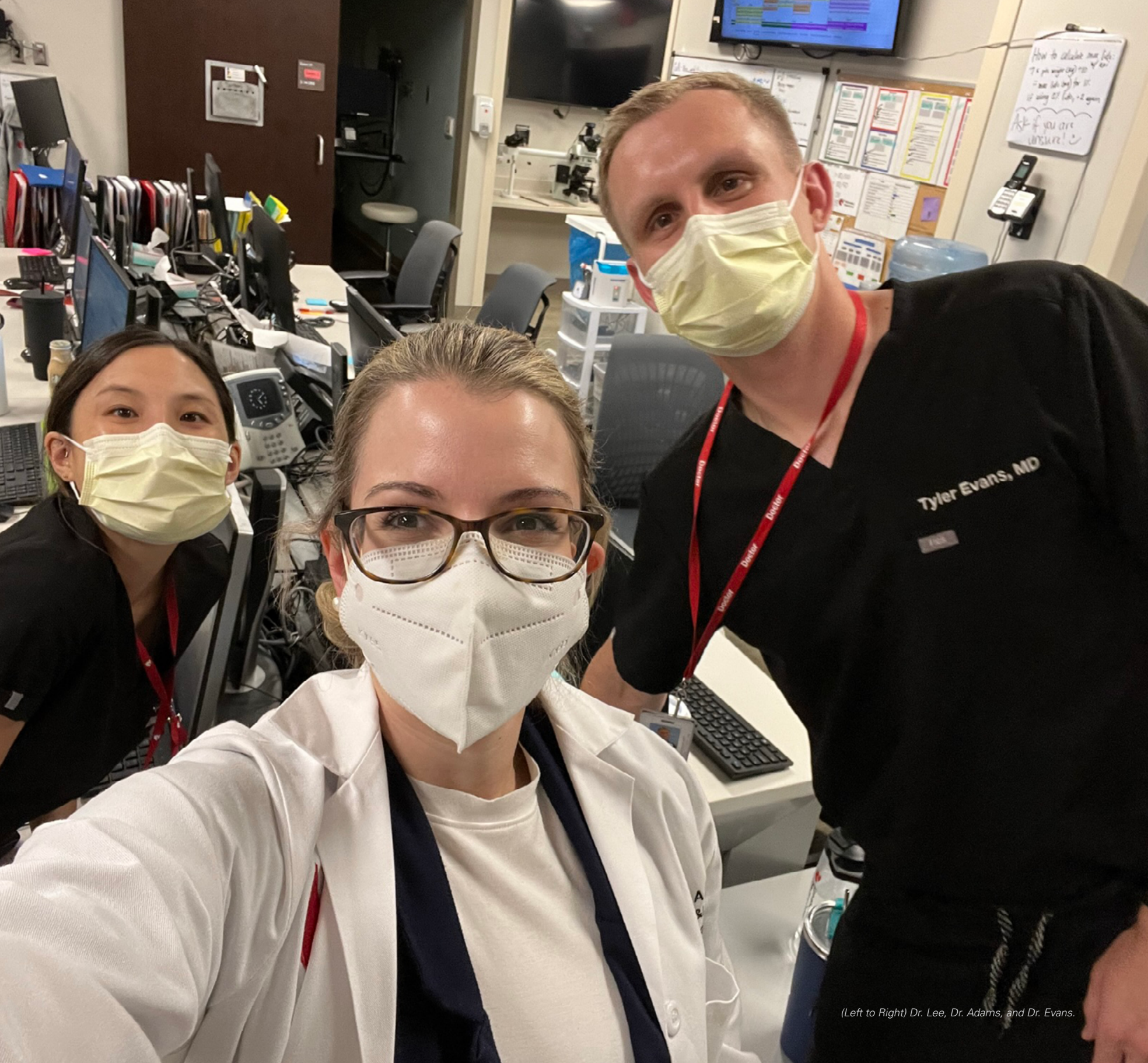
- **Clinic-R (Research)** — When on research month, residents have a mixture of general dermatology clinics with 4 half days of protected time for a research project. One of our specific program aims is to “prepare residents to contribute to the field of dermatology through ongoing mentoring and by fostering their interest in presentations at national or regional meetings, clinical or basic research, clinical trials, or publication in peer reviewed journals or texts.” Residents will have research months with protected time to complete these projects and will attend the weekly departmental research meeting. Because of the emphasis our residency program places on research, quality improvement, and scholarly activity, the residents are required to complete:
 - At least one article to a peer-reviewed journal article- these may take the form of case reports, review articles, and clinical or research studies. Publication should serve as a source of motivation for completion of specific projects and the development of critical thinking and scientific writing.
 - A Quality Improvement Project. The resident will work with their core mentor, PD, and/or APD on developing a QI project. The results of this project will be presented at the bi-annual M&M or Grand Rounds Conference. If appropriate, submission to a peer-reviewed journal may be suggested by the mentor.

- **Clinic-Peds** — On a typical pediatrics rotation, residents will see patients in our Division of Pediatric Dermatology led by Dr. Nicole Harter, Chief of Pediatric Dermatology. We have formalized a partnership with Children's Nebraska with a brand new pediatric dermatology clinic with space for medical, procedural, laser, phototherapy, and more! Residents are able to also work with Dr. Harter within the Operating Room for complex pediatric procedural cases. Dr. Mollie Oudenhoven is soon to join in teaching pediatric dermatology to the residents.
- **Consults** — We have a robust inpatient consultative dermatology program with residents taking care of patients with GVHD, DRESS, pemphigus, SJS/TEN, nutritional deficiencies, calciphylaxis, panniculitis, and so much more. Consults are staffed at Nebraska Medicine Hospital (Lied Transplant Center, Clarkson Tower, University Tower), the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, and the ED (all on one campus!). Residents maintain some general dermatology clinics in the mornings on the inpatient consultative dermatology rotation, however, are excused if the service is particularly busy. In addition to in-person consultations, the department is in the process of rapidly expanding our inpatient teledermatology platform led by Dr. Corey Georgesen who completed a one-year fellowship in teledermatology with a large inpatient component.
- **Dermatologic Surgery** — Our dermatologic surgery program, led by Dr. Adam Sutton, provides exceptional training for resident physicians. Residents are involved in all aspects of care of skin cancer patients including excisional surgery, Mohs micrographic surgery, field therapy, IL therapy, and multidisciplinary treatment including XRT and systemics. Residents will participate in multidisciplinary melanoma/sarcoma and high-risk non-melanoma skin cancer tumor boards every other week and monthly, respectively. Mohs surgery is performed five days per week. UNMC Dermatology also has a busy comprehensive venous diseases clinic where residents are involved in consultation, duplex ultrasound evaluation, endovenous laser ablation, endovenous chemical ablation, sclerotherapy, and phlebectomy. Residents will also work with Drs. Ashley Wysong (Mohs, Veins, Lasers) and Dr. Ron Sulewski in laser and aesthetic dermatology (Excisions, Reconstruction, Lasers, Injectables, InstaLift, PRP, and more!). UNMC Dermatology has numerous light/laser devices including: IPL/ BBL, 1550/1927 non-ablative laser (Fraxel), ablative laser, QS 532/755/1064nm, long-pulsed YAG, PDL, Vbeam PRIMA, photodynamic therapy, and more. Dr. Vanessa Voss is soon to join in teaching dermatologic surgery to the residents.



Dr. Sutton leading the Residents in a Dermatologic Surgery Course.

- **Dermatopathology 1** — This rotation was specifically developed for the first-year dermatology resident (PGY-2) to be an immersive experience in what is it like to be a dermatology-trained dermatopathologist. The Dermatopathology-1 resident works alongside Dr. Corey Georgesen in his clinics (typically 4 per week) to see general dermatology patients with a “dermatopathology eye” and do glass slide “sign-outs” with Dr. Georgesen in the afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity for residents new to dermatopathology to get true clinicopathologic correlation and a great introduction to histopathology of the skin.
- **Dermatopathology 2** — This rotation is the typical “sign-out” rotation in dermatopathology whereby the resident spends the majority of the time on the Nebraska Medicine Dermatopathology Service with Dr. Georgesen, Dr. Lauer, and Dr. DiMaio reading glass slides in dermatopathology. The UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Dermatopathology Service is a busy in-house and consultative service with approximately 15,000 cutaneous specimens per year.
- **VA** — Residents on the VA rotation spend the majority of their time at the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System where they see a variety of general and geriatric dermatology patients. In addition, they participate in teledermatology and some inpatient/urgent consultations. Residents also participate in a significant number of skin cancer and other cutaneous excisions and have three dermatologic lasers: PDL, CO2 laser, long-pulsed YAG/hair removal. Patients are seen in the brand-new Ambulatory Care Center.
- **Continuity Clinic** — Residents have continuity clinic every other week in the afternoon in general dermatology as PGY-2 residents and have the opportunity to “specialize” as they move through residency. Continuity Clinic starts in the first month of residency and is alternated weekly with admin/wellness time.
- **Administrative/Wellness** — Residents enjoy 2-3 protected half days per month for administrative/wellness time. This is a time that is typically spent on campus reading/studying, working on research, and catching up on clinical care. Residents are also encouraged to use this time for wellness and to schedule any doctors appointments or other life necessities.
- **Electives** — UNMC Dermatology residents have a unique opportunity to have three months of electives during their residency. They work with their personal/professional mentors and the education leadership team to design a personalized elective plan. Residents have the opportunity to use this time for local rotations (other UNMC departments—allergy/immunology, rheumatology, plastics, etc. or private practices in the area), regional/national electives particularly if applying for fellowship, as part of national mentorship programs (WDS, ASDS, others), or for professional interview experiences. Residents are also able to coordinate international electives as appropriate. The Department currently has relationships in China, Africa, Europe, and South America.



(Left to Right) Dr. Lee, Dr. Adams, and Dr. Evans.

Continuing Medical Education (CME)



Ashley Wysong, MD,
MS, Founding Chair and
Professor with Tenure
William W. Bruce, MD
Distinguished Chair of
Dermatology

The UNMC Department of Dermatology immediately started developing continuing medical education through monthly Grand Rounds beginning in 2018. The format includes live patient viewing followed by 1 hour of case presentations and a formal lecture presentation for 1 hour, including both UNMC dermatology and visiting faculty. In 2022, through a generous endowment from the John F. Latenser estate, the Latenser Lectureship Series in Mohs & Dermatologic Surgery was launched. Our first Latenser Visiting Professor was Dr. Hugh Greenway from Scripps Clinic. Dr. Greenway is a mentor and fellowship director to Dr. Wysong and Dr. Sutton. He gave an outstanding talk on the history of Mohs surgery and the lessons he's learned in over 40 years of being a leading Mohs Micrographic Surgeon.

Grand Rounds 2018-2019



Beyond Wide Local Excision: Treating the “Bad Actors” in Head and Neck Melanoma

Zafar Sayed, MD

University Of Nebraska Medical Center

December 4th, 2018



Sclerosing Skin Disorders

Megan Arthur, MD

University Of Nebraska Medical Center

January 8th, 2019

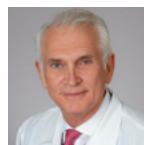


Venous Insufficiency in Dermatology

Ashley Wysong, MD, MS

University Of Nebraska Medical Center

February 5th, 2019



Environmental Dermatology Omaha – 2019

Vincent DeLeo, MD

Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California

April 2nd, 2019



Regulatory Medicine in Cutaneous Oncology

David Miller, MD, Ph.D

Massachusetts General Hospital

May 7th, 2019



Inpatient Dermatology: By the Numbers

Ryan Trowbridge, MD, MS, MA

University Of Nebraska Medical Center

June 4th, 2019

Grand Rounds 2019-2020



Updates on Rosacea Pathogenesis, Treatment and Research Needs

Anne Lynn S. Chang, MD

Stanford University School of Medicine

October 1st, 2019



Genital Dermatoses

Joanna Badger, MD

Stanford University Hospital

November 5th, 2019



Serving Those Who Serve: Taking Care of the Military Patient

Casey Bowen, MD, FAAD MAJ USAF, MC, FS

Offutt AFB, Chief of Dermatology

December 3rd, 2019



Adventures in the Tropics: Tips and Tricks from a Dermatologist's Case Log

Jennifer Adams, MD, FAAD, DTM&H

University Of Nebraska Medical Center

February 4th, 2020

Grand Rounds 2020-2021



Update On Treatment Of Hair And Nail Disorders

Antonella Tosti, MD

University Of Miami, Miller School Of Medicine

September 1st, 2020



Chronic Itch Diagnosis And Management

Gil Yosipovitch, MD

University Of Miami, Miller School Of Medicine

October 6th, 2020



Novel Therapies In Melanoma: The Targeted Approach

Lisa Zaba, MD, PhD

Stanford University School Of Medicine

November 3rd, 2020



New And Emerging Infectious Diseases Relevant To Dermatologists

Francisco Bravo Puccio, MD

Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia

December 1st, 2020

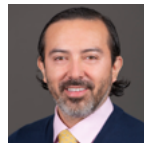


Diversity in Dermatology

Mona Gohara, MD

Yale School of Medicine

January 5th, 2021



Pyoderma Gangrenosum: the Relentless Ulcer

Alex G. Ortega Loayza, MD, MCR

Oregon Health & Science University

February 2nd, 2021

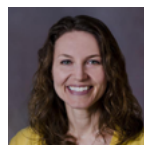


Teaching Cases from Pediatric Dermatology

Nicole Harter, MD

Children's Hospital Los Angeles/University of Southern California

April 6th, 2021



Dermatomyositis Update

Nicole Fett, MD, MSCE

Oregon Health & Science University

May 4th, 2021



Cutaneous T Cell Lymphoma

Lindsay Strowd, MD

Wake Forest School of Medicine

June 1st, 2021

Grand Rounds 2021-2022



Cutaneous Oncology: Pre and Post Solid Organ Transplant

Adam Sutton, MD, MBA

University of Nebraska Medical Center

September 28th, 2021



Clinical Practice Guidelines for Rare Nonmelanoma Skin Cancers

Murad Alam MD, MSCI, MBA

Northwestern Medicine Department of Dermatology

October 26th, 2021



Delusions Of Parasitosis And The Mystery Of Morgellons Disease:
It Is Time To Face The Reality

Katlein França, MD, PhD

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

January 25th, 2022



Clinical And Histological Patterns Of Acute Disseminated
Histoplasmosis In HIV Patients

Jose E. Ollague, MD, FAAD

Hospital Guasmo Sur - Guayaquil, Ecuador

February 22nd, 2022



Nail Surgical Techniques Made Simple

Martin N. Zaiac, MD

Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Florida International University

April 26th, 2022



Transitions and Checkpoints: What's driving cSCC in the
Immunosuppressed Host?

Melodi Javid Whitley, MD, PhD

University of Nebraska Medical Center

May 24th, 2022



Roadmap to Diversity in Dermatology

Nkanyezi N. Ferguson, MD, FAAD

University of Iowa

June 28th, 2022

Grand Rounds – 2022-2023



Latenser Memorial Lectureship
40 Years of Teaching Mohs Surgery, Anatomy, & Dermatologic Surgery: What I've Learned

Hugh Thornton Greenway Jr., MD

Scripps Clinic, California

September 27th, 2022



Nebraska Dermatology Society Annual Meeting
Hidradenitis Suppurativa: From Basic Science to the Clinic

Jan Smogorzewski, MD

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

October 20th, 2022



Updates & Therapy for Pediatric Inflammatory Skin Disease

Nicole Harter, MD

University of Nebraska Medical Center

January 24th, 2023



CTCL: Hiding in Plain Sight

Matthew Stephany, MD

University of Nebraska Medical Center

February 28th, 2023



Cosmetics Beyond the Combos

Ronald Sulewski, MD

University of Nebraska Medical Center

April 25th, 2023



Lessons in Clinicopathologic Correlation (CPC)

Kiran Motaparthi, MD

University of Florida College of Medicine

May 23rd, 2023



Supportive Oncodermatology: Cutaneous Toxicities

Anisha Patel, MD

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

June 27th, 2023

Updates to Grand Rounds – 2022-2023

UNMC Case Conference: The inaugural UNMC Case Conference was developed during academic year 2022-2023. Faculty compile photographs of interesting and challenging patient cases to present as true “unknowns” to resident physicians as an exercise to improve morphologic terminology, differential diagnosis, work up and management. PGY-2 residents are asked to describe the morphology in addition to offering 1-2 potential diagnoses. PGY-3 residents are asked to expand the differential. PGY-4 residents are asked to select their top diagnosis and elaborate on the appropriate work up and initial management. This proved to be an extremely interactive conference that received very high reviews from all residents and faculty.

Inpatient Walking Grand Rounds: The inaugural Inpatient Walking Grand Rounds Conference was developed during academic year 2022-2023. This conference provided an opportunity for all faculty and residents to round on interesting and challenging Inpatient Dermatology cases. Faculty and residents, other than the inpatient attending and inpatient resident, are blinded to any historical information or laboratory data and are asked to not ask the participating patients any questions during their examination. After bedside evaluation of the patients is complete, the department reviews each case in detail. Residents are asked to provide morphologic descriptions, differential diagnosis, work up and management. Increasing difficulty and depth of knowledge questions are asked of the residents in accordance with their stage of training. This conference highlights the department’s commitment to caring for complex inpatient dermatology patients, fosters collaboration, and has been a rich educational opportunity for residents.



Dr. Sulewski examining a patient as Residents and staff look on.

Research





Research



Erin Barrett, MD, Associate Professor, Director of Clinical Trials, and Co-Director of the Bullous Disease Clinic

The research leadership team has been led by Dr. Wysong since 2018, who began by immediately developing the infrastructure for successful translational and clinical research. Dr. Wysong recruited Dr. Melodi Whitley, who served as the inaugural Director of Translational Research from 2021-2022. Dr. Erin Barrett (Wei) was recruited to the role of Director of Clinical Trials in 2022 and has been charged with developing a clinical trials unit for the Department of Dermatology and with helping to launch clinical trials and other clinical studies within the department. Dr. Barrett has also taken over the role of rotation director for the research rotation for dermatology resident physicians and helps to oversee the MSSRP summer research and year-long pre-doctoral research fellows within the department.

Building Research Foundations

Biobank / Tissue Bank: We are developing the UNMC Dermatology Tissue Bank which aims to collect excess tissue, extra blood and saliva samples from patients with dermatologic diseases at UNMC for the purpose of future genetic, cellular, molecular, and clinical database studies. The goal of this project is to develop a cohort of samples that are representative of all Dermatology patients. The patients will be recruited from outpatient dermatology clinics and inpatient hospitalized dermatology patients. Excess tissue from skin biopsies, extra blood from blood draws, buccal swabs, and saliva will be collected from patients with certain dermatologic diseases. These samples will be archived in an identified fashion, followed prospectively, and utilized for hypothesis-driven studies of dermatologic disease with IRB approval.

There are several diseases within dermatology that are relatively rare, or about which, there are relatively large gaps in current knowledge. Regarding skin cancer, for example, there are several rare neoplasms, about which, due to their rarity, little is known. Even more common neoplasms such as squamous cell carcinoma are characterized by large knowledge gaps. Squamous cell carcinoma is generally highly curable, although there is a high-risk subset that may metastasize and is therefore characterized by elevated morbidity and mortality. It remains very challenging, however, to predict which of these tumors will demonstrate aggressive behavior and manifest in poor patient outcomes.

Several of the study faculty have had experience with the creation of large data registries in the past, in which information regarding demographics, presentation, management, and outcomes has been collected for thousands of patients. This has resulted in numerous publications and grants answering difficult questions such as these within the field. Expansion of this work to include tissue and blood on which, we may conduct future genetic, cellular, molecular, and clinical database studies will be imperative in continuing to fill in the knowledge gaps within the field of Dermatology and to continue to move the field forward.

Funding: The number of research grants awarded grew by 634% from 2018 to 2023, with a total of \$672,000 awarded to 6 investigators in the department from grants and studies, with this number expected to increase dramatically in 2023. We had 13 grant submissions in 2022 and 6 grant submissions year to date far in 2023.

Active Studies: The number of active studies grew from 222% from 2018 to 2023. We currently have 22 active studies in 2023.

Graduate Education: In 2020, Dr. Wysong started a high-risk SCC laboratory. Dr. Marissa Lobl was our first PhD candidate in Cancer Research and graduated in 2021. The first Masters of Cancer Research Student Megan Wackel graduated in 2022.

Research Fellowships: Our year-long UNMC Dermatology Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship was started in 2018, followed by our Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP) in 2019, and Year-Long Medical Student Fellowship in 2021. We have had a total of 4 post-doctoral research fellows, 3 year-long medical student research fellows, and 18 MSSRP summer medical student research fellows to date so far in 2023.

- Recruited a Director of Translational Research in Dermatology.
- Recruited a Director of Clinical Trials to launch a Clinical Trials Program in Dermatology.
- Research Collaborations with Rheumatology (Amethyst) and Oncology (NeoPower).
- Industry Sponsored Trials with Amethyst, UTILISE, NeoPower, and LIBERTY.
- Provide opportunities to engage: medical student research fellowship position.



Dr. Wysong and Dr. Melodi Whitley.

Medical Student Summer Research Program

2023



Chase Jablon

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Germline genomic study in immuno-suppressed skin cancer vs non-immunosuppressed individuals with skin cancer with Dr. Ashley Wysong.



Priya Verbik

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Clinical case study skin of color SCC vs Caucasian: staging, outcomes with Dr. Erin Barrett.



Emily Ehsan

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Clinical and historical review of morbilliform drug and DRESS on inpatient service with Dr. Corey Georgesen.



Adrienne Thomsen

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Nutritional components on the prevention of melanoma: A Systematic Review with Dr. Adam Sutton.

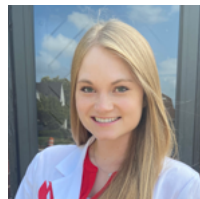


Kevin Truong-Balderas (URiM)

Rush Medical College

Comorbidities associated with autoimmune bullous disease with Dr. Erin Barrett.

2022



Molly Antonson

University of Nebraska Medical Center

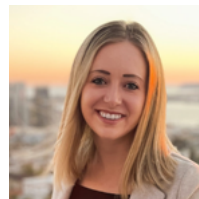
Building a retrospective database of rheumatologic-dermatologic conditions using Excel with Dr. Megan Arthur.



Treyvon Bokoskie

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Utilizing simulated patient calls to evaluate appointment wait times at rural dermatology clinics with Dr. Ashley Wysong.



Rebecca Brenner

University of Nebraska Medical Center

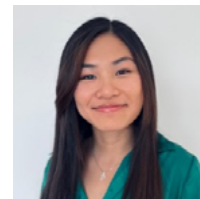
A Systematic Review of Intralesional Wart Therapy with Dr. Melodi Whitley.



Sophie Gart

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Chronic Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer Effect on Patient's Quality of Life with Dr. Adam Sutton.



Alisha Huynh

University of Nebraska Medical Center

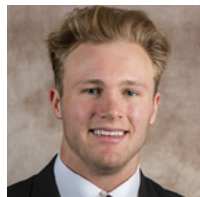
A virtual reality experience during outpatient dermatologic procedures to decrease pain, anxiety, and increase patient well-being and satisfaction with Dr. Ashley Wysong.

2021



Monica Angeletti
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

SCC in HIV
patients with Dr.
Jennifer Adams.



Bo Kitrell
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

NMSC Chronic
Disease Registry
with Dr. Adam
Sutton.



Andrea Vetter
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Pathologic Risk
Factors in High-
Risk SCC with Dr.
Ashley Wysong.



Kim Nguyen
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Hair Loss in
Lupus with Dr.
Megan Arthur.



Camilla Reimer
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

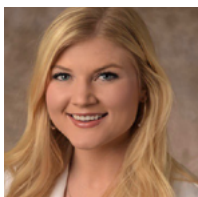
Readmission Rates
for Dermatologic
Patients with Dr.
Corey Georgesen.



Stacie Schlange
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

IHC in High-Risk
SCC with Dr.
Ashley Wysong.

2020



Aubree Ford
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

UV dosimetry
in Transplant
Patients with Dr.
Adam Sutton.



Heng Jiang
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

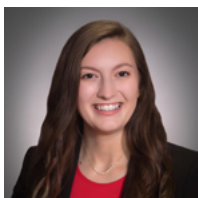
Statins in High-
Risk SCC with Dr.
Ashley Wysong.



Jacob Middleton
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

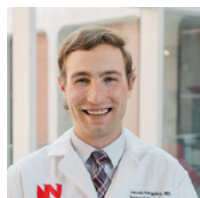
Analysis of
an Inpatient
Dermatology with
Dr. Ashley Wysong.

2019



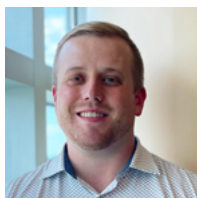
Taylor Uhler
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Educational
E-Modules with
Dr. Adam Sutton.



Jacob Kingsley
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Cutaneous Fungal
Infections with Dr.
Ryan Trowbridge.



Joshua Abels
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

High-Risk SCC
with Dr. Ashley
Wysong.



Blake Hass
University of Nebraska
Medical Center

Genetic Sequencing
of BCC in Patients
with Skin of Color
with Dr. Wysong.



MSSRP Students at the annual NDS Meeting.

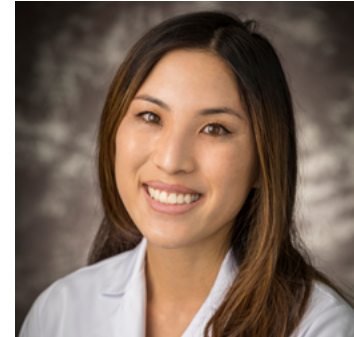
UNMC Dermatology Post-Doctoral Research Fellows



Dr. Divya Sharma
2023-2024



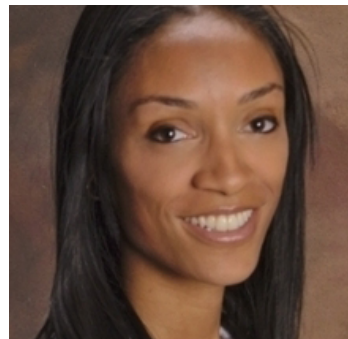
Dr. Elliott Blue
2021-2022



Dr. Erica Lee
2020-2021



Dr. Dillon Clarey
2019-2020



Dr. Shauna Higgins
2018-2019

UNMC Dermatology Year-Long Medical Student Research Fellows



Bianca Ituarte
2023-2024



Mitchell Taylor
2023-2024



Sierra Thomas
2023-2024



Marissa Lobl, PhD
Cancer Biology 2019-2021
Dissertation "Insights into cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma pathogenesis and metastasis using a bedside-to-bench approach"



Katie Plampton
2022-2023



Priscilla Rosa-Nieves
2022-2023



Elizabeth Mata
2020-2021



Megan Wackel, MS
Cancer Biology 2020-2022

UNMC Dermatology PhD Students

UNMC Dermatology MS Students



Clinical Excellence





*Adam Sutton, MD, MBA,
Assistant Professor and
Medical Director, Medical
Dermatology*



*Matthew Stephany, MD,
Assistant Professor and
Medical Director, General
Dermatology*



*Jennifer Adams, MD,
Assistant Professor
and Medical Director,
Teledermatology*

Nebraska Medicine Dermatology

Nebraska Medicine Dermatology was officially launched in August 2018 and has grown tremendously over the 5 years (year over year growth for our first 5 years: 83%, 27%, 45%, 19%) to now include six clinical programs: general dermatology, pediatric dermatology (Children's Nebraska), dermatopathology, Mohs & dermatologic Surgery, laser and aesthetic dermatology, and teledermatology.

Our growth was so rapid that we began borrowing space from several other departments including Family Medicine, ENT, and OMFS; we were grateful for the room that these departments allowed us to utilize; a byproduct of this quick expansion was the development of specialty clinics as well as multidisciplinary clinics

Specialty Clinics

Transplant Dermatology

Due to the large number of solid organ and hematologic transplants performed at our institution it was imperative to establish a presence on campus to help care for these patients and their unique clinical scenarios. Dr. Matthew Stephany partners with Nebraska Medicine heart, lung, kidney, pancreas/small bowel, and stem cell transplant teams to develop specialized, multidisciplinary clinics for our Nebraska Medicine transplant patients.

SOC/Ethnic Skin Clinic

Led by Dr. Kristie Hayes, this clinic offers specialized services for patients of color (defined as skin types IV-VI in the Fitzpatrick Skin Type Classification) or ethnic skin. The clinic can address dermatologic concerns unique to these patients, including acne, eczema, hair loss/breakage/thinning, keloids, pigmentary disorders (vitiligo, melasma, post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation), ingrown hairs/razor bumps (aka pseudofolliculitis barbae), and more! Dr. Hayes works closely with our resident physicians and with Dr. Ronald Sulewski, Director of Laser & Aesthetic Dermatology for UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Dermatology to offer specialized chemical peels, laser treatments, and other minimally invasive techniques for patients.

Connective Tissue Disease Clinic

Acting as a dermatology-driven adjunct to our partnership with the department of Rheumatology, the connective tissue disease clinic, run by Dr. Sarah Lonowski, works to treat patients with complex dermatologic conditions that also affect other tissue.

Autoimmune Bullous Disease Clinic

The Bullous Disease Clinic specializes in autoimmune diseases of the skin. The clinic, offered twice a month, is co-directed by Dr. Corey Georgesen and Dr. Erin Barrett. This clinic provides cutting-edge clinical trials and allows patients to receive the most up-to-date treatment for bullous diseases.

Dr. Georgesen is a board-certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist who founded the Bullous Clinic at Nebraska Medicine in 2021. Dr. Barrett is a board-certified dermatologist specializing in autoimmune diseases. She is the director of UNMC Clinical Trials.

Phototherapy & Photodynamic Therapy

As many patients deal with skin conditions that affect large portions of their skin, phototherapy acts a safe and well-tolerated treatment for several inflammatory skin conditions; in July of 2023, this was expanded to include our second site for phototherapy at Village Pointe.

Hansen's Disease Clinic

Dr. Jennifer Adams is an expert in infectious disease and tropical medicine dermatology and sees patients on a regular and referral basis for cutaneous leprosy. She works closely with the National Hansen's Disease Program, and UNMC Dermatology is a referral center in the Midwest for this disease.

Emerging Infectious Disease Dermatology/Biocontainment Unit

Dr. Jennifer Adams is the dermatologist on-call for the UNMC Biocontainment Unit to respond to any emerging infectious disease threats.

Psoriasis Clinic

Though most cases of psoriasis are readily treated with conservative therapy, some patients require several therapies simultaneously and maintaining a clinic devoted specifically to these severe cases provides a space for patients to have a dedicated clinic. These clinics are led by Dr. Megan Arthur and Dr. Sarah Lonowski.

Contact Dermatitis Clinic

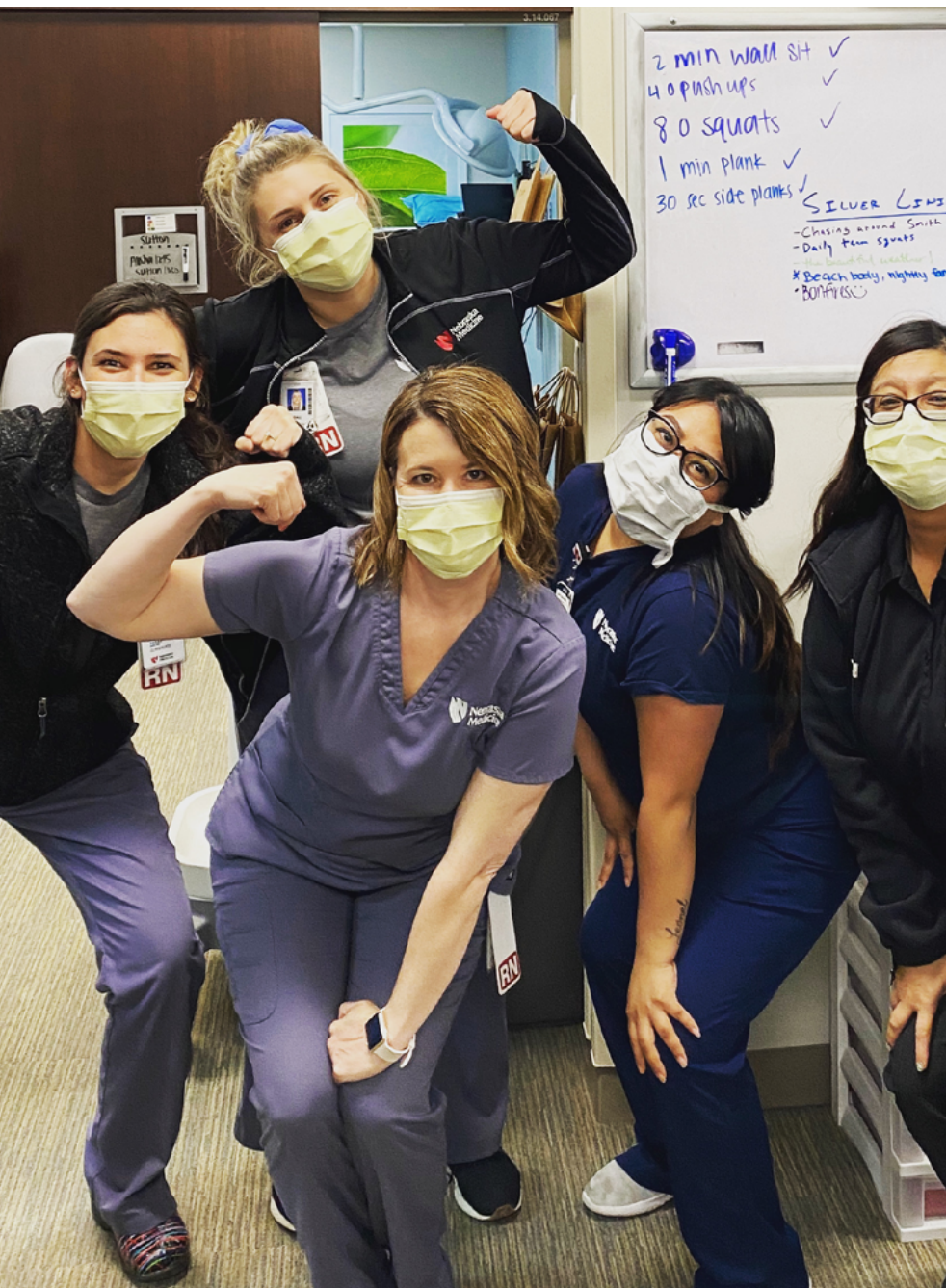
With plans to launch in 2024, the vision of the contact dermatitis clinic is to provide evaluation and testing for contact dermatitis, which can be a difficult diagnosis to deal with unless specific agents can be identified for avoidance.

Scar Clinic

Every scar tells a story, and sometimes those stories are better than others; Dr. Ashley Wysong has devoted her training to improving not only the symptoms, but appearance, of problematic scars including keloid and hypertrophic scars.

Dermatology Clinic Group Photo, 2023.





Dermatology Clinic Nurses posing for Nurse's Week.

Multidisciplinary Clinics

Dermatology-Rheumatology Clinic

Held twice per month, this multidisciplinary clinic boasts expertise in both dermatology and rheumatology with co-directors Dr. Megan Arthur and Dr. Jennifer Medlin. Patients with lupus, dermatomyositis, scleroderma, morphea, mixed connective tissue disease, and more are seen and enrolled in clinical trials, a prospective clinical derm-rheum database/tissue biobank.

HIV Dermatology Clinic

Held monthly at the Specialty Care Center, Dr. Jennifer Adams sees patients side-by-side with infectious disease experts from UNMC to diagnose and treat cutaneous manifestations of HIV and other cutaneous infectious diseases.

Cutaneous Lymphoma Clinic (with Drs. Lunning and Vose from oncology)

The clinic was officially turned over to Dr. Matthew Stephany shortly after his recruitment and from that time he and Dr. Lunning, along with nurses Teddi Settles and Brittney Sturgeon quickly increased the patient census from 30 to 70 patients in the first full year and the reputation of the clinic began to grow as it was not uncommon for patients to drive over 5 hours to come to the Multidisciplinary Clinic.

Psoriasis-Psoriatic Arthritis Clinic

The clinic provides innovative, patient-centered care for those with psoriatic disease affecting the skin, including those with both skin and joint disease. Dr. Sarah Lonowski and Dr. Brent Luedders Co-Direct the clinic and treat patients with the most rare and complex types of psoriatic skin conditions.

Teledermatology

Dr. Jennifer Adams joined the Department of Dermatology in January 2019 as a Director of Teledermatology and immediately began partnerships with the Telemedicine Department and EPIC analysts in building telehealth platforms tailored for Dermatology. Thankfully, the timing was such that the platforms rolled out in February 2020, just in time for a rapid transition to telehealth for the department as the COVID pandemic shut down much of in-person healthcare the following month. Since that time, the platforms have shown to be an invaluable tool in patient access (especially our rural populations) and triage- helping us ensure that we are appropriately taking care of our patients in a timely manner. Dr. Corey Georgesen's specialized training and expertise in inpatient teledermatology was invaluable as we expanded access to the inpatient and ED setting for provider-to-provider consultations of dermatologic needs. We are continuing to grow our service in an intentional and sustainable way as the demand for dermatology services across the state is vast!



*Jennifer Adams, MD,
Medical Director of
Dermatology, Assistant
Professor, and Residency
Program Director*

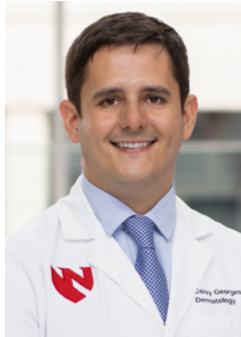
Platforms:

- Video synchronous visits: scheduled either embedded at the start of an in-person clinic or within a half day of Telehealth Video Visits.
- E-Consults: an asynchronous “store and forward” physician-to-dermatologist tool which was initially available to those within the Nebraska Medicine System, but was expanded to providers utilizing other EMRs through the use of EPIC Link (a tool to allow connection to EPIC for outside provider E-consults). The E-Consult questionnaire was developed with branching logic in order to obtain the most valuable information for each dermatologic complaint.
- E-Visits: an asynchronous “store and forward” patient-to-dermatologist platform customized to top dermatologic complaints with branch point questionnaires to ensure most useful information is obtained for the visit.
- Telephone visits: this allows adaptability for patients to chat over the phone with their dermatologist.
- Inpatient/Emergency Department E-Consults: ability to convert to a video or telephone visit if needed. Provides the opportunity for urgent dermatologic input.



Dr. Adams during a telederm appointment.

Dermatopathology



*Corey Georgesen, MD,
Assistant Professor*

The Dermatopathology program within the Department of Dermatology was established in 2020 with the goal of being a forward-thinking, all-encompassing, seamlessly innovative, and comprehensive diagnostic and teaching service.

The clinical duties and responsibilities of the Dermatopathology Program include:

- Interpreting Nebraska Medicine skin biopsies, excisions, and direct immunofluorescence specimens
- Management of slide handling and transport for clinical practice, resident education, research, and publications
- Ensuring appropriate turnaround, reporting, and alerting of physicians for STAT biopsies
- Triage difficult and potentially severe diagnoses for a consensus opinion
- Tracking internal growth
- External services for the Nebraska community and beyond

In addition to the clinical responsibilities listed above, the program's primary focus is education. The residency rotations and curriculum have been crafted from scratch, and continuous improvement and innovation to resident education are implemented on an annual basis. This includes:

- Utilization of whole slide images
- Quiz-based teaching formats
- Derrmpath competition with other residencies
- Educational slide and video libraries
- Resident lead didactics and video series

In 2021, the total number of specimens handled by our department was 1,078. In 2022, our department handled 2,414 specimens. Our department generated 4,248 skin specimens in total in 2022. The projected volume for specimens generated by the dermatology department in 2023 is tracking for greater than 5,000!



Dr. Sutton reviewing slides.

Mohs & Dermatologic Surgery



*Adam Sutton, MD, MBA,
Assistant Professor and
Director of Mohs and
Dermatologic Surgery*

There is a skin cancer epidemic in the United States. It is estimated that 1 in 5 individuals will develop a skin cancer during their lifetime. A major goal of the department of dermatology was to build and integrate a comprehensive Mohs Surgery and skin cancer program. Mohs surgery is a highly specialized surgical technique for the removal of skin cancer. Mohs surgery is performed in the office setting under local anesthesia. The Mohs program was started by two fellowship trained Mohs surgeons, Dr. Ashley Wysong and Dr. Adam Sutton. The first Mohs surgery cases were performed at Lauritzen Outpatient Center October 2018. Since this time, thousands of Mohs surgery cases have been performed. The Mohs surgery program also developed the expertise to perform real time Mohs for melanoma. Certain types of melanomas in high-risk locations, such as the head, neck, hands, and feet have higher risk of recurrence with wide local excision. Comprehensive margin assessment, such as Mohs surgery has shown to provide higher cure rates for certain types of melanomas.

At the heart of a comprehensive skin cancer program is multi-disciplinary care. At Nebraska Medicine there is a highly specialized group of physicians who care for patients with all types of skin cancer, both common and rare. This group includes head and neck surgical oncologists, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and surgical oncologists. Since joining this highly focused and specialized group, the number of multidisciplinary skin cancer cases have continued to grow. In 2022, our department help care for over 70 multidisciplinary skin cancer cases.

Comprehensive Vein Program

Dr. Wysong and Dr. Sutton started a comprehensive vein program for individuals with symptomatic vein disease. Both of our physicians are fellowship trained and certified in venolymphatic medicine by the American Board of Venolymphatic Medicine. In 2019 the department hired our first registered vascular technologist, Alesha Smith, who is highly specialized in venous disease. The team helps diagnose and manage patients with venous disease through a combination of medical and surgical techniques. The program offers a number of minimally invasive surgical techniques in the outpatient setting to improve venous circulation.



First day for the Mohs Surgical Team.

Laser & Aesthetic Dermatology Program

Our Laser & Aesthetic Program has been built to complement the needs of our medical and surgical dermatologic patients. We utilize the most advanced technologies that have been developed for lasers and injectables to treat aging skin and other cosmetic concerns. The referral base for patients comes from our excellent med/surg faculty, greater Nebraska Medicine/UNMC providers, and outside referrals. Dr. Ronald Sulewski is the director of the program and has 10 years of cosmetic experience from a cosmetic-focused practice in Chicago and training during residency at the University of Miami.

Our treatment modalities include injectable neuromodulators and dermal fillers for anti-aging and lasers to treat benign growths and discolorations and for skin resurfacing and scars. We have a collection of topical products and peels for anti-aging and prevention, including retinols, antioxidants, and moisturizers with SPF. Some of our more specialized treatments include thread placement for lifting (Silhouette Instalift) and fine lines (Novathreads), injectable platelet-rich plasma for hair loss, and deoxycholic acid for under the chin fat. The variety of treatments is of great interest to our patients and makes our job fun!

Educational goals related to the Laser & Aesthetic Dermatology Program revolve around the above treatments and prepare the residents for their future as dermatologists. Even some of our residents with minimal interest in cosmetics quickly learn that many patients, staff members, and family ask about their cosmetic concerns and want their knowledge. The teaching curriculum includes didactic lectures, hands-on workshops, and occasional grand rounds lectures. Our education visits extend training to our clinical staff and medical students.

The future for Laser & Aesthetic Dermatology at UNMC includes growth into our new space at Village Point with new devices, adding aesthetician services including microdermabrasion (Dermasweep) and microneedling (Skinpen), and adding a cosmetic fellow. The growth into a new department during a global Covid-19 pandemic has had challenges but is as exciting as it was on day one!



*Ronald Sulewski, MD,
Assistant Professor and
Director of Laser and
Aesthetic Dermatology*



Resident, Dillon Clarey, MD, using a laser on a patient.

Pediatric Dermatology at Children's Nebraska



*Nicole Harter, MD,
Associate Professor
and Chief of Pediatric
Dermatology*

The Division of Pediatric Dermatology at Children's Nebraska and the University Of Nebraska Medical Center Department Of Dermatology launched their first dedicated Pediatric Dermatology clinic in October of 2021 with 3 staff members, including Dr. Nicole Harter.

Over the course of 18 months, the division has grown to Dr. Harter, Michelle Placek, APRN, and the much-anticipated addition of Dr. Mollie Oudenhoven, starting in September 2023, with a total staff now including 11 team members, with plans for continued growth.

Dr. Harter is the only full-time Pediatric Dermatologist in Nebraska dedicated entirely to pediatric practice, including diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing maintenance of pediatric skin conditions.

Dermatology residents experience the full spectrum of pediatric dermatologic conditions through month-long rotations with Dr. Harter, as well as didactic lectures focused on the education of common and rare and/or nuanced pediatric dermatologic diagnosis, treatments, and evaluations.



The division offers care for common and complex pediatric dermatologic conditions, including evaluation and management of acne, benign growths (lumps, bumps, cysts), birthmarks, congenital nevi, contact dermatitis, skin lesions, atopic dermatitis, genetic skin disorders, hemangiomas, and other vascular lesions, infectious skin diseases, scars, keloids, moles, port wine stains, psoriasis, warts, molluscum, and skin manifestations of systemic disease.

We also offer in-office phototherapy services, pulsed-dye, and CO2 laser treatments, and biopsies and excisions in the office and the operating room. Pediatric Dermatology also launched an e-consult platform in January 2023.

Future developments include the division's growth to include a pediatric dermatology fellowship program and formal contact dermatitis program with patch testing.

Dr. Harter with pediatric patient at Children's Nebraska.

Veterans Affairs VA-NWIHCS

From founding our Department of Dermatology at UNMC in 2018, we envisioned building a comprehensive dermatology program with our partners at the Veterans Affairs-Nebraska Western Iowa Healthcare System (VA-NWIHCS). Dr. Wysong worked closely with the clinical and educational leadership at the Omaha VA to build a partnership, to design clinical space for dermatology in the new Ambulatory Care Center on the Omaha VA campus, and to secure funding for resident physician involvement in the exceptional care of veterans. The new building was completed in August of 2020 with a beautiful new space designed for dermatology, and the UNMC Dermatology team saw our first veterans on January 5th, 2021. Dr. Ashley Wysong was named Chief of the Dermatology Section at the VA-NWIHCS and recruited several of our faculty to the medical staff at the VA, including Dr. Barrett, Dr. Georgesen, Dr. Stephany, Dr. Sutton, and Dr. Sulewski.

Over the last several years, we have built comprehensive general, surgical, and laser dermatology clinics at the Omaha VA and have dramatically expanded access to dermatologic care for veterans across Nebraska, Iowa, and beyond. We are very proud to have two resident physician positions funded through the VA, with residents present in all dermatology clinics at the VA. Clinical volumes have grown dramatically since 2020, and clinics have expanded from 2 clinics per week initially to 6 half-day clinics weekly. We aim to expand clinics to 8 half-days weekly and add additional sub-specialty dermatology services to increase access and retain veterans in the VA system.



*Ashley Wysong, MD, MS, Founding Chair and Professor with Tenure
William W. Bruce, MD
Distinguished Chair of Dermatology*



Department of Veterans Affairs building in Omaha, Nebraska.



Dermatology Faculty, Residents, and Clinic Staff volunteering at the OneWorld Back to School Bash.

Community Service & Outreach

Community Service and Outreach is one of the eight strategic pillars for UNMC Dermatology. With 1 in 5 Americans being diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime, early intervention and education is key. Numerous members of the department have volunteered for several service and outreach events per year to provide education on skin health, sun safety awareness, and to teach people of all ages how to be sun safe. Some of the events that we volunteer for on an annual basis are the College World Series, Cattleman's Ball, Bridge to Care Health Fair, OneWorld Health Fair and Back to School events. Volunteer events are open to UNMC DIGA medical students, faculty, clinic and administrative staff, and residents.

Faculty members work closely with our UNMC medical student Sun Protection Outreach Teaching by Students (SPOTS) group with their mission to teach teens and school-aged kids about the importance of early detection and prevention in skin cancer and to share sun safe habits, skin cancer detection and prevention and the importance of avoiding artificial tanning beds. The team already has reached more than 100 Nebraska students with plans to expand its reach.

The Dermatology Interest Group Association (DIGA) and members of the department faculty and staff partner with the WDS TIPPS program to bring health information to women, children and their families at High School Alliance, Girls Inc, and Women's Center for Advancement, Women's Correctional Facilities, and more.

We have used social media and other marketing strategies to help bring awareness of different skin conditions and sun safety to the masses. Our marketing and communication specialist works closely with our medical students and faculty to post information on Instagram and Facebook about conditions such as Psoriasis, Vitiligo, Skin Cancer, etc., during their respective awareness months.

Service and Outreach events have grown throughout the years. In 2018, our department only held three events, but it jumped to 18 events in 2019. Due to the covid pandemic, we could only hold 10 events in 2020 but have bounced back with 23 events in 2021 and 22 events in 2022!

NU's journey to join the Skin Smart Campus Initiative has been a grassroots effort led by Dr. Ashley Wysong's team and UNMC College of Medicine students Marissa Lobl, Aubree Ford, Taylor Thieman, Heng Jiang, Rachel Samuelson, and Blake Hass, who helped advocate one or more of the criteria required to become a skin smart campus.



*Karle Olnes, MBA,
Department Business
Manager*



Members of the Skin Smart Campus Initiative being awarded the Skin Smart Campus Award.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



*Kristie Hayes, MD, Director
of Diversity, Equity, &
Inclusion, Co-Chair DEI
Committee*



*Karle Olnes, MBA,
Department Business
Manager, Co-Chair DEI
Committee*

Recruiting diverse faculty and staff, ensuring equity and developing an inclusive environment to allow each member of our team to be at their best has been top of mind since the founding of the department in 2018. Dr. Ashley Wysong formed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee and recruited Dr. Kristie Hayes as Director of DEI in 2019.

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) is a committee that promotes and advocates for a more inclusive and diverse workplace or community. The group works towards creating equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic. The DEI Dermatology Committee held its first meeting in August 2020. The DEI group has worked toward educating its members and individuals in the department on the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace or community. Through their efforts, DEI aims to create a more positive and welcoming environment for everyone. In 2021, the DEI group created externship and summer research fellowship scholarships.

The department is involved locally and nationally in diversity efforts and selects program leaders who have demonstrated awareness and willingness to engage in equity and inclusion. Our faculty are also involved in national dermatology diversity mentorship and leadership programs through the Women's Dermatologic Society, the American Academy of Dermatology, the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the Association of Professors of Dermatology (APD), Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA), National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) [One of our residents, Dr. Siller is a Board member of the local NHMA chapters as well], and others.

C.A.R.E.

Residents and faculty had the opportunity to participate in the Curriculum in Advancing Racial Equity (C.A.R.E.) module in conjunction with the AAD in 2022-2023. We were one of six Beta sites chosen nationwide to participate in these interactive and groundbreaking sessions.

The curriculum is designed to help individuals understand and address systemic racism in various contexts. It includes topics such as the history of racism, implicit bias, and strategies for creating more equitable and inclusive environments. By integrating this curriculum into education and professional development programs, we can work towards creating a society that values diversity and promotes fairness for all.

- Our DEI curriculum was recognized by AAD DEI members as a leader in residency education.



Performers during the 2022 Juneteenth celebration.

DIGA DEI Mentorship Program

The DIGA/DEI Mentorship Program started in the Fall of 2021 and this is the second year that DIGA has completed the mentorship program. The group consists of a board of medical student leaders, fifteen college of medicine students (each paired with a mentee who self-identifies as underrepresented in medicine), and dermatology departmental advisors. The group partnered with the High School Alliance, a group of high school students interested in the health professions that take courses at UNMC. Through the generosity of grants from the student senate and COMAC and support from the dermatology department, the group sponsors a kickoff event each year with food and provides Starbucks vouchers for mentors and mentees to meet on campus and discuss monthly mentorship topics.

- Dr. Kristie Hayes, Karle Olnes, and Dr. Alfredo Siller are sitting on the COM URiM mentorship program committee currently



DIGA Members with Dr. Borucki, Dr. Adams, and Karle Olnes at an outreach event.



Awards





Emily Belak accepting the Dermatology ITEACH Award.

Nebraska Medicine Dermatology Employee of the Month

CY 2020

September: Carissa Velez, MA

October: Amanda Gekas, MA

November: Sade Wright, Scheduler

December: Sarah Hurtz, RN

CY 2021

January: Amanda Gekas, MA

February: Christina Thurman, MR

March: Kendall Nichols, RN

April: Emily Belak, RN

May: Jaheesa Figueroa, CNA

June: Matt Poltack, Histotech

July: Rosie Frangi, LPN

August: Emily Belak, RN

September: Mercedes Sanchez, Scheduler

October: Teddi Settles, RN

November: Mindi Martinez, RN

December: Jamie Hughes, MR

CY 2022:

January: Shanda Harris, MA

February: Leslie Lucas, CNA

March: Kaylee Navarrette, Scheduler

April: Denise Hendrickson, RN

May: Maureen Murphy, MA

June: Dani Grobe, RN

July: Katelyn Wilwerding, CNA

August: Johanna Vazquez, MA

September: Chantalle Ferguson, MA

October: Natalia Kruszcak, CNA

November: Gunther Grinde, CNA

December: Teddi Settles, RN

CY 2023:

January: Amanda Havranek, RN

February: Tami Lundy, PCSA

March: Jamie Hughes, MA

April: Mindy Wratchford, MA

May: Zagee Flores, Scheduling Associate

June: Suzie Weiss, RN

Individual Faculty/Staff Awards

(Local, Regional, National, International)

Dr. Adams:

Local:

2021 UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Department of Dermatology Teacher of the Year Award

2022 UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Department of Dermatology Mentor of the Year Award

National:

2022 Academic Dermatology Leadership Program of the American Academy of Dermatology

Dr. Arthur:

2020 UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Department of Dermatology Teacher of the Year Award

2022-2023 Educational Support Grant, College of Medicine, Nail Procedures in Dermatology: Trimming the Training Gap (\$4,350.00 awarded)

Dr. Georgesen:

2022 University of Nebraska Medical Center Certificate of Excellence for E-Learning Innovator in Education

Dr. Hayes:

2021 SkinDeep DEI in Dermatology Award (Annual Dermatology Department Award)

2022 Legacy Award: Women on a Mission for Change

2023 Unsung Hero Award

2023 Volunteer of the Year: Women's Dermatologic Society

Dr. Sutton

2022 Premier Doctors 2022 Omaha Magazine

2022 Teacher of the year UNMC/Nebraska Medicine Department of Dermatology

Dr. Wysong:

2020 International Traveling Mentorship Program, Selected Mentor American Society for Dermatologic Surgery

National

2021 Mohs Surgeons Leading the Future, Mentor American College of Mohs Surgery

2021 National Volunteer of the Year Award Women's Dermatologic Society

2022 President's Distinguished Service Award American College of Mohs Surgery



Jaheesa Figueroa walking to accept her award at the 2022 Holiday Party.

2022 Scientific Program Chair, Service Award
American College of Mohs Surgery

2022 Nominated and Elected Member for
meritorious contributions to the field of
Dermatology American Dermatological Association

2023 Mentor of the Year Award
Women's Dermatologic Society

Local

2021 Dermatology Mentor of the Year Award
UNMC Department of Dermatology

2021 New Invention: Transdermal Delivery of CBD
- Micronization UNMC Research Innovation Awards

2022 Premier Doctors 2022
Omaha Magazine; Omaha Nebraska

2022 Distinguished Scientist Award
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Institutional award

2021-present UNMC/University of Nebraska
Gold & Platinum Level Skin Smart Campus Award
National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention

Resident Awards:

2021 Outstanding Trainee in Dermatology
Award – Dr. Tyler Evans

2022 Skin Deep DEI in Dermatology
Award - Dr. Alfredo Siller

2022 Outstanding Trainee in Dermatology
Award - Dr. Ritu Swali

2022 Cutting Edge Research Award
- Dr. Jennifer Fernandez

Nursing Awards:

Nebraska Medicine Department of
Dermatology Extraordinary Nurse:

2022 Teddi Settles

2023 Kendall Nichols

Nebraska Nurses Association
Positive Image of Nursing Award:

2023 Mindi Martinez

Local Dermatology Awards:

2021 Dermatology Clinic Employee of
the Year Award – Kendall Nichols

2021 Dermatology Community Service
Award – Mercedes Sanchez

2021 Dermatology ITEACH Award – Emily Belak

2021 Dermatology Going the Extra
Mile Award – Sushmita Adhikari

2021 Nebraska Medicine Dermatology
Rookie of the Year Award – Teddi Settles

2022 Clinic Employee of the Year - Dani Grobe

2022 Dermatology Community Service
Award - Jaheesa Figueroa

2022 ITEACH Award - Teddi Settles

2022 Going the Extra Mile Award - Meagin Skutnik

2022 Rookie of the Year Award - Dylan Bryant

Admin Awards

2021 Dermatology Department Administrative Employee of the Year Award - Karle Olnes

2021 UNMC Dermatology Rookie of the Year Award – Gabrielle Jensen

2022 Department Administrative Employee of the Year - Gabby Jensen

2022 Kara Tomlinson Bucket Filler Award - Kara Tomlinson

2023 UNMC Silver U Award - Karle Olnes



Dr. Wysong receiving an award from Resident Dr. Clarey.



Looking Ahead





Culture

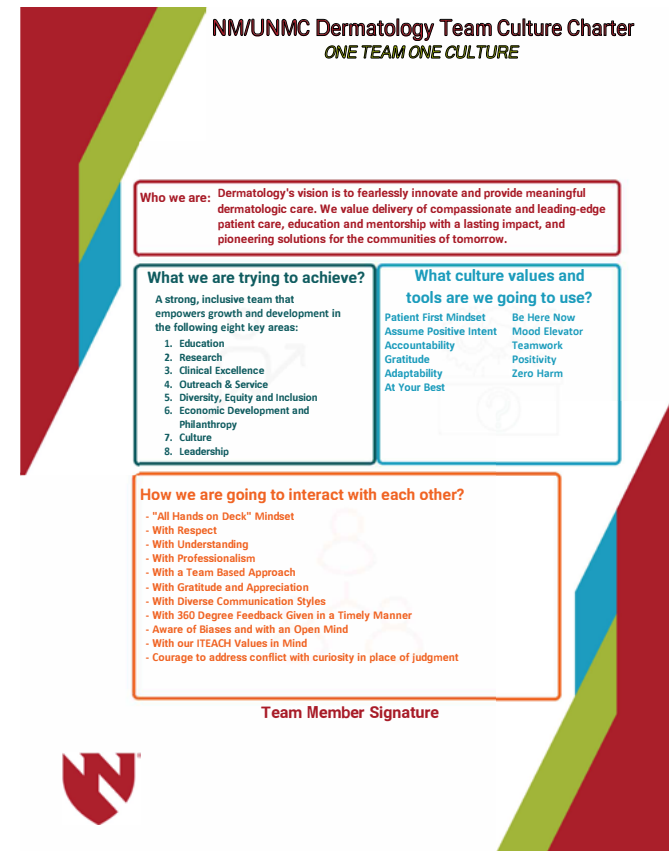
From the founding of the department, it has been a high priority to create a “culture of one” and a culture of which we could all be proud. We wanted to create an inclusive environment where people can be their authentic selves, function at their best, and have fun both in and outside of work together.

The leadership team started a monthly all staff meeting during the first few months where Nebraska Medicine and UNMC dermatology employees came together to receive updates from all the different areas of our team including but not limited to clinical, education, research, cultural, and personnel updates. Dr. Wysong has been extremely involved at the organization wide level in our culture journey serving on the Culture Leadership Team for UNMC and Nebraska Medicine. We make time for our culture champions to present a new culture topic each month to the group and allow for some discussion. Some of these topics have included what it means to volunteer, gratitude, and the mood elevator that we use. We also take the time to have semi-annual retreats for our clinic, faculty, admin, and residents. This allows us the opportunity to further educate and train our teams as well as partake in team bonding activities.

Even amid the pandemic, with many uncertainties around us, we were creative in how we could come together safely. We would hold Zoom meetings to stay connected and even hosted our Holiday party at the end of 2021 on Zoom. We packed a goodie box filled with treats and cider for each person to bring home so we could toast to another successful year, even if we faced several hurdles. We hired a DJ to emcee the event, including games, dancing, and laughter with colleagues and family. That was also the first year that we started department awards, and we were able to hold the award ceremony over Zoom.

Now that we can get together again, we have resumed in-person celebrations; we celebrate everything from our 5th anniversary to paper airplane day and coordinate department outings to the Vala pumpkin patch in the fall. We love to dress up for Halloween and break out the ugly sweater around the holidays.

We will continue to make culture a priority in our department. We are excited to continue to find ways to improve on the amazing culture already in place and continue to make our department known as a wonderful place to work and grow. We are excited to keep adding to our teams and finding fun ways to include all our team members from UNMC, Nebraska Medicine, the VA, Children’s Nebraska, and anyone else joining us.





*Ashley Wysong, MD, MS,
Founding Chair and Professor
with Tenure William W. Bruce,
MD Distinguished Chair of
Dermatology*

Future

At UNMC Dermatology, we are always looking toward the future in our strategic domains of clinical excellence, education and mentoring with a lasting impact, innovative research, community service and outreach, DEI, economic development and philanthropy, culture, and leadership development. Our long-term focus is on the “100-year dermatology plan” to ensure that there is a strong, vibrant, academic department of dermatology at the University of Nebraska 100 years from now. We are working on this through deliberate educational leadership development, recruitment, strategic planning, stakeholder relations, building endowments, and ongoing investment in our shared inclusive culture to ensure the future success of the department. A few of our planned key initiatives include:

- Utilize public-private and philanthropic partnerships to build a permanent space for clinical, educational, research and administrative efforts in dermatology on UNMC campus
- Continue to recruit and retain top-tier faculty, resident physicians, and staff to UNMC Dermatology and our clinical partners
- Develop ACGME-accredited fellowships in dermatology to train sub-specialists for our state and beyond in:
 - o Mohs Micrographic Surgery & Cutaneous Oncology
 - o Pediatric Dermatology
 - o Dermatopathology
 - o Laser and Aesthetic Dermatology
- Be “THE” preferred working and learning environment on campus
- Expand innovative undergraduate, graduate and continuing medical education offerings in dermatology
- Integrate novel technologies, virtual reality, and augmented reality into dermatology education
- Continue to lead in culture initiatives organization wide
- Maintain a welcome and inclusive work environment to allow authenticity and individuals to be at their best



