

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Fellowship Faculty Profiles



Sean McAvoy, MD

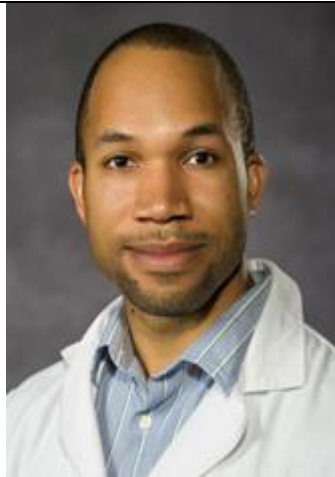
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU

Program Director, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine

Staff Physician, Richmond VA Medical Center

Program Director, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Fellowship

Dr. McAvoy is an Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health System and a Staff Physician in the Spinal Cord Injury Department at the McGuire VA Medical Center. Dr. McAvoy received his Medical Degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine; he completed his PM&R Residency at VCU Health and Spinal Cord Injury Fellowship at the combined VCU Health/McGuire VAMC SCI Fellowship. Dr. McAvoy remained on faculty to focus on clinical, academic, and research pursuits. Areas of research interest include spasticity management and the use of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation in the spinal cord injury population.



William Carter, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU

Director, Complex Care program at Retreat Hospital, Richmond, Virginia

William Carter is a clinically active academic physiatrist fellowship trained in spinal cord injury rehabilitation, working at Virginia Commonwealth University. He currently manages the spinal cord injury consult service, inpatient general rehabilitation, and is director of the complex care program at Retreat hospital. Attended University of Connecticut for medical school. Matriculated at Georgia Tech for his undergraduate degree. He continues to be involved in CDMRP grant funded research as a site principal investigator on Skeletal Muscle Hypertrophy and Cardio-metabolic Benefits After Spinal Cord Injury. His area of interest is oncology rehabilitation. Thinks, "What does the fox say?" Is a musical masterpiece.



Teodoro Castillo, MD

Associate Chief Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders, Richmond VA Medical Center.

Outpatient Section Chief, Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders

Program Director: VA SCI Telehealth Hub and Spokes Network and SCI Home Care Program

Clinical Training:

Medical School: University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, Manila, Philippines

Residency: New York Medical College, PM&R, Valhalla, New York,

Fellowship: University of Texas – Baylor College of Medicine, Physical medicine and

Rehabilitation Alliance, The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, Houston Texas, Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation

Clinical Interests: SCI Telehealth



Lance Goetz, MD

**Associate Program Director, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine
Clinical Associate Professor, Department of PM&R**

Dr. Goetz has over 20 years' experience in Spinal Cord Injury Medicine. He has collaborated with investigators within and outside VA for the past 21 years. His research roles have included principal and co-principal investigator, site investigator, coinvestigator, and spinal cord injury (SCI) medicine consultant. He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications, textbook chapters, poster presentations, and other works representing a wide variety of areas related to rehabilitation and medical complications of persons with SCI, including research related to pressure ulcers, neurogenic bladder and bowel, vocational rehabilitation and others. He has served on several national committees and advisory panels, including the AAPM&R Program Planning Committee and the American Paraplegia Society Board of Directors. He was awarded the American Paraplegia Society Excellence Award in 2017. He is married with twin teenage boys. A cool fact about Dr. Goetz is that in 1997 (May), he did a tandem skydive from 10,000 feet with a guy named Vasily Mladinov from Moldova.



Timothy D. Lavis, MD

Chief, Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders, Richmond VA Medical Center

Timothy D. Lavis M.D. served in the United States Air Force from 1989-1993. Following discharge, he completed his undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of North Texas, in Denton, Texas. He completed his medical school degree at University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School. He went on to internship in internal medicine at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona, then residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation in Denver, Colorado at The University of Colorado. From there he completed a fellowship in spinal cord injury medicine at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He served as Medical Director of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Carolinas Medical Center-Mercy Hospital, Charlotte, North Carolina prior to moving to Richmond, Virginia in 2008 where he is currently Chief of the Spinal Cord injury and Disorders Department at Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center.



William McKinley, MD

**Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Director of Spinal Cord Injury Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University
Medical Center
Site Director, SAI SCI Fellowship Program**

Dr. McKinley is Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) and Director of Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health System. He has served as Project Director for the VCU SCI Regional Model System of Care (a grant supported by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research). He is also Director of the PM&R Residency Training Program at VCU and board certified in PM&R, Electrodiagnostic Medicine and Spinal Cord Medicine. Dr. McKinley completed his residency training in PM&R in 1989 at VCU and remained on faculty to focus on clinical, academic and research pursuits. He has been involved nationally with key SCI organizations, committees, clinical practice guidelines, presentations to numerous regional and national conferences and has published extensively within his expertise of spinal cord injury.



Eugenio Monasterio, MD
Associate Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU
Chair, Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation VCU

Clinical Training:

Medical School: Ponce School of Medicine
Residency: University of Texas Health Science Center
Fellowship: University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

Clinical Interests: Pediatric PM&R, EMG, Spasticity



Jeffrey Tubbs, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU
Section Chief, Inpatient Spinal Cord Injury and Disorders, Richmond VAMC

Clinical Training:

Medical School: Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Residency: Virginia Commonwealth University, PM&R
Fellowship: VCU/Hunter Holmes McGuire Richmond VAMC, SCI Medicine

Clinical Interests: SCI, powered Exoskeletons

Interesting Fact: Kicker for the University of Illinois football team



Elisabeth Acker, DO
Attending Physician, Richmond VA Medical Center
Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU

Dr. Acker is an Attending Physician at the Richmond VA Medical Center and Assistant Professor in VCU's Department of PM&R. Dr. Acker hails from Michigan and completed her medical education at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, followed by PM&R residency at the University of Michigan. Desiring exposure to the whole spectrum of SCI at a new academic institution and at a VA hub for SCI, Dr. Acker pursued SCI fellowship at VCU Health/Richmond VAMC's program. She had the opportunity to stay on as an Attending Physician at the Richmond VAMC, enjoying her opportunities to teach both fellows and residents about SCI Medicine. Dr. Acker enjoys the continuity of care that she is afforded at the Richmond VAMC. She is a section editor and chapter author of two different SCI board review textbooks that are pending publication by Elsevier and Springer. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, young daughter, and retired racing greyhound; traveling to and hiking the US National Parks; and running.



Raj Chaggar, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of PM&R, VCU
Attending Physician, Spinal Cord Injury Medicine

Clinical Training:

Medical School: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Residency: Virginia Commonwealth University, PM&R

Fellowship: Virginia Commonwealth University, SCI Medicine

Clinical Interests

SCI, continuity of care, informatics

Hobbies/Interests

3D printing, walks with the dogs, reading