

Center for the Aging Brain

About the Center for the Aging Brain

Montefiore's newly launched Center for the Aging Brain is a collaborative effort between Montefiore and Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The Center for the Aging Brain capitalizes on the Integrated Divisions of Cognitive & Motor Aging in the Department of Neurology and Geriatrics, and the Department of Medicine.

The Center offers treatments based on advanced research and studies into the aging brain, drawing upon the expertise of clinicians in the fields of geriatrics, neurology, rehabilitation medicine, neuropsychology and psychiatry. The Center serves as a one-stop shop for comprehensive care for illnesses and quality-of-life issues associated with aging. The Center combines esteemed physicians in all disciplines to enable geriatric patients to be evaluated by a multidisciplinary team of specialists on aging.

The Center for the Aging Brain is under the direction of world-renowned neurologist Joseph Verghese, MB, MS, Professor, Neurology and Medicine; Chief, Integrated Divisions of Cognitive & Motor Aging (Neurology) and Geriatrics (Medicine); and Director, Resnick Gerontology Center, Einstein.

Our Staff

DIRECTOR

Joe Verghese, MB, MS, Director, Center for the Aging Brain

Dr. Verghese is Professor, Neurology and Medicine; Chief, Integrated Divisions of Cognitive & Motor Aging (Neurology) and Geriatrics (Medicine), Montefiore; and Director, Resnick Gerontology Center, Einstein. A world-renowned, board-certified neurologist, Dr. Verghese has published more than 140 articles in the nation's top medical journals, such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA* and *Neurology*.

After graduating from St. John's Medical College in Bangalore, India, Dr. Verghese trained in internal medicine and neurology in the United Kingdom. Upon completing his neurology residency at Einstein, he received fellowship training in neurophysiology at Montefiore and in aging and dementia at Einstein. Dr. Verghese is a recipient of the Beeson Award from the National Institute on Aging and the Outstanding Scientific Achievement for Clinical Investigation Award from the American Geriatrics Society. His research focuses on the effects of disease and aging on mobility and cognition in older adults.



ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Jessica Leigh Zwerling, MD, MS, Associate Director, Neurology, Center for the Aging Brain

Dr. Zwerling is Director, Clinical Neurology, Einstein Aging Study, which is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and Director, Memory Disorders Center, Montefiore and Einstein. In addition, Dr. Zwerling is Director of the Geriatric Neurology Clerkship and Fellowship at Einstein. After finishing her residency and chief residency in neurology at Einstein, Dr. Zwerling also completed the Electromyography (EMG)/Neuromuscular Fellowship and an NIH Fellowship in Aging/Dementia at Einstein. She has received a grant from The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc., to develop a care coordination model in the Memory Disorders Center. Dr. Zwerling is a board-certified neurologist and neuromuscular specialist with expertise in aging.

Elizabeth M. Clark, MD, Associate Director, Center for the Aging Brain

Dr. Clark is Director, Geriatric Palliative Care, Division of Geriatric Medicine, Montefiore, and Associate Professor, Clinical Medicine, Einstein. She is board-certified in internal medicine, geriatric medicine, and hospice and palliative medicine.

A graduate of Harvard's Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study and New York Medical College, she completed her internal medicine residency training at Montefiore. As a clinician educator, Dr. Clark has been instrumental in the development of both clinical and clinical educational programs in a variety of settings to improve the care of older adults and those with life-limiting disease. She has spoken at local, national and international geriatrics and palliative meetings. Her areas of interest include: advance care planning, comprehensive geriatric assessment, dementia, medical ethics, palliative care for chronic disease and the education of non-specialty-trained frontline providers in geriatrics and palliative care.

We offer a fully staffed team of geriatricians on site.

Faculty

Howard L. Geyer, MD, PhD, Neurology

Dr. Geyer is Director, Division of Movement Disorders, Montefiore, and Assistant Professor, Neurology, Einstein. He received his MD and PhD degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. He was chief resident in Neurology at Montefiore, where he also completed a fellowship in clinical neurophysiology. He completed an additional fellowship in movement disorders at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Geyer regularly lectures and contributes to book chapters and journal articles on a variety of neurologic topics.

Daniel Antoniello, MD, Neurology

Dr. Antoniello is a board-certified stroke neurologist and behavioral neurologist. He completed his vascular neurology training at Columbia University, and he received training in cognitive neurology at the University of Florida. Dr. Antoniello specializes in the clinical care of stroke patients and cognition disorders. Dr. Antoniello is a dedicated clinician-educator who has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles and presents his work nationally.

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Alessandra Scalmati, MD, PhD, and Mirnova E. Ceide, MD, Psychiatry

Drs. Scalmati and Ceide have a breadth of experience working with patients, their families, other physicians and community-based agencies to address the needs of persons experiencing psychiatric symptoms associated with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. They are listed among the Best Doctors in *New York Magazine* and have extensive responsibilities for training the next generation of doctors to care for older Americans at Einstein.

David M. Masur, PhD, ABPP, Neuropsychology

Dr. Masur, Director, Neuropsychology, Neurology, Montefiore, is a board-certified neuropsychologist with 25 years of experience in the evaluation of children and adults for diagnostic and forensic issues. In addition to maintaining a private practice, Dr. Masur is Clinical Professor, Neurology, Einstein, and Professor, Psychology, Ferkauf Graduate School, Einstein. He lectures on topics in neuropsychology to both physicians and graduate students. Dr. Masur has published manuscripts in areas ranging from epilepsy to dementia, and he is currently a co-investigator on two NIH-funded projects examining the relationship between epilepsy and cognitive disorders.

Roee Holtzer, PhD, Neuropsychology

Dr. Holtzer is Associate Professor, Psychology, Ferkauf Graduate School, Einstein. He holds MA and PhD degrees from the State University of New York at Binghamton. Dr. Holtzer completed his internship training in clinical psychology at the Rusk Institute of New York University's Langone Medical Center. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology and cognition in aging at the cognitive neuroscience division of the Sergievsky Center of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Holtzer is Director, Clinical Psychology with Health Emphasis PhD Program, Einstein. He is a recipient of the Beeson Award from the National Institute on Aging. He serves as principal investigator and investigator on a number of NIH, foundation and industry grants. Dr. Holtzer's current research utilizes a multi-level, theory-driven method integrating clinical, cognitive neuroscience and genetic approaches to identify predictors of mobility decline and disability in aging.

Huma H. Naqvi, MD, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Dr. Naqvi, Assistant Professor, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Einstein and Director, Geriatric/Subacute Rehabilitation, is actively involved in resident and fellow teaching and training. Dr. Naqvi is certified in wound care and acupuncture for pain management. In addition, she serves the older adult population for pain and functional-related issues.

Her research interests are electrical stimulation for wound care and global health initiatives. Dr. Navqi received grant funding for her global health project in Baghdad, Iraq, and she travels to Iraq to educate and train physicians and therapists on new rehabilitation techniques and interventions.

Services

NEUROLOGICAL SERVICES

The Center for the Aging Brain draws upon the expertise of Montefiore's Department of Neurology. Patients will receive treatment from renowned physicians affiliated with the following Montefiore centers and programs:

- The Aging and Dementia Program
- The Sleep Wake Disorders Center
- The Headache Center
- The Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Clinical Care and Research Center
- The Neuromuscular Disorder Center

GERIATRIC SERVICES

The Center offers outstanding geriatric consultative care as part of Montefiore's unique approach in caring for older adults facing a variety of age-specific syndromes that can interfere with their health and ability to remain active members of their communities.

Our team of board-certified geriatricians works closely with the Center's neurologists, as well as with patients' primary care physicians, subspecialists and caregivers, to develop comprehensive geriatric care plans. Social work and nursing consultation are also available as needed.

Older patients with any of the following problems may benefit from a geriatric consultation:

- Difficulties managing complex medical regimens
- Multiple hospitalizations
- Late-stage kidney disease
- Forgetfulness/dementia
- Failure to thrive
- Functional decline
- Falls
- Pain
- Suspected neglect or abuse
- Other concerns of primary care physician, neurologist, subspecialist, patient or family

PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

The Center for the Aging Brain is staffed with clinicians from Montefiore's nationally recognized Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. The Department combines a unique blend of esteemed physicians, a renowned clinical team, and exceptional educational and research resources to help patients cope with mental health disorders. In addition to providing caregiver support, the Center provides patients with evaluation and treatment of disorders that are common among the elderly, including:

- Depression
- Cognitive-behavioral disorders (such as panic disorders, phobias, obsessivecompulsive disorders, post-traumatic stress, hoarding and delusional disorders)
- Memory disorders

Center for the Aging Brain

The Center accepts most forms of insurance.

We are easily accessible by car or public transportation. Garage parking is available on-site.

We are located at:

Center for the Aging Brain 6 Executive Plaza Suite 297 Yonkers, New York 10701 914-375-4880



www.montefiore.org/aging-brain





Montefiore, the University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is recognized among the top hospitals nationally and regionally by *U.S. News & World Report*.