

DIVISION OF

CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

SANJAY RAJAGOPALAN, MD, MBA, FACC, FAHA | DIVISION CHIEF

2023 has been a year of significant accomplishments for Cardiovascular Medicine and the Harrington Heart and Vascular Institute (HHVI) with outstanding progress and growth in our clinical care, research, and education programs. With over 17 distinct service lines and 9 distinct centers, the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine is the largest division in the Department of Medicine. The Division has had several new interdepartmental programmatic initiatives in 2023, including novel disease based specialized centers such as the Aortic Center and the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Center.

A newly created Sports Cardiology Initiative has started seeing patients under the direction of Bradley Lander, MD that will cater to athletes and individuals at risk for sudden cardiac death. Clinical programs in structural/interventional cardiology, advanced imaging, electrophysiology, advanced heart failure, vascular medicine and critical care cardiology have seen incremental growth and continue to see some of the sickest patients in Northeast Ohio. Notable highlights have been outstanding growth in our ambulatory practice, with the Division and Institute dominating the Northeast Ohio region.

The Division of Cardiology's physician-scientists have dramatically expanded our work to encompass all phases of research from fundamental to clinical and implementation science. The Research and Innovation Center which serves as a unified entity for streamlined protocols and shared resources like data storage and analytical expertise comprises of a Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) and a Translational Science Unit (TSU).

The CTU, continues to focus on industry sponsored Phase II-IV clinical trials involving devices and pharmacotherapies with many trials following over 2,000 patients. The TSU facilitates investigator-initiated grants from industry and the National Institutes of Health and is currently supporting several nationally recognized physician scientists with innovative grants in pharmacotherapy, imaging, and implementation science. The Division boasts 10 R01 grants, an R35 and several foundation grants.

The publication record for CVM has been stellar with over 200 published papers in peer reviewed journals in 2023 including papers in the highest impact journals including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Circulation*, and the *European Heart Journal*.

Our fellowship training program has been immensely successful in recruiting top notch trainees from around the world. The Division has 8 professorships/chairs and 4 master clinician designees, making this one of the best endowed divisions at University Hospitals. The Division currently boasts 3 elected American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI) members, one member elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and 2 Elected Members of the American Association of Physicians (AAP).