

SAM ALNAJJAR

MD



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

- University of Damascus, MD Degree, 1993-2000
- University of Michigan ECMO Lab, 1999-2001
- St. Josephs Mercy Oakland Hospital, Internal Medicine Residency, 2003-2006
- University of Rochester NY, Critical Care Medicine Fellowship, 2006-2008
- University of Rochester School of Business Administration, Master of Medical Management, did not complete due to job relocation, 2007-2009

CERTIFICATIONS

- Board Certified in Internal Medicine, ABIM
- Board Certified in Critical Care, ABIM

SUMMARY

- Critical Care Medicine/Neuro-Critical Care physician able to effectively manage a busy intensive care unit under high-pressure circumstances. (e.g. during the COVID-19 pandemic I took three days off in five months and was able to manage up to 40 patients daily in the ICU with one mid-level provider resulting in an excellent outcome with mortality).
- A team leader versed in medical management, evidence-based practice and hospital-physician collaboration. (e.g. was able to build a 24/7 critical care and neuro-critical provider coverage in less than 3 months and achieved the requirement to be a JCAHO accreditation stroke center and a recently comprehensive stroke center by DNV).
- System architect and implementer (e.g. designed and implemented CODE SEPSIS, CODE WHITE for massive transfusion protocol, and recently working on CODE BRAIN for increased intracranial pressure with collaboration of the neuro team).
- Accomplished educator adept at training multiple clinical disciplines. (e.g. gave sepsis lecture/awareness to more than 1500 Abrazo nurses with a 4.8/5 review).

LEADERSHIP

- ICU Medical Director, Abrazo Cental Campus 2014-Present
- Chair Critical Care Department, Abrazo Central Campus 2018- Present
- Vice Chief of Staff, Abrazo Central Campus 2016-2018
- Board Member, Abrazo Central Campus 2016-2018
- Chair Credential Committee, Abrazo Central Campus 2016-2018
- Physician Improvement Committee, Abrazo Central Campus 2016-2018
- Chair Utilization Management, Abrazo Central Campus 2015-2018
- Chair Medicine Department, Abrazo Central Campus 2014-2016
- Member of Physician Leadership Committee, Abrazo Central Campus 2013-2016
- ICU Medical Director, Abrazo West Campus 2010-2012

- Neurocritical Care Diploma/Certificate
- ENLS Certified

LICENSURE

AZ State Medical License- 41176
NPI- 1972612158

EMPLOYMENT

Critical Care/Neurocritical Care Physician
Right Care Right Now LLC

06/2009 - Current

WORK

AUTHORIZATION

US Citizenship

HIGHLIGHT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Abrazo Central Campus 2012-Present

- Comprehensive Stroke Center DNV accreditation; Neurocritical care is an essential element for accreditation. *2020*
- Thrombectomy Stroke Center JCAHO accreditation; 24/7 Neurocritical care team is a pillar for accreditation. *2018-2020*
- Continuing consistent low mortality rate in ICU from 2012-present. 2019 was top 86% lowest mortality rate based on the Crimson Metric Tile.
- Launched Critical Care After Hours Telemedicine service at ACC shortly before 24/7 Critical Care coverage was implemented. *2018*.
- Created a structured unified reporting system for ICU nurses, referred as the “Yellow Sheet”, to be utilized for daily multi-disciplinary rounds and bed-side report hand-offs. *2019*.
- Built and implemented a cost effective 24/7 Critical Care coverage team utilizing Advanced Practice Providers in less than 2 months to meet hospital demand. *2018*
- Built an Interventional Pulmonary Program by establishing an outpatient lung nodule clinic and by adding a Fellowship trained Interventional Pulmonologist to our team providing patient care both inpatient and outpatient. *2018*
- Founded Central Medical Group for multi-specialty providers. Currently has Pulmonary, Infectious Disease, and Nephrology. *2018*
- Designed and implemented Kanban processes in our group billing system resulting in significant improvement in our revenue cycle. *2018*
- Designed a “Family Journal” for ICU patient families that includes information about the hospital, expectations of the ICU team, time of the intensivists rounds, and information regarding local restaurants surrounding the hospital. This was not fully implemented due to cost and hospital budget at the time. *2015*.
- Improving Leapfrog status for ICU staffing to “A” grade. *2015*.
- Lowest mortality rate in all 77 Tenet facilities for 2014 (8.7%) for DRG 870 (Severe Sepsis with ventilation more than 96 hours with MCC).
- Designed and implemented “Code White” for massive transfusion protocol. *2014*
- Designed and implemented “Code Sepsis” sepsis protocol with Dr. Tim Ryan from the Emergency Department before it was CMS mandated. *2013*

Abrazo West Campus Hospital 2010-2012

- “Critical Care Excellence Award”, Health Grades; only hospital in the 7 hospital Abrazo market with this distinction.
- Improved ICU index and CORE measures; greatest success West Valley Hospital had sustained.
- Reduced mortality by 33% per West Valley ICU discharge, 18% reduction in vent days, zero central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) and

ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) for 2011.

- Sited as a primary area of strength in the American College of Surgeons Initial Evaluation for Trauma ACS Report.
- Established multi-disciplinary rounds (MDR) and family-centric care model allowing family involvement with Critical Care, Abrazo West Campus.
- Decreased TPN days from 460 to 190 days per year.
- Established the only active Critical Care Committee within the region.
- Decreased length of stay.

TEACHING AND EDUCATION

Passion and dedication for teaching and training multiple medical professional audiences.

- **Nurses:** Educated and trained more than 1500 nurses:
 - Protocol implementations: Surviving Sepsis Campaign and massive transfusion protocol.
 - Raise awareness lectures: early recognition for sepsis and early recognition of bleeding.
 - Hands on workshop: rapid transfuser and EVD.
 - Knowledge specific lectures: Subarachnoid hemorrhage and sepsis for new hires.
 - Bedside one on one education: multiple critical care topics.
 - **Residents and medical students:** Educated and trained more than 350 residents and medical students.
 - structure: Learn how to present in sequential chronological way comprehensive system review by organ and create an assessment and a plan for progress notes.
 - Procedures: Hands on teaching of central lines, intubations, and occasionally bronchoscopy.
 - Critical Care topic/lectures: Sepsis, hemodynamics, ventilators, shock, ABG interpretation, increased intracranial pressure, subarachnoid hemorrhage.
 - **Phoenix Fire Department:** Gave sepsis awareness lecture to more than 40% of the Phoenix Fire Department workforce.
 - **Advanced Practice Providers:** Created a multiple tier critical care program for APP. 1- building a knowledge base in critical care such as, board review, additional certifications, and comprehensive one on one critical care topics. 2- learn how to work efficiently and professionally. 3- utilizing critical thinking skills. 4-procedure competency. 5-tolerating working in a high stress environment.
- Now creating a Critical Care Fellowship for APP.
- **Respiratory Therapists:** Continuously educating RT on multiple topics such as

ventilator modes and management, and ABG interpretation.

RESEARCH

- Conducted research on **Hypoglycemia as a Single Mortality Indicator Upon Admission in Septic Patients**. First abstract was presented at the American Thoracic Society Conference in May 2015. Full article was not submitted due to lack of resources.
- **Sleep Apneic Threshold in Induced Hypoxic Patients**, Wayne State University Sleep Lab, Supervisor: M. S. Badr. MD, Sep 2005-Oct 2005
- **Artificial Lung Project**, University of Michigan, ECMO Lab, Research Assistant for Dr. Robert Bartlett, ECMO founder; Results: One paper, two abstracts & approaching clinical trial. Sept 1999- Sep 2001

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Therapeutic Bronchoscopy
- CVC Placement
- Arterial Line Placement
- Chest Tube Placement
- Endotracheal Intubation
- Dialysis Catheter Placement
- Percutaneous Tracheostomy

PUBLISHED WORK

- Haft, Jonathan W., *Alnajjar, Osama*, Bull, Joseph L., Bartlett, Robert H., Hirschl, Ronald B. (11/2005) Effect of Artificial Lung Compliance on Right Ventricular Load. *ASAIO Journal*, Volume: 51(6), 769-772.
- Haft, J.W., *Alnajjar, O.*, Posner, S.R., Bull, J.L., Iannettoni, M.D., Bartlett, R.H., Hirshl, R.B. (12/2001) An Artificial Lung Reduces Pulmonary Impedance and Improves Right Ventricular Efficiency in Pulmonary Hypertension. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg*, Volume: 122(6), 1094-100
- Haft, J., Montoya, J.P., *Alnajjar, O.*, Posner, S., Bull, J., Bartlett, R.H., Iannettoni, M., Hirshl, R.B. (10/2000) Artificial Lung Reduces Pulmonary Input Impedance In Acute Pulmonary Hypertension. *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, Volume: 191, Issue 4, Page S61
- Irwin and Rippe's Intensive Care Medicine, 6th edition book review Respiratory Care OC 208 Vol. 53 N10 1378-1380

CLINICAL ACTIVITIES PRIOR MEDICAL SCHOOL

- Pulmonary rotation at Northwestern University, Dec 1998; with high pass
- Trauma rotation at University of Michigan, Nov 1998; with high pass
- Surgical ICU rotation at University of Michigan, Oct 1998; with high pass
- Neurosurgery rotation at University of Michigan, Sep 1998; with high pass
- Cardiology rotation at Penn State University, Aug 1998; with high pass

HOBBIES

- During the COVID-19 pandemic I developed a rapidly assembled and cost effective ventilator with a agile software and mobile application that allows remote ventilator management.
- Building Cabinets/woodwork

REFERENCES

- Available upon request