

Clinical Research

Summer 2025

NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Orthopaedic Research Society (ORS)

Abstract submission deadline: August 25, 2025

[Click this link for details](#)

Annual Meeting: March 27-31, 2026, Charlotte, NC

[Click this link for details](#)

NYS Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons

Abstract submission deadline: July 31, 2025

[Click this link for details](#)

Annual Meeting: September 6, 2025, Verona, NY

SAVE THE DATE!

Summer Research Program Final Presentations

Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Location: ECMC Smith Auditorium

Picnic celebration to follow

Medical Student Publishing Discounts and Waivers

[Click this link for details](#)

WELCOME NEW RESEARCH INTERNS!



Tess DeCicco, BS
Clinical Research Intern

Tess graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelors of Science in Biomedical Engineering. She has done research with SUNY Upstate Medical University and Upstate Orthopedics on an orthopaedic plate design project for four years and has presented her work at ORS and published in the *Journal of Medical Devices*. She also has research experience in a bioengineering lab focusing on osteoarthritis drug delivery methods and mechanobiology of hydrogels for cell differentiation applications. Tess previously worked with UBMD Orthopaedics as a Medical Assistant in Dr. Gurske's office.

Presently, Tess works with the CPR outreach program, Sports Medicine, Pediatrics, and Joints research teams. Her primary studies are the KARAT Knee Arthroplasty Clinical Trial and a study on conversion of unicompartmental knee arthroplasty to TKA.



Nico Buksic, BS
Clinical Research Intern

Nico graduated from Daemen University with a Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry. His undergraduate research focused on using quantum mechanical computational models to characterize the non-covalent interaction energies between ruthenium-based compounds and DNA, with the broader goal of improving our understanding of their interactions and advancing the development of more selective chemotherapeutics. He presented this work at the National MERCURY Consortium Conference. Outside of medicine and research, he is deeply committed to community service and regularly volunteers at the Buffalo City Mission.

Presently, Nico works with the CPR outreach program, Sports Medicine, and Joints research teams. His primary studies are the KARAT Knee Arthroplasty Clinical Trial and Knee Expectancy and Credibility study.

UBMD ORTHOPAEDICS RESEARCH DEPARTMENT 2024-2025 STUDY HIGHLIGHTS

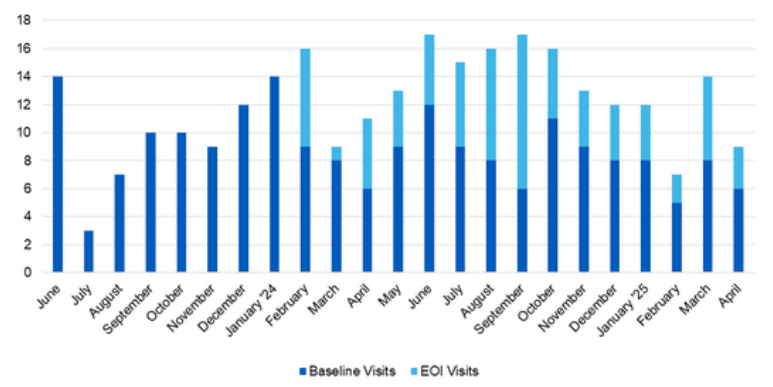
KArAT - Knee Arthroplasty Activity Trial (NIH Funded Multicenter Study) in Conjunction with Harvard (2022-2027)

Investigators: Dr. S. Rachala (PI), Dr. A. Stegemann, & Dr. S. Pavlesen

Team: A. Streicher (RC), G. Germano (RA), T. DeCicco (RI), and N. Buksic (RI)

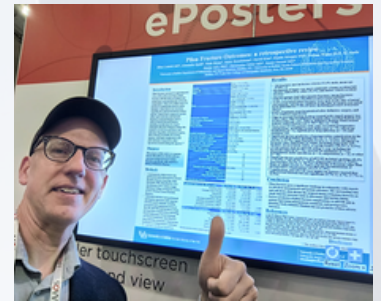
- Total of 150 patients randomized
- Over 300 visits completed by Buffalo team (since 5/2023)

KArAT Baseline and End of Intervention Visits, June 2023 - April 2025



UBMD is a multicenter lead on several Trauma Studies

- GOLD-FEM
- Bicondylar Tibial Plateau Fractures
- Pilon Fractures

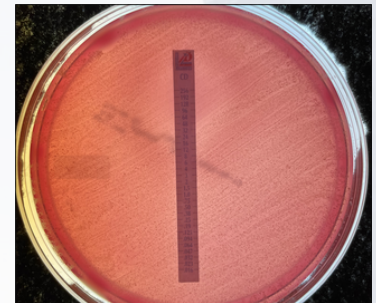


Identify characteristics of *C. acnes* from shoulder infections predicting clinical virulence (2018 International Consensus Meeting shoulder periprosthetic joint infection criteria)

Evaluating 200 new *C. acnes* samples for:

- Evidence of hemolysis
- Aerotolerance
- Acid production
- Antibiotic resistance
- Biofilm formation

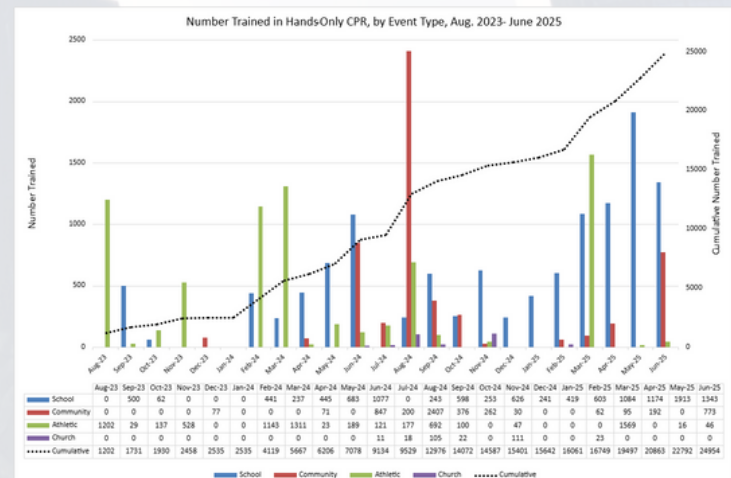
Received over \$30,000 in grant funding for this work



Hemolytic *C. Acnes* strain with strong clindamycin resistance

UBMD Orthopaedics Hands-Only CPR Outreach and Education Training Program

- Nearly 25,000 community members trained in hands-only CPR
- 247 training events have been held at schools, churches, community events, and athletic events
- 178 American Heart Association instructors trained to do community-engaged work



Questions, Comments, or Suggestions? Contact Us!

Andrea Carland | icarland@buffalo.edu or 716-906-5932