

Abdominal Transplant Fellowship



Jean Botha, MD

Dr. Botha has over 20 years of surgical expertise in transplant surgery. He completed his fellowship at the University of Nebraska where he went on to serve as the Director of Hepatobiliary Surgery as well as Director of Living Donor Liver Transplant. He is currently an Associate Professor of Surgery at Faculty of Health Sciences, the largest liver transplant program in South Africa with living liver transplant volumes that exceed most US liver programs. Dr. Botha relocated to Salt Lake where he serves as the Program and Surgical Director of Abdominal Transplant Services and will be heading the Intermountain Abdominal Transplant Fellowship Program.



Philippe Paci, MD

Dr. Paci is originally from Montreal, Canada, where he completed medical school and general surgery residency at McGill University. During his residency, he also earned a Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He completed his multi-organ abdominal transplant fellowship training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He subsequently joined the Intermountain Transplant Services and currently serves as the surgical director for the Kidney-Pancreas Transplant Program. He is board certified in general surgery by both the American Board of Surgery and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. His research interests revolve around clinical outcomes, as he is actively involved in the abdominal NRP and NMP programs. In his time off, he enjoys playing tennis with his wife Justine. Along with their baby boy, they enjoy good food and traveling.



Alan Contreras, MD

Dr. Contreras was born in Mexico City and earned his medical degree at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He then completed his postdoctoral studies at Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School. During that time, he received a Fellowship Award in Transplantation from the American Society of Transplant Surgeons. He completed his fellowship as abdominal transplant surgeon at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and then joined as Faculty to the Recanati/Miller Transplantation Institute for several years until his return to Mexico, when he joined the National Autonomous University of Mexico and helped to build what is now the largest liver transplantation center in the country. He and his wife Maria have three girls and are excited to be here in Utah.



Ivan Zendejas, MD

Dr. Zendejas was born in Mexico City and earned his degree at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He then completed his general surgery residency training in Mexico City at Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Medicas and a transplant clerkship at the University of Alabama in 2006. His general surgery chief residence, abdominal transplant and hepatobiliary surgery fellowship were completed at the University of Florida in 2008. Dr. Zendejas was appointed assistant professor of surgery in the division of transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery at the same institution until 2016. He is board certified surgeon in general surgery by the American Board of Surgery. He is a member of the American society of Transplant Surgeons and the American Hepato-pancreato-biliary Association. He and his wife Gaby enjoy concerts and outdoor activities with their three kids.



Brian Cook, MD

Dr. Cook grew up in California where he earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He then attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Cook completed both his general surgery residency and abdominal transplant surgery fellowship- at the University of Washington in Seattle and is certified by the American Board of Surgery. He relocated to Salt Lake City with his wife and daughter where he practices and is passionate about transplant, hepatobiliary, and general surgery.



Sydney Sloan, Fellowship Coordinator

Sydney grew up in North Carolina and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Healthcare Administration from Brigham Young University Idaho. Upon graduating, she worked as a healthcare recruiter where she placed international physicians and nurses with major medical organizations across the United States such as Fresenius and DaVita. Working with teams that specialize in kidney care and dialysis lead her to investigate working in transplant. She relocated to Salt Lake City and currently supports the Abdominal Transplant executives and serves as the fellowship coordinator.