

## **UMANA New York Metro Branch's "A Day With the Experts" - a grand feat!**

On April 17, 2026, UMANA's NYMetro Chapter held "A Day With the Experts" medical symposium at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City. Rapid developments in all medical fields contribute to knowledge gaps for many providers. An in-depth presentation by nationally recognized experts in various specialties provides extensive details on the newest treatment and diagnostic options in their fields.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Accreditation Requirements and policies of the Medical Society of New Jersey (MSNJ) through the joint provider ship of Atlantic Health System, a maximum of 7.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™.

The conference planning committee consisted of **Ariadne Bach, MD, Marta Lopatynsky, MD, and Dan Swistel, MD**, who assembled an august body of experienced local area experts.

### **"A Day With the Experts"**

#### **"Medical and Surgical Advances in the Treatment of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy"**

##### ***Dan Swistel, MD***

Professor (Clinical) of Cardiothoracic Surgery, New York University, The Grossman School of Medicine  
The Jeffrey Spolsky Endowed Professorship of Cardiac Surgery  
Surgical Director, The Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Program, NYU/Langone Health  
Cardiothoracic Surgeon NYU Langone Health

#### **"Update on Thyroid Eye Disease"**

##### ***Jurij R. Bilyk, MD, FACS***

Attending Surgeon Oculoplastic and Orbital Surgery Service, Wills Eye Hospital  
Professor of Ophthalmology Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

#### **"Intraoperative Echocardiography: How Cardiac Anesthesiologists Shape Surgical Decision-Making."**

##### ***Liliya Pospishil, MD, FASE***

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative Care and Pain Medicine  
NYU Langone Health  
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

#### **"Medication Therapy for Obesity"**

##### ***Vladimir Proudan, MD***

Metabolic Medical Physician, Atlantic Health System

#### **"Misadventures at the Skull Base"**

##### ***Jurij R. Bilyk, MD, FACS***

#### **"The Rise and Fall of Breast Cancer Surgery"**

##### ***Alexander J. Swistel MD***

Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery, Weill Cornell Medicine  
The Von Maltzahn Endowed Professorship in Oncoplastic Breast Surgery

#### **"Advances in Surgical Coronary Revascularization"**

##### ***Dan Swistel, MD***

Cardiothoracic Surgeon NYU Langone Health



*Four former UMANA Presidents attending the event:  
Drs. Leo Wolansky, Peter Lenchur, Marta Lopatynsky, Borys Buniak*

The evening reception was catered by renown chef **Andrij Sonevytsky**, giving attendees and guests an opportunity to network and discuss the day's learning adventures.

The local gustatory theme was maintained with breakfast and lunch catered by the acclaimed **Veselka**.

# UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

**PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH** hosted a presentation on March 8, 2026, at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, during which Ako K. highlighted his ongoing work to create a documentary about the war in Ukraine from a surgical and trauma care perspective. Ako has been visiting Ukraine to capture footage from frontline hospitals and triage centers. He presented a short film titled "WAR DOCTORS: Ukraine" which offered a look at some of his early work which he expects will ultimately lead to a full feature film. Ako will be returning to Ukraine to continue this project in the very near future. The Pennsylvania Chapter provided him a donation of \$500 with additional donations of almost \$6000 received from members and guests to help cover the significant expenses of his project.



*Pennsylvania Branch members and guests*



*Ako K. – film director*



## 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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**The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America**

## OBITUARIES



**FEDORIW MD, Wiacheslaw**, age 81, *Universidad Tecnológica de Santiago República Dominicana* 1984, member of Illinois Branch, died August 3, 2025.



**HISZCZYNSKYJ MD, Roman**, age 90, *University of Iowa* 1966, member of Illinois Branch, died December 24, 2025.



**PUNDY MD, Andrew**, age 78, *Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara Mexico* 1972, member of Illinois Branch, died March 21, 2026.

# President's Message



Dear Members,

First of all, congratulations to all medical students who matched this year! We are incredibly proud of your hard work, perseverance, and achievements. Your dedication to medicine inspires us all, and we wish you continued success as you begin this exciting new chapter in your careers.

Thank you to all our members who continue supporting Ukraine during this difficult time through humanitarian projects, fundraising efforts, donations, sending medical instruments, and participating in medical missions. Your compassion and dedication are making a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who continues to mentor and support our medical students, helping them find the best pathway in medicine and guiding them toward successful futures. Thank you for your commitment to service, education, and humanitarian care.

Soon, we will be sending an email regarding mentoring and observership opportunities, and we will be looking for volunteers for those positions.

Best regards,

Olena Gordon, MD  
UMANA President

## UMANA MEMBER NEWS



**Michael AUTEN, MD** (New York Metro Branch), graduated from Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai in New York City, and will begin his General Surgery residency at the University of Washington in Seattle.



**Igor KOHUT, MD** (Illinois Branch), completed the ECFMG process and has matched for his residency in Internal Medicine at NYC Health & Hospitals in Brooklyn, NY.



**Anna HYNDYCH, MD** (New England Branch), a 2024 graduate of Bogomolets National Medical University in Kyiv, completed the ECFMG exams and has matched at SUNY Upstate in Syracuse, NY, for her residency in Psychiatry.



**Viktoria KONTSEVA, MD** (Illinois Branch), graduated medical school from Kansas City University, and she will start her residency at Loyola University in Maywood, IL, specializing in Psychiatry.



**Daniel JAREMCZUK, DO** (Central New York Branch), an UMANA Foundation scholarship winner, graduated from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Elmira, NY, and will begin residency in General Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio.



**Ivan KOVBEL, MD** (Illinois Branch), a doctor from Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, passed the ECFMG exams and has matched at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL, for a residency in Pediatrics.

# UMANA MEMBER NEWS



**Anastasiia KROL, DDS** (Illinois Branch), matched after completing her accreditation of her DDS degree from Poznan University in Poland. She will start her residency at Marquette School of Dentistry in Milwaukee, WI, specializing in Prosthodontics.



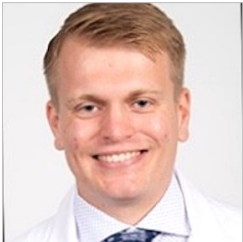
**Kateryna SAMCHENKO, MD** (Illinois Branch), a medical graduate of Kharkiv University, completed the ECFMG accreditation process, and has matched at Montefiore-Albert Einstein in Brooklyn, NY, for her Internal Medicine residency.



**Christina KRUCYLAK, MD** (Illinois Branch), received her medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO, this Spring. She will begin her residency at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, specializing in Anesthesiology.



**Andriy SHEVCHUK, MD** (New York Metro Branch), a 2022 graduate of Ternopil National Medical University, passed the ECFMG exams, and has matched at Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadows, NY, for his residency in Internal Medicine.



**Ostap KUKHAR, MD** (Illinois Branch), graduated from University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine in May 2026 and will begin a transitional year of residency at Boston Medical Center-Brighton in Massachusetts.



**Oleksandr STRELKO, MD** (Illinois Branch), an UMANA Foundation scholarship winner, graduated in May 2026 from Loyola University in Chicago, and will start his residency at Yale University in New Haven, CT, specializing in Neurosurgery.



**Yuliya LOZYSKA, DO** (Ohio Branch), completed her degree from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens, OH, and she will do her residency in Emergency Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio.



**Roksolana SUDYK, MD** (Michigan Branch), will graduate from Michigan State University, and will begin her first-year residency in Family Medicine at Oregon Health and Sciences University Medical Center in Portland.



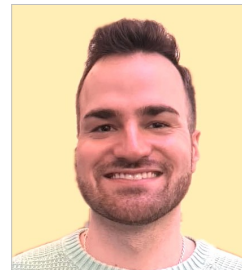
**Julia MINKEVITCH, MD** (Illinois Branch), an UMANA Foundation scholarship winner, graduated in May 2026 from Rosalind Franklin University in Chicago, and will start her residency at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago in Emergency Medicine.



**Adrian TEMNYCKY, MD** (Central New York Branch), a graduate of SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY, and will continue there for his residency in Ophthalmology.



**Benjamin POPOKH MD** (At-Large Member in Texas), an UMANA Foundation scholarship winner, will graduate from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, and will begin his first-year residency in Family Medicine at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas.



**Ivan WOLANSKY, MD** (New York Metro Branch), will graduate in May 2026 from Icahn School of Medicine in NYC. He will start his residency at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, specializing in Psychiatry and Family Medicine.