

UW MEDICINE HEART INSTITUTE RECEIVED AHA MITRAL VALVE REPAIR REFERENCE AWARD



Dr. Gabriel Aldea

On March 17, 2022, the [UW Medicine Heart Institute](#) received the [American Heart Association's Mitral Valve Repair Reference Center Award](#). This notable achievement makes the UW Medical Center one of 21 such elite centers in the United States, out of over 1,000 cardiac surgery centers nationwide, and is the only center in the Pacific Northwest with this designation. Under Dr. [Gabriel Aldea's](#)

leadership, the UW Mitral Valve Repair Program demonstrated *"superior clinical outcomes resulting from evidence-based, guideline-directed degenerative mitral valve repair."* Says Dr. Aldea, *"Two decades' worth of information shows us that valve repairs, no matter how complex, are way better than valve replacements. When you save someone's original valve, there is a 90% likelihood that they will require no further intervention during their lifetime."* In 2021, 61 mitral valve reconstructions were performed at UW Medical Center–Montlake, far surpassing the designation's requirement of 50 per year, and 70% were complex referrals received from community cardiologist and surgeons. This makes the designation even more remarkable, as the success rate must be better than 95% with a mortality rate of less than 1%. Patients who undergo a successful repair often return to normal life expectancy and function. The Mitral Valve Repair Reference Award was created based on the multi-society internationally recognized clinical practice valve guideline (recently updated in 2021 AHA/ACC/STS), of which Dr. [Catherine Otto](#), UW professor of Cardiology, was the lead author.

The Heart Institute uses a heart valve team approach in which every patient with valve pathology/significant abnormalities is assessed by a multidisciplinary team of cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, and interventional cardiologists to assess and recommend the best treatment option for an individual patient. Mitral valve repair is one of many areas of cardiac surgical expertise at UW. Others include catheter-based valve intervention, treatment of aortic pathology, valve surgery, mechanical assist and transplant. [Click to learn more about UW Medicine Heart Institute.](#)

RESIDENT ROBOTIC TRAINING UPDATES



Dr. James Park
Chair, Robotic
Steering Committee

The FANTA-SIM robotic simulation tournament came to a successful conclusion. After five grueling games on the gridiron and final "rollercoaster ride" of a sudden death match, Team DaVince Lombardi prevailed and took the trophy! Congratulations to Team DaVince Lombardi, as well as all of the individual competition winners and participants. Below is the breakdown of the standings/scores for the team and individual competitions.

Rank	Team	Score	Members
#1	DaVince Lombardi	2592	Daniel Mohammadi, Malia Brennan, Max Adcox, Lindsay Dickerson, David Drouillard, Dara Horn
#2	Pano_Ramas	2193	Patrick Palines, Panayotis Apokremiotis, Elina Serrano, Annie Yang, Denzel Woode, Jamie Robinson
#3	The Marfo's	2181	Stan Moore, Paul Herman, Daniela Rebollo, Irene Zhang, Chris Marfo, Allison Haruta
#4	What's my name	1079	Andrew Liechty, Arthur Lanoux-Nguyen, Cody McHargue, Frank Yang, Jamie Oh
#5	Medium-Large Clip Appliers	996	Kristin Goodsell, Allen Griffen, Alex Hernandez, Nina Clark, Matias Czerwonko, David Miranda
#6	DJ MK2	661	Jamie Schnuck, Divya Ramakrishnan, Marlie Elia, Mike Weykamp, Kate McNevin, Kevin Labadie

Level	Winner	Runner-up
R1	Panayotis Apokremiotis	-
R2	Max Adcox	Marlie, Elia, Elina Serrano
R3	Lindsay Dickerson	-
R4	David Drouillard	-
R5	Dara Horn	Allison Haruta, Sara Daniel

With the placement of a dual console at Northwest campus, now there will be more opportunities for simulation training there! Stay tuned for details on this fall's simulation Olympics. Additionally, there will be a 4-hour live training session for the R1s and R2s in July. This opportunity will be geared toward formal R1 hands-on bedside training and console training for the R2s so that they can operate at Northwest campus.