Faculty Promotions



DR. SAM MANDELL

Associate Professor Division of Trauma, Burn & Critical Care Surgery

Dr. Sam Mandell is a Trauma, Critical Care & Burn Surgeon at Harborview Medical Center. His clinical interests include the acute care of trauma and burn patients and Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS). With an interest in quality improvement, he serves as the Director of Quality Improvement for

the ECLS program at Harborview, as well as the Central Region Trauma Quality Improvement Committee. Nationally, he will be working with the American Burn Association to develop new quality improvement dashboards for the Burn Quality Improvement Program. Active in the Washington State Trauma System, he serves on the State of Washington Trauma and EMS Steering Committee. He has helped to drive forward a state TQIP collaborative for all Level 1 and 2 trauma centers and serves as the Chair of the State Outcomes Technical Advisory Committee. As a past selection by the ACS Committee on Trauma as a part of their Future Trauma Leaders program, he worked on creating best practice guidelines for imaging in trauma and incorporating patient reported outcomes into quality improvement programs. Dr. Mandell is also an educator directing the burn resident rotation as well as being an Assistant Program Director for the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship. His research interests include ECLS, burn wound imaging, and the management of burn pain.

Dr. Mandell's UWM Provider Bio >>



DR. JAMES PARK PROFESSOR

DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

Dr. Park, is a surgical oncologist specializing in hepatopancreatobiliary surgery and the Director of UW Medical Center's **Liver Tumor Clinic**. He has extensive experience with complex minimally invasive surgical techniques, and was the first to perform **robotic hepatectomy** and Whipple procedures in the Pacific Northwest and in Washington State,

respectively. Dr. Park serves as the Chair of the Robotic Steering Committee, and in 2019 successfully led efforts to designate UWMC-Montlake a Center of Excellence in Robotic Surgery, making UWMC-ML the first academic medical center on the West Coast to receive such a designation. Dr. Park is Clinical Director of Surgical Specialties for the WWAMI Institute for Simulation in Healthcare, through which he developed a formal robotic training curriculum for surgical residents which incorporates both hands-on and simulation training. Dr. Park's translational research program involves cutting-edge nanotechnology theranostics to improve both diagnosis and treatment of liver cancer. He believes more precise technology using antibody-targeted immuno-PET imaging can be used to select patients for surgery more effectively and enhance its impact. Additionally, alpha-and high-energy beta-particle emitting radioisotopes can be used for targeted treatment for these patients. Nationally, he holds leadership positions as a member of the NCCN hepatobiliary cancer panel and the ISDS executive committee.

Dr. Park's UWM Provider Bio >>



DR. VENU PILLARISETTY PROFESSOR DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

Surgery

News

Dr. Venu Pillarisetty is a pancreatic surgical oncologist at the University of Washington Medical Center and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA). He runs a basic science laboratory – the UW Tumor Immune MicroEnvironment (TIME) lab – that studies pancreatic and other gastrointestinal cancers, using cutting-edge techniques to ultimately

develop effective immunotherapies for these aggressive diseases. His laboratory is funded through federal grants and industry partnerships, and he is currently working with the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) to develop a multicenter neoadjuvant immunotherapy/chemotherapy trial for patients with resectable or borderline resectable pancreatic cancer based on his lab's recent findings (Seo et al. Clinical Cancer Research 2019). His team is completing enrollment for a novel Phase II study at UWMC evaluating preoperative lanreotide for the prevention of pancreatic leaks, and they hope this will lead to a larger multicenter randomized controlled trial. In his administrative role as Medical Director of Continuous Performance Improvement at SCCA, he is working with clinical and operational teams to apply lean principles to optimize cancer care. The pancreatic surgery group at UWMC has successfully used these principles to achieve remarkably low complication rates and short lengths of stay for pancreaticoduodenectomies (Whipple procedures).

Dr. Pillarisetty's UWM Provider Bio >>