

MVBPS
MOST VALUABLE BARIATRIC PROFESSIONALS
OF THE VIRGINIA BARIATRIC SOCIETY 2024

Acknowledging team members who go above and beyond for their patients and their teams.



LEILA ISLAM

Program: VCU Health

Position: Psychologist

Dr. Islam is attentive, dedicated, and willing to go the extra mile to support the VCU patients and team.

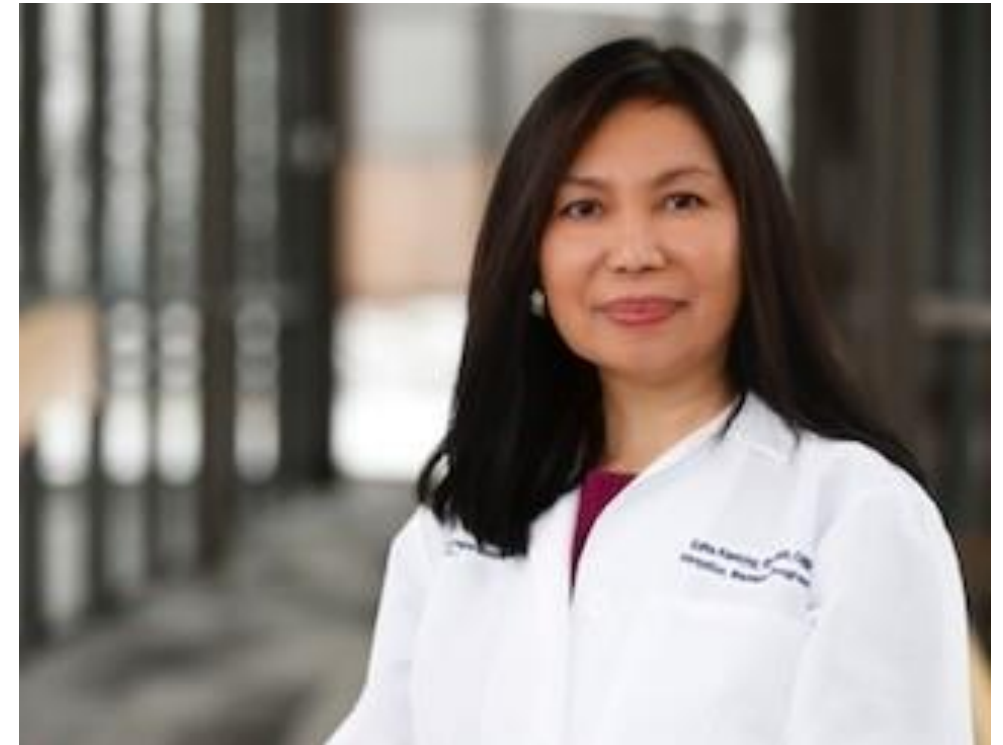


EDITA KANTZLER

Program: Advanced Surgical Partners of Virginia

Position: Certified Bariatric Nurse

Edita exemplifies the core principles of the certified bariatric nurse. She leads by example and sets a high standard for the entire interdisciplinary team. She developed a performance improvement initiative and implements strategies. She enhances education with all the staff and implemented morning rounds education. She extended education to other supporting services like pharmacy. She leads the case review process that has helped improve patient care. She enhances support group and advocates for MBS within HCA.



JESSICA ROBINSON

Program: Sentara

Position: Medical Assistant

Jessica has shown tremendous commitment to our program at Martha Jefferson Hospital. She has been exemplarily in providing excellent patient care. She has been more than capable in taking on two of our busiest surgeons. She is reliable, efficient, and allows our surgeons to provide the best care for our patients. Additionally, she has taken on further roles including our backup clinical reviewer, as well as performing more duties with patient education regarding nutrition management due to our lack of an in-house dietitian over the past many months. She is an invaluable asset to our team.

TRICIA GOINS

Program: Central Virginia VA Healthcare System

Position: Program Coordinator, Certified Bariatric Nurse

Tricia is our coordinator. Her dedication to our program is evident through her tireless work ethic and ability to seamlessly fill multiple roles no matter how big or small. Tricia consistently goes above and beyond, ensuring that every aspect of the program runs smoothly and effectively. Her ability to juggle multiple responsibilities with competence and passion truly sets her apart.



LISA METTS

Program: West Virginia University

Position: Clinical Nurse Coordinator

Lisa goes above and beyond to ensure patients receive prompt and thorough care. She organizes team bonding and culture enhancing experiences such as potlucks and birthday celebrations.



VICTORIA SULANKE

Program: VCU Health

Position: Bariatric Coordinator

Victoria is exceptionally dedicated to the VCU program and patients. She works tirelessly to get patients through the program managing barriers as they come. Victoria is a vital force, and we are lucky to work with her.

ROBYN ROHRIG

Program: Carilion Clinic

Position: Dietitian

Robyn is an integral part of our metabolic team at Carilion Clinic. As our head registered dietitian, she oversees all of our preoperative inpatient and postoperative bariatric patients. She has impeccable bedside manner. She provides guidance and thoughtful considerations for our patients and treating each patient as an individual. We are so lucky to have her as part of our team.

BARBARA BAYNARD

Program: Advanced Surgical Partners of Virginia

Position: Physician Assistant

Barbara has exceptional critical thinking and clinical skills. She provides acute triage and develops plans of care that are essential to our patient outcomes. She developed and implemented a system for immediate post-op hydration to reduce ER visits and improve patient outcomes. She ensures that patients have same day appointments to reduce barriers and allow for early intervention. Our program could not provide the high level of care without her. Her leadership and teamwork are essential to our program.



TINA PENALOSA
&
KIMBERLY WILSON

Program: Sentara

Position: Physician Assistant
Dietitian

KIMBERLY WILSON, RD



TINA PENALOSA, PA



NICOLE HEGBERG

Program: Central Virginia VA Healthcare System

Position: Psychologist

Dr. Hegberg combines her extensive expertise with a remarkable willingness to help others, always stepping in to support colleagues and patients alike. Her commitment to the program not only enhances patient outcomes but also fosters a collaborative and positive environment within our team.



JACQUELINE BROWNING

Program: Bon Secours/Assessment and Therapy Associates

Position: Dietitian

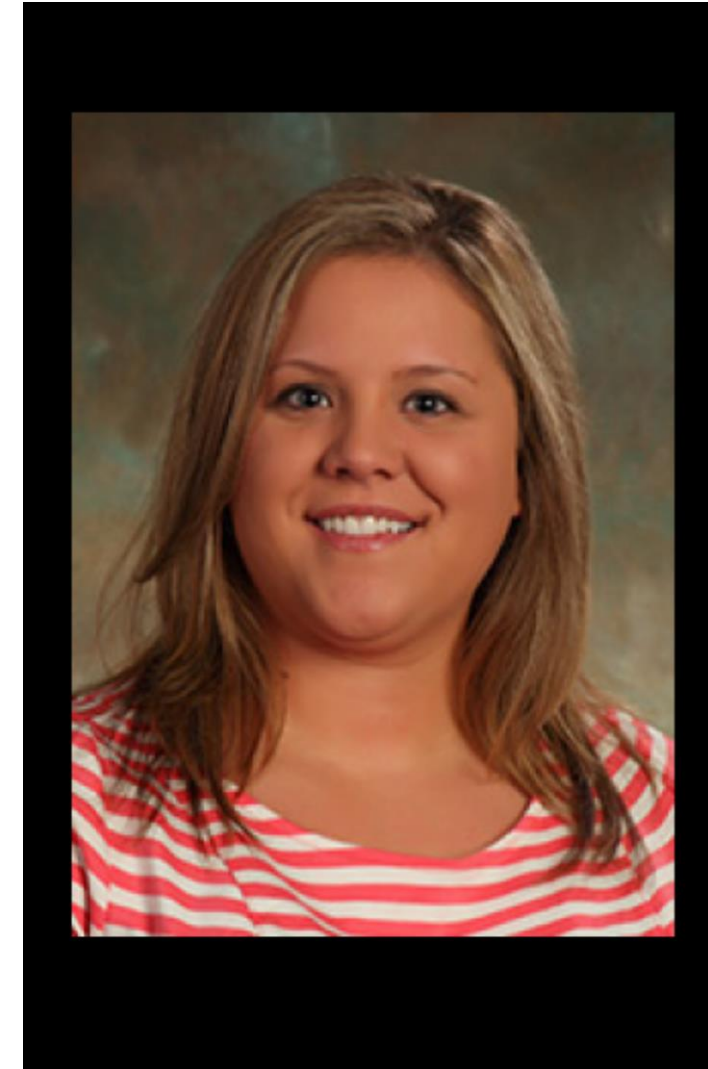
Jackie is one of the kindest, non-judgmental, and experienced dietitians with whom I have worked. Patients love her and feel supported at all times. She is knowledgeable and a team player.

LAUREN BAKER

Program: Carilion Clinic

Position: Nurse Practitioner

Lauren is one of our nurse practitioners and all the patients love her. She goes above and beyond to help patients through the process and helps them get ready for surgery and stay on track afterwards.



KATIE GEORGE

Program: University of Virginia

Position: Nurse Practitioner

Katie is a key team member of the UVA Obesity Medicine program. She specializes in treating patients living with obesity. She has a high level of compassion for patients struggling with obesity and finds the work very rewarding. She consistently has exceptional patient satisfaction scores with one patient stating, “Katie was fantastic. She is very empathetic and clear about my plan.” She is a member of the Obesity Medicine Association and is currently working towards advanced certification in obesity medicine.

