

UMANA Illinois Helps Ukrainian Doctors Rebuild their Medical Careers

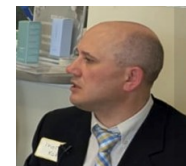
June 19, 2025, Chicago. Over 30 graduates and medical students attended an in-person and ZOOM a program designed to inform candidates about the steps necessary to validate their Ukrainian medical training to US standards. Speakers included doctors preparing for ECFMG certification, as well as doctors who have been accepted to residencies; **Ihor Kohut**, **Andrii Labchuk, MD**, **Yuliana Kvasha, MD**, and **Liliia Varenysia**. **Marko Jachtowycz, MD**, Residency Program Director of the AMITA Saint Francis OB/GYN Residency Program at Saint Alexius Medical Center, Hoffman Estates, shared 30 years of first hand knowledge and experience of the ever-changing residency application process. Take away from the event: **STUDY HARD!**

Ihor Kohut, dermatologist from Ukraine and Clinical Research Assistant at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine explained the entire process in a detailed Powerpoint presentation, from studying for board examinations, through applying for the “match”.

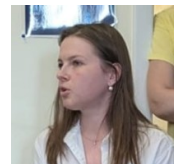
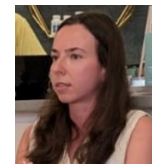
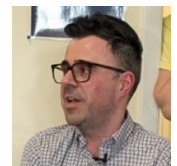
Dr. Andrii Labchuk, a cardiology fellow at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, reviewed his experience, emphasizing studying to learn the American system of medicine.

Dr. Yuliana Kvasha, an internal medicine resident at Northwestern Hospital, McHenry, discussed her experience with the **application** process, stressing the need for preparation.

Liliia Varenysia from Ukraine, who is preparing for USMLE steps, reviewed the multiple steps involved, again underscoring the importance of study and need to prepare diligently to achieve excellent scores in relevant examinations.



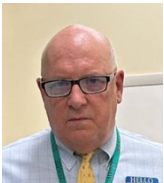
Ihor Kohut



Dr. Yuliana Kvasha Liliia Varenysia

Marko Jachtowycz, MD, stressed the importance of **passing the Boards on the first try**.

A spirited discussion and question/answer period ensued, many issues were successfully addressed.



*Learning about
shadowing/observerships*



CELEBRATING 3 NEW CENTENARIAN UMANA MEMBERS

We would like to extend our best wishes and good health
to our new centenarians in 2025:



Neonila LYCHYK, MD (Illinois Branch)
Stephan TYMKIW, MD (Maryland Branch)
Sophie ZAPLITNY, MD (Michigan Branch)

SAVE THE DATE!

**The XLI Assembly of Delegates will meet in plenary session
Saturday, September 6, 2025, via ZOOM.**

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH hosted a vendor table at the Easter Bazaar at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, PA, on April 12, 2025. Branch members **Vera Guertler, MD**, and **Luba Kujdych, RN**, staffed the table and provided complimentary blood pressure screenings as well as community healthcare related information to Bazaar attendees.



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UMANA News

The Newsletter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America is published quarterly by UMANA with the objective to promote good fellowship and to uphold and enhance the best interests of UMANA. The newsletter serves as an impartial forum for the information for its members. UMANA cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information contained herein. Some information has been obtained from third party published and oral sources and may not have been independently verified. The treatment of articles, view, and opinions expressed in UMANA News is not necessarily endorsed by UMANA.

Distributed to members and friends of UMANA

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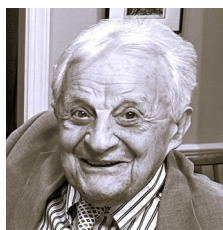
UMANA News

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OBITUARIES



WOLOSHCHUK MD, Ostap, age 96, *University of Montreal* 1957, member of UMANA Toronto Branch, died May 5, 2025.

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

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ILLINOIS BRANCH members met at Foxtail on the Lake for brunch on Sunday, May 4, 2025. They participated in an interesting discussion regarding the medical use of cannabis, especially for pain and dementia in seniors. **Luba Andrus, RPh, M.J.**, described her extensive experience with medical cannabis.



Illinois UMANA members and guests at the Foxtail on the Lake



Luba Andrus, RPh, MJ

OHIO BRANCH members held a ZOOM meeting on July 29, 2025 to hold elections for their chapter and discuss some future plans.



Andrew Drozd, MD was elected the new Ohio President, and **Bohdan Pichurko, MD** remains as Treasurer.

The chapter's biennial Fall Picnic is set for Sunday, September 28, 2025, at the St. Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Pavillion, in Parma. All

UMANA members and families are invited to come for good food/drinks and enjoy the day with colleagues, friends, and meeting new ones.

ILLINOIS BRANCH held its annual picnic at the UYCO/Plast Oselia Round Lake on Sunday, August 3, 2025. Beautiful weather greeted nearly 70 members and guests at the classic location. The picnic was well organized by branch President **Maryana Yaremko, MD**, with a tasty buffet lunch catered by Ruslan Zuyev. UCCA-Illinois President (and UMANA member) **Dr. Mariya Dmytriv-Kapeniak** shared news about the upcoming: "Ukraine and the World: Forum for Global Insights" on August 23rd in Chicago, and **Dr. Marika Hrycelak** promoted an upcoming exhibit: "Ukrainian Medicine Arts Notable Achievements - A Century of Midwestern Medical Memories" at the Ukrainian National Museum in Chicago on September 20th. Multiple generations of members, family, and friends enjoyed the relaxed summertime gathering.



UMANA Illinois members and guests

UMANA MEMBER NEWS



Natalie BODNAR, MD, MBA (Illinois Branch), recently graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin's Batterman School of Business with an MBA in Health Administration in May 2025, in addition to her MD from Franklin Rosalind School of Medicine in 2024. She has started her residency at the University of Wisconsin – Madison in Pathology in June.



Viktoria FARIAN, DO (Ohio Branch), graduated from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in June 2025. She started her residency in Emergency Medicine at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. She joins her father **Zenon Farian, DDS**, and sister **Adriana Farian DMD**, in the healthcare field and as UMANA members.



Iryna LASHCHUK, MD (Florida Branch), completed her ECFMG certification and has recently started her residency in Neurology at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida.



Peter D. LENCHUR, MD (New York Metro Branch), graduated in May 2025 from New York Medical College and is currently completing his preliminary year of anesthesiology residency at New York University Langone Health in Manhattan. He is the next in his family to get his medical degree, along with his sister **Christine Lenchur, DO**, his mother **Ruta Cholhan, MD**, and father **Peter Lenchur, MD**. All are proud UMANA members.

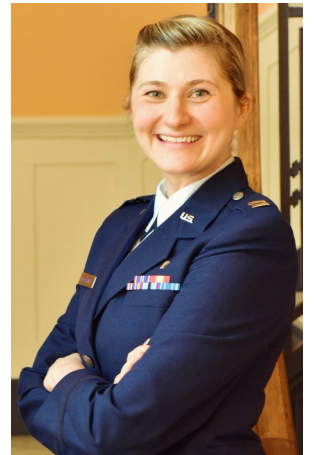


Rachel LEVANTOVSKY, MD, PhD (New York Metro Branch), recently graduated Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai and has matched for an Internal Medicine residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA.



Solomiia SAVCHUK, MD (North California Branch), graduated from Stanford University School of Medicine in June 2025 and will start her residency at Massachusetts General Brigham & Women's Hospital in Neurosurgery.

Captain Marianne SENECKZO McCARTNEY, MD (Maryland/DC Metro Branch), completed her residency at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Virginia. She will be a practicing general staff radiologist at Mike O'Callaghan Military Medical Center at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. She's the next in her family's UMANA legacy with a medical degree, following her mother **Taisa Seneczko, DDS**, and her grandfather, the late **Erast Burachynsky, MD**.



Nicholas Zura, MD (Ohio Branch), graduated from Wayne State University Medical School in May 2025, and has started his residency at Cleveland Clinic in Anesthesiology. He's following in his father's (**Andrew Zura, MD**) footsteps as an Anesthesiologist and member of UMANA.

YOUR NEWS HERE !

Send us your professional, school,
and/or personal updates to:
umana@umana.org