

# RITHA M. BELIZAIRE, M.D.

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## **EDUCATION**

### **Yale University, New Haven, CT**

Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Engineering, May 2002

### **University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**

Doctor of Medicine, May 2008

## **POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING**

**University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Department of Surgery**, Resident, July 2008 – June 2014

**University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Department of Surgery**, Research Fellowship, July 2010 – June 2012

**University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Department of Surgery**, Chief Resident, July 2014 – June 2015

**Mt. Sinai Roosevelt/St. Luke's**, Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellow, New York, NY, August 2016 – July 2017

## **EMPLOYMENT**

**UT Health**, Assistant Professor of Surgery, General and Colorectal Surgery, Houston, TX, Sept 2019 - present

**The Brooklyn Hospital Center**, General and Colorectal Surgeon, Brooklyn, NY, Sept 2017 – August 2019

- Chair, Cancer Committee
- Director, Tumor Board
- Director, Enhanced Recovery After Colorectal Surgery Program

**Montefiore Medical Center**, Acute Care Surgeon, Clinical Instructor, Bronx, NY, July 2015 – July 2016

## **RESEARCH**

**Effects of storage on red blood cell units**, University of Cincinnati, Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD, July 2010-June 2012  
Evaluate the biochemical and immunologic changes that occur in packed red blood cell units as they age in storage using a murine model of blood banking.

**Patch clamp technology for ion channel studies**, Yale University, Kate Klemic, PhD, Spring 2002

Constructed and tested models of planar patch clamp electrodes to be used for measuring ion channel currents of multiple cells simultaneously

**Lung volume reduction surgery for treatment of emphysema.** UC Irvine, Matthew Brenner M.D., Summer 2001, Induced anesthesia and performed pulmonary function tests in New Zealand white rabbits

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Journal Articles**

Richter JR, Sutton JM, Belizaire RM, Miller SG, Schuster RM, Friend LA, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Macrophage-Derived Chemokine (MDC/CCL22) is a Novel Mediator of Lung Injury following Hemorrhage and Resuscitation.* Shock, 2014 Aug 18 [Epub ahead of print].

Sakai N, Van Sweringen HL, Belizaire RM, Quillin RC, Schuster R, Blanchard J, Burns JM, Tevar AD, Edwards MJ, Lentsch AB. *Interleukin-37 reduces liver inflammatory injury via effects on hepatocytes and non-parenchymal cells.* J Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2012 Oct; 27(10): 1609-16.

Belizaire RM, Makley AT, Champion EM, Sonnier DI, Goodman MD, Dorlac WC, Friend LA, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Resuscitation With Washed Aged Packed Red Blood Cell Units Decreases the Pro-Inflammatory Response in Mice Following Hemorrhage.* J Trauma Acute Care Surg. 2012 Aug; 73(2 Suppl 1): S128-33.

Makley AT, Belizaire RB, Champion EM, Sonnier DI, Friend LA, Schuster RM, Bailey SR, Johannigman JA, Dorlac WC, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Simulated Aeromedical Evacuation Does Not Affect Systemic Inflammation Or Organ Injury In A Murine Model Of Hemorrhagic Shock.* Military Medicine, 2012. Aug;177(8):911-6.

Makley AT, Goodman MD, Belizaire RM, Friend LA, Johannigman JA, Dorlac WC, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Damage Control Resuscitation Decreases Systemic Inflammation After Hemorrhage.* J Surg Res. 2012 Jun 15; 175(2):e75-82. Epub 2011 Dec 15.

Belizaire RM, Prakash PS, Richter JR, Robinson BR, Edwards MJ, Caldwell CC, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Microparticles from Stored Red Blood Cells Activate Neutrophils and Cause Lung Injury After Hemorrhage and Resuscitation.* J Am Coll Surg, 2012 Apr;214(4):648-55. Epub 2012 Feb 17.

### **Abstracts**

Belizaire RM, Makley AT, Johannigman JA, Dorlac WC, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *Resuscitation With Washed Aged Red Blood Cell Units Decreases MDC in Mice After Hemorrhagic Shock.* J Surg Res, Vol 172, Issue 2, Page 323.

Sutton JM, Richter JR, Belizaire RM, Friend LA, Lentsch AB, Pritts TA. *A Novel Role for Macrophage-Derived Chemokine in Mediating Lung Injury Following Hemorrhagic Shock and Resuscitation. Presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Shock Society, San Diego, CA.*

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Resuscitation With Washed Aged Red Blood Cell units Decreases MDC in Mice After Hemorrhagic Shock,** Oral Presentation, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Academic Surgical Congress, Feb 2012

**Washing Aged Packed Red Blood Cell Units Results in Decreased Concentrations of Pro-Inflammatory Cytokines,** Oral Presentation, Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Research Paper Competition, Oct 2011

**Red Blood Cell Storage Results in Increased Inflammatory Mediators, Neutrophil Activation, and Microparticle Formation,** Poster Presentation, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Sep 2011

**Washed Aged Packed Red Blood Cell Units Results in Decreased Concentrations of Pro-Inflammatory Cytokines**, Poster Presentation, Advanced Technology Applications for Combat Casualty Care, Aug 2011

**Red Blood Cell Storage Is Associated with Increased Leukocyte Activation in Mice**, Oral Presentation, Region 5 Committee on Trauma Resident Research Paper Competition, Nov 2010

**Red Blood Cell Storage Is Associated with Increased Leukocyte Activation in Mice**, Oral Presentation, Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Research Paper Competition, Oct 2010

## **AWARDS**

NIH Training Grant 5T32GM847819, Department of Surgery, University of Cincinnati, PI: Alex Lentsch, PhD; mentor: Timothy Pritts, MD, PhD

Winner, Ohio Committee on Trauma Resident Research Paper Competition, Oct 2010

Finalist, Region 5 Committee on Trauma Resident Research Paper Competition, Nov 2010

Top poster, Advanced Technology Applications for Combat Casualty Care, Aug 2011

Finalist, University of Cincinnati Department of Surgery Resident Research Competition, April 2012

Scholarship to National Pancreas Foundation Fellows Symposium, April 2014

## **SERVICE**

**Respire Haiti**, volunteer, child advocacy and education, community building, basic medical care, Gressier, Haiti, 2011 – present

**Respire Haiti Medical Clinic**, medical advisor, 2015 - present

**Haiti Orphan Project (H.O.P.E.)**, volunteer, orphan care and child advocacy, Croix-des-Bouquets and Gonaives, Haiti, 2001 - 2012

**H.O.P.E. Medical Project**, basic medical care and education, Gonaives, Haiti, Oct 2012

**Association Haitienne de Developpement Humain (AHDH Haiti)**, medical missionary to St. Joseph's Hospital in La Vallee de Jacmel, Haiti, 2010 - present

**Project Medishare**, medical missionary to Bernard Mevs Hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, February 2011

## **MEDICAL LICENSURE**

Texas State Medical Board, S1563

**BOARD CERTIFICATION**

General Surgery, Nov 2015

Colon and Rectal Surgery, April 2021