



*Accreditation Period: 2025 - 2028*

## DANBURY HOSPITAL DANBURY, CONNECTICUT



**LINUS T. CHUANG, MD, MPH, MS**  
Program Director



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Associate Program Director



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Associate Program Director

### **FACULTY**

Leslie Andriani, MD  
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Erin Panarelli, MD  
Andrea Russo, MD

## **TWO YEAR PROGRAM**



2-Year Program			
Optional Degrees: <input type="checkbox"/> MPH <input type="checkbox"/> MBA <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Number of Faculty			
	GYN Faculty: 2	UROGYN Faculty: 1	
	REI Faculty: 1	ONCOLOGY Faculty: 2	
	GU Faculty: 1	General Surgery Faculty: 1	
	Colorectal Faculty: 1	Other:	
Residency Program Affiliation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Computer Simulation Center: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Training Labs			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cadaver lab	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Lab	<input type="checkbox"/> None
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dry Lab	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotics	
Office Surgery: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Contract/Agreement Letter: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
	Stipend PGY-5 or 6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Resident Teaching <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Benefit Package: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	OB obligation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	If yes, please describe obligation. On call one weekend a month		
	Junior Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Attending Privileges <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Moonlighting: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Non-compete clause: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
	Malpractice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Meeting support: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Malpractice tail coverage: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Other coverage obligations- specify:	
Accept J1 & H1Visa applicants <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Dedicated Research Hours: Hours/per week: 4			
Hours/per month: 16			
Protected Academic: Hours/per week: 4			
Hours/per month: 16			
Clinical Focus/Special Interest			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Surgery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oncology	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Endometriosis/Pelvic Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Pelvic Reconstruction	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robotic Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric/Adolescent	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hysteroscopic Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

## **Program Description:**

The overall goal of the Fellowship is for the graduate to serve as an independent specialist and consultant in the surgical management and techniques of advanced benign minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, surpassing the competence expected at the end of a categorical residency. Graduates will provide top quality patient care and education, and be leaders and innovators in gynecologic minimally invasive surgery and in the treatment of advanced gynecologic disorders such as uterine fibroids, pelvic pain, endometriosis, pelvic organ prolapse, urinary incontinence, and menopausal care management. They will have a broad understanding of advanced gynecologic disorders, especially ones that often end in a surgical intervention. In addition, they will have gained extensive surgical and clinical expertise that focuses not only on laparoscopic surgery but also on advanced abdominal and vaginal surgery. They will have gained an excellent understanding of research methodology and evidence-based practice principles.

Fellow progress is monitored during the entire 2-year period. The graduating fellow is expected to become fully proficient in the following areas: management of complex benign and preinvasive gynecologic disease requiring surgical intervention; advanced knowledge of surgical techniques and equipment, pelvic anatomy and surgical outcomes. The fellowship will also focus on gaining expertise in robotic and traditional laparoscopic and hysteroscopic techniques. In addition, each fellow is expected to perform research which results in a thesis that meets board-certified requirements.

## **Research**

A portion of the program will be devoted to clinical and/or laboratory research and fellows must conduct at least one research project under the guidance of a faculty who can mentor them in clinical research relevant to minimally invasive gynecology. The faculty consists of board certified and fellowship-trained specialists in the following areas: Gynecologic Oncology, Reproductive Endocrinology, Urogynecology, Colorectal Surgery and Minimally Invasive Surgery.

## **Rotations**

While rotating on the inpatient gynecology service, the fellow will act in a supervisory role in patient care, clinical decision making, and resident physician management. They will also run morning teaching rounds on a daily basis and will actively supervise and contribute to patient management. On this service, they will also staff inpatient consults as well as preoperative and postoperative care under attending supervision. Additionally, fellows gain experience with frequent, active educational activities for residents and students. They will be primarily responsible for weekly Gynecologic Oncology Rounds, which will involve a curriculum containing a variety of simulation, didactic, and journal club activities.

In addition, they will obtain experience treating complex gynecologic problems in a nonsurgical manner including refractory abnormal uterine bleeding, cervical dysplasia, endometrial pathology, adnexal masses, and chronic pelvic pain. Additionally, fellows gain experience and become comfortable with office procedures including simple and complex hysteroscopy.

Fellows will gain ample experience with preoperative counseling and preoperative decision making as well as surgical aspects of reproductive endocrinology, including complex uterine pathology and Müllerian anomalies.

Each rotation will have approximately two days each week dedicated to operative experience. They will obtain sufficient breadth and depth of gynecologic cases to encompass a wide array of pathology, operative techniques and clinical competencies. They will also obtain experience

in teaching residents and students appropriate surgical skills based on the level and experience of the fellow.

They will also have the opportunity to evaluate and help manage complex benign gynecologic surgery patients in addition to those with malignancy and pelvic floor disorders. Patients will be seen longitudinally both preoperatively and postoperatively. Surgical experience will include retroperitoneal dissection, ureterolysis, advanced laparoscopic surgeries, cystoscopy and vaginal surgeries.

Fellows will gain experience by participating in laparoscopic hysterectomies performed for a variety of conditions. These cases will occur 5-10 times weekly. Cases will include standard laparoscopic hysterectomy for abnormal uterine bleeding, fibroids, or adenomyosis, but will also include complex hysterectomies with concurrent adhesive disease, endometriosis, and rare pathology. Laparoscopic myomectomies occur approximately 3-5 times weekly and will be performed using both standard laparoscopy and robotic assistance. These cases range from simple to very complex.

### **Robotics**

A substantial portion of laparoscopic hysterectomies, myomectomies, and lysis of adhesions/endometriosis surgeries are performed robotically, which the fellow participates in nearly all cases.

Our expert surgeons excel at using advanced technology to perform minimally invasive procedures. Our faculty has been recognized for excellence in laparoscopic techniques performed in many surgical specialties including weight loss, colorectal, and general surgical procedures.

For robotic surgery, we use the latest, most advanced robotic technology available, the da Vinci surgical system. We are committed to staying at the forefront of innovation, equipping our surgeons with sophisticated technology so they can offer innovative surgical procedures here in our community. Our da Vinci surgical system gives surgeons better visualization and tools that improve dexterity. With more control, surgeons can operate with greater precision. Our doctors use this advanced technology to perform a wide range of procedures, including single-incision robotic surgery.