Greetings from the program director

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

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

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

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

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

Evan S. Wasserman, MD
Program Director
Pictured Left, Top Row: E. Wasserman, R. Lee, Q. Awan, B. Olson, D. Jin, S. Carter, E. Strauss,
Program structure and philosophy

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

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

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

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

Norwalk Hospital offers the latest imaging technology, modalities, and protocols, and a wide breadth and variation in pathology, which are crucial to the training of our residents. Unlike many other programs, our residents are well trained with hands-on ultrasound on the latest advanced ultrasound units, a skill set much desired in practice.

Ronald Lee, MD
University affiliations

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

Norwalk Hospital has an inpatient pediatric unit with outstanding staff pediatricians and a newborn intensive care nursery. While on rotations at Norwalk Hospital, our residents are exposed to a large amount of pediatric radiology, both diagnostic and interventional. However, because acutely sick children are often referred to tertiary care centers, we believe there is value in performing rotations in pediatric radiology at the NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital.

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

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

Our relationship with Yale University is long-standing. Several current staff radiologists at Norwalk Hospital are former Yale residents, fellows, or faculty. Many of Norwalk Hospital’s radiology residents have accepted fellowship and/or faculty positions at Yale. Our relationship with Columbia University is more recent.

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

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

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

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

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

There are two learning conferences daily, usually a morning lecture and midday case conference. Most conferences are given by Norwalk Hospital’s faculty, but we also incorporate guest lecturers, all luminaries in their fields, including topics such as Pediatrics, Cardiac, Chest, GU, Ultrasound, MSK, and GI. The majority of lectures and teaching cases are stored on the hospital shared drive which are easily available for residents to review. A course in radiation physics and radiation biology is offered twice a week throughout the first year.

Interdisciplinary conferences with other departments are also held regularly, usually on a monthly basis. As a Memorial Sloan Kettering cancer treatment site, we currently have joint conferences with pulmonary medicine, hepatobiliary and gastrointestinal surgery, gyn-oncology, heme-oncology, neurosurgery, breast oncology, and gastroenterology. Residents prepare and present cases for these interdisciplinary conferences on a weekly or monthly basis.
Diagnostic radiology residency

Research and investigation

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

Time is made available for research and investigation during electives and during research rotations at Norwalk Hospital and at Yale New Haven Hospital. Norwalk Hospital pays travel expenses for residents attending conferences for purposes of presenting a paper or exhibit. We have an Interdisciplinary Research Committee—which oversees and coordinates projects involving various departments, a departmental research advisor, and a hospital-wide research coordinator, biostatistician, and other support staff as needed.

On-call support

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

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

Two radiology attendings are always on call, one for general and one for interventional radiology. The on-call radiology attendings are happily and readily available for immediate consultation if the on-call resident requires assistance or has questions. Furthermore, because of the provided hospital housing, remote access to the PACS imaging network, and the close network we have as a radiology residency, senior residents are readily available for assistance and advice.
Hospital housing

In addition to a competitive salary, Norwalk Hospital provides highly subsidized housing. Residents receive an apartment in one of two buildings on the hospital campus, directly across the street from the hospital itself, at very low cost. Hospital housing serves important functions, which relate indirectly to education. Because the apartments are on the hospital campus, residents who choose to live there have no commuting expense or excessive commuting time. With a great salary, residents can live comfortably for their four or five years of training at Norwalk Hospital. They are not forced to moonlight, borrow to make ends meet, or have to choose between beginning to pay back their student loans.

For the few that choose to live off campus, Norwalk Hospital provides an additional monthly housing stipend of $370 per month.

Outpatient center

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

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

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

PGY-1 year

Norwalk Hospital permits many options for the required PGY-1 (internship) year. Any ACGME-accredited approved clinical year is acceptable. Many residents have completed their PGY-1 year in medicine or surgery, while some have completed transitional years.

Vacation and conference time

Annually, each resident receives four weeks of vacation and two personal days, in addition to one optional week of continuing medical education. Residents are solely in charge of scheduling their vacation time as they please. We only ask during certain critical months (first year ultrasound rotation, fluoroscopy rotation, or during the month of June for first and second years) that you do not take vacation during this time.

Residents are allotted a post-call day after a call shift. In addition, during scheduled calls on a weekday (Monday–Thursdays), residents are excused 2 hours before they are scheduled for their evening call shift in order to help relieve resident burnout.

Traditionally, holiday coverage is covered by the current 2nd year residents (the eve and day of). In return, each eve/holiday call shift is converted into an “extra” vacation day for use by that resident.

Furthermore, as third year residents, we are allotted time off to attend two board review courses of your choice that is reimbursed by the department. We are also allotted time off for fellowship and job interviews.

Benefits

- Residents’ salaries are competitive and Norwalk Hospital provides highly subsidized housing. Medical, dental, life, and disability insurance are provided for house staff and their families.
- All first-year radiology residents receive, from the faculty, a myriad of radiology textbooks deemed important for learning general radiology and passing the CORE exam.
- For outside rotations, including the American Institute for Radiologic Pathology and clinical rotations at Yale New Haven Hospital and NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, Norwalk Hospital and the faculty pay tuition, travel costs, and lodging. There is no expense to the resident.
- A physics review and clinical review course for the ABR Core exam is fully reimbursed.

Moonlighting

Third and fourth year residents are granted permission to moonlight at the outpatient Norwalk Radiology and Mammography Center. This is evenly split between the two residency classes. The radiology faculty covers the cost of obtaining the annual Connecticut Physician License required to moonlight for these residents. Residents are able to opt out if they choose not to participate.

The moonlighting residents’ responsibilities include providing clinical care should a contrast reaction occur, and providing preliminary reads for the outpatient radiographs, ultrasounds, and CTs performed.
Welcome to Norwalk Hospital

In order to serve the lower Fairfield County community’s health care needs well into the future, Norwalk Hospital was renovated in 2015—building a new, state-of-the-art ambulatory care pavilion. This project provided additional space and modern facilities for the ever-growing ambulatory services.

Of note, Norwalk Hospital received the John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in 2019.

The region

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

Just minutes outside of Norwalk is the beautiful Connecticut countryside. In addition, the Long Island Sound is just a stone’s throw from the hospital—providing beach, swimming, boating, and fishing activities.

New York City, with all that it has to offer, is only 45 minutes away by train or car. Many people who live in Norwalk and the surrounding area work in New York City, commuting daily. New Haven, with Yale University, is about 35 minutes away by car or train.

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

Jade A. Anderson, MD
College: Hampton University, VA
Medical School: Boston University School of Medicine
Internship: The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center, OH

Tiffany Han, MD
College: University of Utah, UT
Medical School: University of Utah School of Medicine
Internship: Brookwood Baptist Health, AL

Dugho Jin, DO
College: University of Bridgeport, CT
Medical School: University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
Internship: Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, CT

Stephen Carter, MD
College: University of Missouri, MO
Medical School: St. George’s University School of Medicine
Internship: Richmond University Medical Center, NY

Matthew Homsi, DO
College: Rutgers University, NJ
Medical School: Rocky Vista University School of Osteopathic Medicine
Internship: Inspira Health Network, NJ

Behnaz Khazai, MD
College: NODET, Iran
Medical School: Mashhad University of Medical Sciences
Internship: Hurley Medical Center–Michigan State University Program, MI
Landon Melchior, MD

**College:** University of North Dakota, ND  
**Medical School:** University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
**Internship:** University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, ND

Diane Moliva, MD

**College:** Concordia College at Moorhead, MN; McGill University, CAN  
**Medical School:** Ross University School of Medicine  
**Internship:** University of Minnesota, MN

Brent Olson, MD

**College:** Nevada State College, NV  
**Medical School:** Ross University School of Medicine  
**Internship:** Saint Agnes Healthcare, MD

Bernadette Ramos, MD

**College:** University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, PR  
**Medical School:** Ponce Health Sciences University  
**Internship:** Hospital Damas Ponce, PR

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**Residents’ email addresses**

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- Diane Moliva, MD  
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Outcomes

Fellowship placement

2021
• Northwell Health, NY – Breast & Body Imaging
• Thomas Jefferson University, PA – Body Imaging

2020
• Mount Sinai, NY – Neuroradiology
• Northwell Health, NY – Breast & Body Imaging
• Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, MA – Neuroradiology

2019
• Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center – Interventional Radiology
• Northwell Health, NY – Breast & Body Imaging

2018
• Baylor Medical Center, Houston, TX – Breast Imaging
• Northwell Health, NY – MSK
• University of California, Irvine, CA – MSK

2017
• University of California, San Francisco – Neuroradiology

2016
• Yale New Haven Hospital – Neuroradiology
• University of California, San Francisco – Body Imaging

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

2014
• NYU Langone Medical Center – Neuroradiology
• Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center – Neuroradiology
• Yale New Haven Hospital – Nuclear Medicine
2013
• Columbia University – Neuroradiology
• Duke University – Neuroradiology

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

2011
• University of Maryland – Women’s Imaging
• Mount Sinai Hospital – Neuroradiology

2010
• Hospital for Special Surgery – Musculoskeletal
• University of Southern California – Vascular/Interventional

2008
• Yale New Haven Hospital – Women’s Imaging
• Thomas Jefferson University – Neuroradiology

2007
• Thomas Jefferson University – Body Imaging
• Columbia University – Body Imaging

2006
• Yale New Haven Hospital – Abdominal Imaging
• Yale New Haven Hospital – Women’s Imaging

2005
• Columbia University – Neuroradiology
• Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology – Nuclear Medicine
Contact information

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34 Maple Street
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Core faculty education background

**James S. Bauman, MD**

**Undergrad:** City University of New York, NY  
**Medical School:** Cornell University Medical College  
**Internship:** Brigham and Women's Hospital, MA  
**Residency:** New York Hospital–Cornell Medical Center, NY  
**Fellowship:** Body Imaging—New York University Medical Center, NY

**Steven M. Bernstein, MD**

**Undergrad:** Wesleyan University, CT  
**Medical School:** Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
**Internship:** Beth Israel Medical Center, NY  
**Residency:** Northshore University Medical Center, NY  
**Fellowship:** Interventional Radiology—New York University Medical Center, NY

**Richard Culver, MD**

**Undergrad:** University of Mary Washington, VA  
**Medical School:** St. George's University School of Medicine  
**Internship:** Atlantic Health Systems, Inc., NJ  
**Residency:** Norwalk Hospital, CT  
**Fellowship:** Neuroradiology—Yale New Haven Hospital, CT
Lauren A. Ernberg, MD

Undergrad: Brown University, RI
Medical School: Cornell University Medical College
Internship: Pennsylvania Hospital, PA
Residency: NewYork–Presbyterian Hospital, NY
Fellowship: MSK–Hospital for Special Surgery, NY

Mia Kazanjian, MD

Undergrad: Brown University, RI
Medical School: Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Internship: Sound Shore Medical Center, NY
Residency: NewYork–Presbyterian Hospital, NY
Fellowship: Breast Imaging—Stanford University, CA

David S. Klein, MD

Undergrad: Cornell University, NY
Medical School: NYU School of Medicine
Internship: Bellevue Hospital Center – NYU Langone Health, NY
Residency: Bellevue Hospital Center – NYU Langone Health, NY
Fellowship: Interventional Radiology—Thomas Jefferson University, PA
Core faculty education background

Ronald P. Lee, MD

Undergrad: Columbia University, NY  
Medical School: NYU School of Medicine  
Internship: Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY  
Residency: Bellevue Hospital Center – NYU Langone Health, NY  
Fellowship: Body Imaging—Bellevue Hospital Center – NYU Langone Health, NY; MRI—The Johns Hopkins Hospital, MD

Andrew C. Shih, MD

Undergrad: University of California at Berkeley, CA  
Medical School: Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
Internship: Mount Sinai Hospital, NY  
Residency: NewYork–Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, NY  
Fellowship: MSK–NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, NY

Edward B. Strauss, MD

Undergrad: Amherst College, MA  
Medical School: Yale University School of Medicine  
Internship: Yale New Haven Hospital, CT  
Residency: Yale New Haven Hospital, CT  
Fellowship: Interventional Radiology—Yale New Haven Hospital, CT
Evan S. Wasserman, MD

Undergrad: Washington University in St. Louis, MO
Medical School: Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Residency: Massachusetts General Hospital, MA
Fellowship: MSK/MRI—Massachusetts General Hospital, MA; Breast & Body Imaging—Memorial Sloan Kettering, NY
Therefore we are committed to being...

Pursue Impossible
So we can improve the lives of every person in our community.

Our Values

Personal
Being top caliber starts with how we treat and respect people. So we see each patient, listen, then speak and act with purpose and compassion.

Imaginative
Discovering what’s possible for our patients and our communities means challenging the expected. So we seek better, never settle and inspire curiosity.

Agile
Progress is only achieved through change. So we better serve our patients by overcoming barriers, pivoting with efficiency and staying open-minded.

Connected
Achievements don’t happen in silos. So we share ideas, communicate clearly, act with consistency and work together as a unified team to care for those who need us.

Redefine Expected
Changing assumptions by challenging traditional healthcare experiences.