Kristy l. Chovanec

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# Education

**BS** Duquesne University, Rangos School of Health Sciences, Pittsburgh, PA August 2015

* + Major: Health Sciences
  + Overall GPA: 3.71

**Honors:**

* + Cum Laude Graduate
  + Deans’ List: 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2014-2015
  + Academic Scholarship recipient

# Research and Professional Experience

**UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh-** **Hematology/Oncology**, Pittsburgh, PA

**Clinical Research Coordinator** April 2022- Present

* Coordinate multiple federally funded and industry sponsored clinical trials
* Prepare regulatory documentation and create IRB submissions

**UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh-** **Hematology/Oncology**, Pittsburgh, PA

**Clinical Research Assistant** March 2020- April 2022

* Administered research protocols for pediatric Hematology studies
* Facilitated regulatory compliance in department clinical trials

**Esophageal and Lung Institute**, West Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA Feb. 2018 to March 2020

**Associate Clinical Research Coordinator**

* Coordinated data collection and interpretation for multiple clinical research studies
* Managed department database and actively tracked surgical patient populations

**Esophageal and Lung Institute**, West Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA Nov. 2016 to Feb. 2018

**Abstractor**

* Abstracted diagnostic variables and surgical details from the EMR for analysis
* Contacted patients for post-operative quality of life assessments

**Michael P. Weber Learning Skills Center**, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA 2010 to 2013

**Academic Coach**

* Developed daily lesson plans for students at various after school programs
* Assisted students experiencing academic difficulties

# Publications

## Journal Publications

Ayazi S, Chowdhury N, Zaidi A, Chovanec K, Komatsu Y, Omstead A, Zheng P, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Magnetic sphincter augmentation (MSA) in patients with hiatal hernia: clinical outcome and patterns of recurrence,” Surgical Endoscopy, 2019. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s00464-019-06950-4

Ayazi S, Zheng P, Zaidi A, Chovanec K, Chowdhury N, Salvitti M, Komatsu Y, Omstead A, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation and Postoperative Dysphagia: Characterization, Clinical Risk Factors, and Management,” Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, 2019.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s11605-019-04331-9

Ayazi S, Zaidi A, Zheng P, Chovanec K, Chowdhury N, Salvitti M, Newhams K, Levy J, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Comparison of Surgical Payer Costs and Implication on the Healthcare Expenses between Laparoscopic Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation (MSA) and Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication (LNF) in a Large Healthcare System,” Surgical Endoscopy, 2019.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s00464-019-07021-4

Ayazi S, Zheng P, Zaidi A, Chovanec K, Salvitti M, Newhams K, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Clinical Outcome and Predictors of Favorable Result after Laparoscopic Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation: Single Institution Experience with over 500 Patients,” Journal of the American College of Surgeons, 2020.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2020.01.026

## Published Abstracts

Newhams K, Meslang A, Alleyne A, Martin S, Chovanec K, Jackson P, Smith E, Zaidi A, Jobe B, “Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation Improves Lower Esophageal Sphincter Pressure while Maintaining Esophageal Function,” Gastroenterology, Volume 154, Issue 6, 2018, p. S-1320. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(18)34322-1

Newhams K, Meslang A, Alleyne A, Martin S, Chovanec K, Jackson P, Smith E, Zaidi A, Jobe B, “Improvements in Quality of Life and Objective Patient Characteristics are Seen after Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation,” Gastroenterology, Volume 154, Issue 6, 2018, p. S-1304. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(18)34272-0

Ayazi S, Zaidi A, Zheng P, Chovanec K, Salvitti M, Omstead A, Shen X, Komatsu Y, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Impact of Hiatal Hernia Status on Manometric Characteristics of the Lower Esophageal Sphincter (LES) and Esophageal Body Function,” Gastroenterology, Volume 156, Issue 6, 2019, p. S-1412. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(19)40581-7

Ayazi S, Chovanec K, Zheng P, Zaidi A, Omstead A, Alleyne A, Newhams K, Scott T, Levy J, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation in Management of Patients with Laryngopharyngeal Reflux (LPR) and Predictors of Favorable Outcome,” Gastroenterology, Volume 156, Issue 6, 2019, p. S-1389. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(19)40508-8

Ayazi S, Zaidi A, Zheng P, Chovanec K, Komatsu Y, Omstead A, Salvitti M, Hoppo T, Newhams K, Jobe B, “Predictors of Persistent Dysphagia After Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation,” Gastroenterology, Volume 156, Issue 6, 2019, p. S-1401.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(19)40544-1

AyaziS, Chovanec K, GoodmanB, HabibF, ZaidiA, JobeB, “Thermal Injury from Radiofrequency Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation as Risk Factor for Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Case Report,” Gastroenterology, Volume 156, Issue 6, 2019, p. S-1487.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(19)40794-4

Ayazi S, Schoppmann S, Schwameis K, Zheng P, Nikolic M, Matic A, Zaidi A, Chovanec K, Jobe B, “Development and External Validation of a Nomogram for Prediction of a Favorable Outcome after Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation: A Multicenter Study,” Gastroenterology, Volume 158, Issue 6, 2020, p. S-1505. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(20)34431-0

Schwameis K, Chovanec K, Ayazi S, Zaidi A, Shen X, Jobe B, “Type II Achalasia in a Patient with Systemic Scleroderma (SSC): An Unusual Coexistence,” Gastroenterology, Volume 158, Issue 6, 2020, p.S-1556. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(20)34572-8

Ayazi S, Schwameis K, Zheng P, Zaidi A, Chovanec K, Salvitti M, Shen X, Grubic A, Newhams K, Hoppo T, Jobe B, “Impact of Delayed Gastric Emptying on the Outcome of Magnetic Sphincter Augmentation,” Gastroenterology, Volume 158, Issue 6, 2020, p. S-1508.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-5085(20)34440-1

# Conference Presentations & Awards

**Poster Presentation**, “Thermal Injury from Radiofrequency Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation as Risk Factor for Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Case Report.” Presented by Kristy Chovanec at Digestive Disease Week, on May 21, 2019 in San Diego, CA.

**Award Recipient,** “Outstanding Research Support.” Presented to Kristy Chovanec by The Children’s Sickle Cell Foundation in Pittsburgh, PA, on September 23, 2023.

# Professional certifications

**Basic Life Support (CPR and AED) Provider**, American Heart Association, February 2023

* Trained to recognize and deliver care in life-threatening emergencies

**Microsoft Excel Certification**, Pryor Learning Solutions, Pittsburgh, PA, Feb. 6-7, 2019

* Instructed on Excel basic and advanced functions

**Mental Health Champion Certificate Program,** University of Pittsburgh, Summer Session 2023

* Educated in promoting culturally responsive care and support to those experiencing mental health crises

# Skills & Abilities

**Communication**

* Train and mentor health care personnel about protocols and ensure protocol adherence
* Recruit and instruct subjects on research requirements and procedures
* Establish correspondence with staff at multiple clinic sites

**Computer Skills**

* Electronic Medical Record: build reports for procedures and gather extensive data from patient charts
* Microsoft: create and continually update workbooks in Excel for various studies and patient cohorts
* Databases: maintained department Microsoft SQL server and contribute to other online EDC’s

**Languages**

* English: Native Language
* Spanish: Advanced Listener and Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing

# Volunteer work

**Community Outreach:**

**Lions Clubs International-** Pittsburgh, PA

* Serve in local projects aiding the disabled and the youth 2022- present

**Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank-** Pittsburgh, PA 2020- present

* Distribute food to families in various communities

**Society of St. Vincent DePaul** -Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA 2012, 2013

* Served meals to the homeless in downtown Pittsburgh

**No Walls Homeless Ministry**- Pittsburgh, PA 2011, 2012

* Provided necessities for those living in poverty throughout the city

**Spiritan Campus Ministry**- Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA 2010-2012

* Attended mission trip and conferences for social justice reform

**St. Vincent DePaul Family Kitchen**, Johnstown, PA 2008, 2009

* Prepared food and spent time with those in need

**Patient Care:**

**Esophageal Cancer Support Network**, Pittsburgh, PA 2019

* Identified patients for a support group and provided resources for them

**Patient Advocacy Initiatives**, Johnstown, PA 2016

* Participated in creating online series dedicated to patient advocacy

**Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center**, Johnstown, PA 2011

* Delivered essentials to patients and assisted patients/nurses

**Shadowing Experience** 2009, 2017-present

* Observed PA’s and physicians in clinical, operative, and inpatient settings of various specialties