Your Search Criteria:
Practice: UNC Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery Clinics
Thursday, July 25, 2019
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## Cancer - Thoracic Oncology

### Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD

**Associate Professor of Surgery; Medical Director Lung Transplant; Co-Director of Pediatric Lung Transplantation**

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<th>Specialties:</th>
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<td>Thoracic oncology (cancer of lung, esophagus), lung transplant, end-stage lung disease, minimally invasive surgery, endobronchial ultrasound, tracheal surgery, stents, cardiac surgery, end-stage heart disease</td>
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<td>Medical School:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Ford Hospital</td>
<td>Fourth Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area: Surgical Research Fellowship</td>
<td>Chapel Hill, NC 27514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship:</td>
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</tr>
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<td>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area: Cardiothoracic Surgery</td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/transplant-care">www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/transplant-care</a></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Surgery, Thoracic Surgery</td>
<td>101 Manning Drive</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**UNC Thoracic Surgery Clinic**

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**Fax:** (984) 974-8610

**Website:**

**UNC Hospitals Jason Ray Transplant Clinic**

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**Phone:** (984) 974-5100

**Fax:** (984) 974-5595

**Website:**
**Lauren R. Hill, NP**  
*Nurse Practitioner*

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery  
**Subspecialties:** Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery  
**Master of Science:** East Carolina University  
**Area:** Nursing

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www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services
Cancer - Thoracic Oncology (cont.)

Jason Long, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties: Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant

Subspecialties: Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

Procedures and Research: Thoracic oncology including cancer of lung, esophagus; lung transplantation; minimally invasive thoracic surgery including robotic surgery; extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO); lung and esophageal surgery. Robotic thoracic surgery, esophagectomy, lung cancer surgery, lung transplantation, chest wall resection and reconstruction, thoracic trauma

Special Interests: Research: Ex-vivo lung perfusion; use of lungs from non-heart-beating donors for transplant; international health. Lung cancer screening, Lung nodule localization and resection, esophageal cancer, Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS), robotic surgery, lung transplantation.

Medical School: Wake Forest University

Residency: University of Chicago
Area: General Surgery

Residency: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Area: Cardiothoracic Surgery (Thoracic Track)

Certification: Surgery

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Website: www.uncmedicalcenter.org/unc mc/care-treatment/transplant-care
### Gita Mody, MD, MPH

**Assistant Professor of Surgery**

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Transplant

**Subspecialties:** Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

**Procedures and Research:** Thoracic oncology including cancer of lung and esophagus, lung transplantation, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), surgical outcomes, patient-centered outcomes, international health, surgical capacity building

**Special Interests:** Lung cancer, lung transplantation, video-assisted thoracic surgery, minimally invasive thoracic surgery

**Medical School:** Washington University

**Honors:** Member, Alpha Omega Alpha

**Residency:** Brigham and Women's Hospital

**Area:** Cardiothoracic Surgery

**Residency and Chief Residency:** Brigham and Women's Hospital

**Area:** General Surgery

**Fellowship:** Brigham and Women's Hospital

**Area:** Global Health Equity in General Surgery

**Bachelor of Science:** Vanderbilt University

**Area:** Molecular Biology and Computer Science

**Master of Public Health:** Harvard University

**Area:** Clinical Effectiveness

**Certifications:** Surgery, Thoracic Surgery

---

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**Website:**
Kevan Paul Haas, PA-C  
*Instructor; Physician Assistant*

**Specialties:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery  
**Procedures and Research:** First assistance in cardiothoracic surgery. Insertion, management of ventricular assist devices; ECMO; endoscopic vein and radial artery harvest; chest tubes, central lines. Management of critical ICU patients and pre- and post-op patients.  
**Bachelor of Science:** DeSales University  
**Area:** Medical Studies  
**Physician Assistant:** DeSales University  
**Certification:** Physician Assistant

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Bernice S. Newsome, AGNP  

**Specialty:** Cardiothoracic Surgery  
**Master of Science:** Drexel University  
**Area:** Nursing  
**Certifications:** Nursing-Nurse Practitioner, Nursing

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Andrew M. Shirlen, MMS, PA  
*Instructor; Physician Assistant*

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**Certification:** Physician Assistant

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Cardiothoracic Surgery (cont.)

Tracy Vernon-Platt, ANP-BC, MSN, BSN
Adult Nurse Practitioner for Cardiothoracic Surgery

Specialties: Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant
Subspecialty: Transplant - Heart Transplantation
Procedures and Research:
Inpatient and outpatient management of cardiac surgery patients and management of patients with ventricular assist devices
Bachelor of Science: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Nursing
Master of Science: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Nursing
Certification: Nursing-Adult Nurse Practitioner

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Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery; Medical Director Lung Transplant; Co-Director of Pediatric Lung Transplantation

Specialties: Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant
Subspecialties: Transplant - Heart Transplantation, Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery
Procedures and Research: Thoracic oncology (cancer of lung, esophagus), lung transplant, end-stage lung disease, minimally invasive surgery, endobronchial ultrasound, tracheal surgery, stents, cardiac surgery, end-stage heart disease
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Area: Surgical Research Fellowship
Fellowship: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Cardiothoracic Surgery
Certifications: Surgery, Thoracic Surgery

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Lauren R. Hill, NP  
Nurse Practitioner

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery

**Subspecialties:** Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

**Master of Science:** East Carolina University

**Area:** Nursing

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Jason Long, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Surgery

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Website: www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services
Neptali Ruben Bocanegra, PA  
*Physician Assistant; Clinician, UNC Center for Heart and Vascular Care*

**Specialties:** General Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Cardiac Surgery  

**Procedures and Research:** First assistant in all pediatric and congenital cardiac surgeries at UNC and in CABG, valve, VAD, heart and lung transplants, EVH and ERAH. H&P, pre-op and post-op care; surgical management and office follow-up. Certified on invasive skills.

**Special Interests:** Actively involved in training of cardiothoracic fellows, surgery residents, medical students and nurses in clinical setting and in simulation lab.

**Additional Education:** Forsyth Technical Institute  
*Area:* Nuclear Medicine Technology  

**Bachelor of Science:** Clemson University  
*Area:* Pre-Med  

**Physician Assistant:** Medical University of South Carolina  

**Certification:** Physician Assistant

---

Kevan Paul Haas, PA-C  
*Instructor; Physician Assistant*

**Specialties:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery  

**Procedures and Research:** First assistance in cardiothoracic surgery. Insertion, management of ventricular assist devices; ECMO; endoscopic vein and radial artery harvest; chest tubes, central lines. Management of critical ICU patients and pre- and post-op patients.

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*Area:* Medical Studies  

**Physician Assistant:** DeSales University  

**Certification:** Physician Assistant

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Associate Professor of Surgery; Medical Director Lung Transplant; Co-Director of Pediatric Lung Transplantation

Specialties: Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant

Subspecialties: Transplant - Heart Transplantation, Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

Procedures and Research: Thoracic oncology (cancer of lung, esophagus), lung transplant, end-stage lung disease, minimally invasive surgery, endobronchial ultrasound, tracheal surgery, stents, cardiac surgery, end-stage heart disease

Medical School: Michigan State University

Residency: Henry Ford Hospital
Area: General Surgery

Fellowship: Henry Ford Hospital
Area: Surgical Research Fellowship

Fellowship: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Cardiothoracic Surgery

Certifications: Surgery, Thoracic Surgery

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Lauren R. Hill, NP
Nurse Practitioner

Specialties: Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery
Subspecialties: Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery
Master of Science: East Carolina University
Area: Nursing

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Fax: (984) 974-8610
Website: www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services
General Surgery (cont.)

Jason Long, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant  
**Subspecialties:** Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery  
**Procedures and Research:** Thoracic oncology including cancer of lung, esophagus; lung transplantation; minimally invasive thoracic surgery including robotic surgery; extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO); lung and esophageal surgery. Robotic thoracic surgery, esophagectomy, lung cancer surgery, lung transplantation, chest wall resection and reconstruction, thoracic trauma  
**Special Interests:** Research: Ex-vivo lung perfusion; use of lungs from non-heart-beating donors for transplant; international health. Lung cancer screening, Lung nodule localization and resection, esophageal cancer, Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS), robotic surgery, lung transplantation.  
**Medical School:** Wake Forest University  
**Residency:** University of Chicago  
**Area:** General Surgery  
**Residency:** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
**Area:** Cardiothoracic Surgery (Thoracic Track)  
**Certification:** Surgery

Andrew M. Shirlen, MMS, PA  
Instructor; Physician Assistant

**Specialties:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery  
**Procedures and Research:** First assistance in cardiac, thoracic and vascular surgery. Endoscopic and minimally invasive vein harvesting. Management of critical ICU patients and pre- and post-operative patients.  
**Additional Education:** Wake Forest University  
**Certification:** Physician Assistant

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**Fax:** (919) 966-3475  
**Website:**  
www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services
General Surgery (cont.)

Tracy Vernon-Platt, ANP-BC, MSN, BSN
Adult Nurse Practitioner for Cardiothoracic Surgery

Specialties: Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant
Subspecialty: Transplant - Heart Transplantation

Procedures and Research: Inpatient and outpatient management of cardiac surgery patients and management of patients with ventricular assist devices

Bachelor of Science: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Nursing

Master of Science: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Area: Nursing

Certification: Nursing-Adult Nurse Practitioner

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Website: www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services

Pediatric Cardiac Surgery

Neptali Ruben Bocanegra, PA
Physician Assistant; Clinician, UNC Center for Heart and Vascular Care

Specialties: General Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Cardiac Surgery

Procedures and Research: First assistant in all pediatric and congenital cardiac surgeries at UNC and in CABG, valve, VAD, heart and lung transplants, EVH and ERAH. H&P, pre-op and post-op care; surgical management and office follow-up. Certified on invasive skills.

Special Interests: Actively involved in training of cardiothoracic fellows, surgery residents, medical students and nurses in clinical setting and in simulation lab.

Additional Education: Forsyth Technical Institute
Area: Nuclear Medicine Technology

Bachelor of Science: Clemson University
Area: Pre-Med

Physician Assistant: Medical University of South Carolina

Certification: Physician Assistant

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### Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD

**Associate Professor of Surgery; Medical Director Lung Transplant; Co-Director of Pediatric Lung Transplantation**

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant  
**Subspecialties:** Transplant - Heart Transplantation, Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery  
**Procedures and Research:** Thoracic oncology (cancer of lung, esophagus), lung transplant, end-stage lung disease, minimally invasive surgery, endobronchial ultrasound, tracheal surgery, stents, cardiac surgery, end-stage heart disease  
**Medical School:** Michigan State University  
**Residency:** Henry Ford Hospital  
**Area:** General Surgery  
**Fellowship:** Henry Ford Hospital  
**Area:** Surgical Research Fellowship  
**Fellowship:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
**Area:** Cardiothoracic Surgery  
**Certifications:** Surgery, Thoracic Surgery

### Tracy Vernon-Platt, ANP-BC, MSN, BSN

**Adult Nurse Practitioner for Cardiothoracic Surgery**

**Specialties:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant  
**Subspecialty:** Transplant - Heart Transplantation  
**Procedures and Research:** Inpatient and outpatient management of cardiac surgery patients and management of patients with ventricular assist devices  
**Bachelor of Science:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
**Area:** Nursing  
**Master of Science:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
**Area:** Nursing  
**Certification:** Nursing-Adult Nurse Practitioner

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Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery; Medical Director Lung Transplant; Co-Director of Pediatric Lung Transplantation

**Specialties:** Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, General Surgery, Transplant

**Subspecialties:** Transplant - Heart Transplantation, Transplant - Lung Transplantation, Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery

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## Transplant - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

### Jason Long, MD, MPH
**Assistant Professor of Surgery**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Special Interests:</strong></td>
<td>Research: Ex-vivo lung perfusion; use of lungs from non-heart-beating donors for transplant; international health. Lung cancer screening, Lung nodule localization and resection, esophageal cancer, Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS), robotic surgery, lung transplantation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical School:</strong></td>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
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| **Residency:** | University of Chicago  
**Area:** General Surgery |
| **Residency:** | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
**Area:** Cardiothoracic Surgery (Thoracic Track) |
| **Certification:** | Surgery |

### UNC Thoracic Surgery Clinic
101 Manning Drive  
N.C. Cancer Hospital  
Second Floor  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
**Phone:** (984) 974-8641  
**Fax:** (984) 974-8610  
**Website:**  
www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/surgical-services

### UNC Hospitals Jason Ray Transplant Clinic
101 Manning Drive  
N.C. Memorial Hospital  
Fourth Floor  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
**Phone:** (984) 974-5100  
**Fax:** (984) 974-5595  
**Website:**  
www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/care-treatment/transplant-care
Transplant - Lung Transplantation (cont.)

Gita Mody, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties: Cancer, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Transplant  
Subspecialties: Transplant - Lung Transplantation,  
Cancer - Thoracic Oncology, Cardiothoracic Surgery -  
Thoracic Surgery  

Procedures and Research: Thoracic oncology including cancer of lung and esophagus, lung transplantation, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), surgical outcomes, patient-centered outcomes, international health, surgical capacity building  

Special Interests: Lung cancer, lung transplantation, video-assisted thoracic surgery, minimally invasive thoracic surgery  

Medical School: Washington University  
Honors: Member, Alpha Omega Alpha  
Residency: Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Area: Cardiothoracic Surgery  

Residency and Chief Residency: Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Area: General Surgery  

Fellowship: Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Area: Global Health Equity in General Surgery  

Bachelor of Science: Vanderbilt University  
Area: Molecular Biology and Computer Science  

Master of Public Health: Harvard University  
Area: Clinical Effectiveness  

Certifications: Surgery, Thoracic Surgery  

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