Core Attendings Plastic Surgery:

Amir Behnam, MD (Chief of Plastic Surgery Division, Site Director)
Hospital Employed
301 S. Seventh Avenue, Suite 115
West Reading, PA 19611
Office: 484-628-9127
Desk: 484-628-9132
Pager: 484-338-1591
Cell: 484-772-5089
Amir.Behnam@towerhealth.org

To get his schedule contact Melissa Haley: Melissa.Haley@towerhealth.org

Dr. Behnam has allotted time on Tuesdays and Thursdays at RH. He also operates at RH and at RHSR on Wednesdays.

Christine Cho, DO
Hospital Employed
301 S. Seventh Avenue, Suite 115
West Reading, PA 19611
Office: 484-628-9127
Desk: 484-628-9129
Pager: 484-338-1018
Cell: 267-241-5961
Christine.Cho@towerhealth.org

To get his schedule contact Melissa Haley: Melissa.Haley@towerhealth.org

Dr. Cho has allotted time on Mondays and Fridays at RH. She also operates at RH on at RH and RHSR on Wednesdays.

John LaManna, MD (previous Chief of Plastic Surgery Division)
Private Practice
40 N. Kenhorst Blvd.
Reading, PA 19607
Office: 610-796-1000
Pager: 610-856-3199
To get his schedule contact Megan: faustm@readinghospital.org

Dr. LaManna operates on Wednesday afternoons at RH. He also operates at SIR on Thursday mornings and usually follows at RH Thursday afternoons.

Benjamin Schlechter, MD  
Private Practice: Proserpi-Schlechter Center for Plastic Surgery  
2603 Keiser Blvd. Suite 207  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Office: 610-678-9200  
Pager: 610-376-6860  
Cell: 610-334-2354  

Anyone who works in his office can get you the schedule

Dr. Schlechter operates on Wednesdays at RSC. On Thursdays and Fridays he operates in his office. He variably operates at RH and St. Josephs Hospital.

Stacey June, DO  
Private Practice: Proserpi-Schlechter Center for Plastic Surgery  
2603 Keiser Blvd. Suite 207  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Office: 610-678-9200  
Pager: 610-376-6807  
Cell: 631-708-7915  

Anyone who works in her office can get you the schedule

Dr. June operates on various days at RH, RSC, in office, and at St Josephs Hospital.

Scott Lindsay, DO  
Plastic Surgery  
Private Practice: Berks Plastic Surgery  
50 Commerce Drive  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Office: 610-232-7016  
On Staff and Dr. Reddy’s Junior Partner
Is very open to working with Fellows; if you see he is doing an interesting case, feel free to ask to assist (or watch). He does perform vertical mammoplasty reductions.
Alternate Attendings Multiple Specialties:

**Thomas Dooley, MD**  
Plastic Surgery  
Private Practice  
40 N Kenhorst Blvd.  
Reading, PA 19607  
Office: 610-796-1000  
Pager: 610-856-4031  
To get his schedule contact his secretary

Is open to working with Fellows on a case to case basis; if you see he is doing an interesting case, feel free to ask to assist (or watch).

**Raymond Smith, MD**  
Wound Care  
Plastic Surgery  
Reading Health Physician Network – Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine  
2603 Keiser Blvd. Suite 204  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Office 484-628-3939  
Raymond.Smith@towerhealth.org

If you are interested in rotating in wound care including HBO with Dr. Smith, contact Dr. Behnam.

Please include Dr. Smith on the Journal club Attending list.

**Brian Reddy, MD**  
Plastic Surgery  
Private Practice: Berks Plastic Surgery  
50 Commerce Drive  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Office: 610-232-7016  
On Staff and Dr. Lindsay’s Senior Partner

As of now, does not operate at RH or work with the Fellows  
Has expressed interest in attending Journal Club
Leonard D’Addessi MD
Hand Surgery
Private Practice: Orthopedic Associates of Reading
301 S. Seventh Avenue, Suite 3220
West Reading, PA 19611
Office: 610-376-8671

Is a Jefferson trained orthopaedic hand surgeon and is very open to working with Fellows; if you see he is doing an interesting case, feel free to ask to assist (or watch).

David Goldberg MD
Ophthalmology - Oculoplastic Surgery
Private practice: Eye Consultants of Pennsylvania
1 Granite Point Drive
Wyomissing, Pa 19610
Office: 610-378-1344

Does a lot of periorbital recon and Oculoplastics; always welcomes Fellows to join him in the operating room.

OMFS:
Does all mandibles at RHS; contact to assist or observe; potentially very valuable.
Locations:

Main Campus – The Reading Hospital, Tower Health System
Dr. Behnam’s and Dr. Cho’s office is located in the Doctors Office Building (DOB) annex building of the RH:
DOB Suite 115
Sixth Avenue and Spruce Street
West Reading, PA 19611
Phone – 610-988-8000

The Reading Hospital at Spring Ridge, Tower Health System
Site of:
Surgery Center where some doctors operate; 3rd floor
Dr. Schlechter’s and Dr. June’s office on 2nd floor, Suite 207
Spring Ridge Wound Care Center where Dr. Smith works.

2603 Keiser Boulevard
Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone - 610-568-3050 Office Surgery Center
Phone- 610-678-9200 Office

Reading Surgery Center (RSC)
(Surgery Center where Dr. Schlechter and Dr. June operate)
1280 Broadcasting Road
Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone - 610-736-9909

Surgical Institute of Reading (SIR)
(Surgery Center where Dr. LaManna, Dr. Schlechter, and Dr. June operate)
2752 Century Boulevard
Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone - 610-378-8800

Dr. Lamanna and Dr. Dooley’s Office
40 North Kenhorst Boulevard
Reading, PA 19607
Phone- 610-796-1000
Orientation:

The Reading Hospital (RH) is now one of the 5 Hospitals of the Tower Health System (THS); it is in Berks County, PA; The Reading Hospital (RH) is a 650 bed Hospital, is designated as a Level II Trauma Center, and is located in West Reading, PA; the Reading Hospital at Spring Ridge (RHSRSC) is a surgery center partially owned by THS and is located in Wyomissing, PA. Both the RH and RHSRSC are approximately 45 minutes from King of Prussia.

The Plastic Surgery Division is made up of 7 Attendings as listed. There is a variety of plastic surgery performed daily at the multiple sites listed.

The Chief of the Division, Site Director and your primary contact/coordinator is Dr. Amir Behnam. **On or before your first day of rotation you need to contact him for instruction and information about the rotation.**

The orientation of the Hospital is typically conducted on the first weekday of your rotation. The orientation is done in conjunction with the Trauma and Gold Team Surgery Residents from PCOM. This will all be outlined upon your arrival. Please contact Debra Dreisbach ([Debra.Dreisbach2@readinghealth.org](mailto:Debra.Dreisbach2@readinghealth.org)) in the Trauma Offices for your orientation including information regarding your pager, ID badge, computer access, and housing. All orders are done through the EPIC EMR; therefore it is important-mandatory to be present for orientation.

Parking is strictly regulated at Reading. There are a few local garages. Please park in the Spruce garage for your entire rotation. You will get a sticker to put on your front windshield. You may have to go to security desk in order to get a sticker if it is not already in your welcome packet. They will want your license plate number-info.

Housing is allotted by the GME Office. You will be given individual housing with your own bathroom; again reviewed before or during orientation.

RH has allotted the PCOM Fellows UNLIMITED meals and coffee at all RH venues. Enjoy!

Many of the surgeons operate at Surgical Institute of Reading (SIR); PCOM Fellows **do** have privileges there.

Many surgeons also operate at the St. Josephs Hospital; PCOM Fellows **do not** have privileges there.
Attending Schedules:

Ultimately it is your responsibility to call offices on Friday and get the schedule for the following week for each attending. Based on this you must email all the Attendings the week or weekend before the upcoming week with a tentative schedule.

Although each Attending has allotted block times at the various operating venues, operations can and often do happen outside their “scheduled times”, ie. as add ons or “desk” cases. It is your responsibility to check with the Attendings, their offices, and or the site specific operating rooms on a daily basis to confirm schedules.

The key to a successful rotation is clear communication! None of the Attendings should have to ever wonder where you are, what are you doing, and why they haven’t heard from you. It’s simple: just communicate!

Feel free to seek out the best cases each week; be prepared to discuss the indications, anatomy, possible complication etc. associated with each case.

The Attendings are understanding and encourage you to do the best case available all the time.

At the surgery centers, they will require your personal paperwork in order to let you scrub cases. The Trauma Office should have the necessary RH documents needed for the RHSRSC.

You should have access to the RHS paperwork and any personal or PCOM related documentation at all times, ie. medical license, immunization records, diploma, school affiliation agreement, medical malpractice notice.
Academics:

You are to contact Dr. Behnam and discuss what days are best to meet and complete didactic lectures every week. You will review chapters and journals based on cases you are involved in as well as determined by your own preference. He expects to meet with you in his DOB office at least (but not limited to) 2-3 times per week at variable times in the morning based on both of your schedules. You do not have to prepare for the didactics; it is a discussion and review of the literature to help you understand and improve your foundation in plastic surgery, not interrogate you on your knowledge.

You are responsible for one Journal Club per month; a M&M, Indications, or Interesting Case Conference may substitute for one Journal Club during any given rotation. It is your responsibility to schedule a conference room at a convenient time for most Attendings, preferably at 7am any day of the week that works best.

Journal Club: Monthly, select and prepare to discuss with or without PowerPoint articles from any combination of PRS, Annals, the Aesthetic, Hand, Micro-Recon or any other pertinent journal. Dr. Behnam wants you to be proactive and select the articles; you must discuss your selections with him before finalizing the list. After finalizing the list, email it as well as the meeting time and place to all the Attendings including Dr. Smith.

Approximately 5 journal clubs per year will be directed by Dr. Cho; contact either Dr. Cho and or Dr. Behnam to confirm which.

On the 2nd Friday of every month there is a Department of Surgery Meeting; you must attend each one of these meetings where Dr. Brigham – Chairman of Surgery reviews health care policy, economics, politics, etc.

Dr. Behnam and or Dr. Cho may ask you to make additional presentations during any one of the following:

Department of Surgery Meeting
R Building Ground Floor; Conference Room #3
Monthly; 2nd Friday; 7 am;

Breast Cancer Multidisciplinary Conference
N Building Ground Floor, Office of Radiation Oncology
Weekly, Wednesday; 12 pm
Tumor Conference
B Building; Education Rooms A&B
Weekly, Wednesday; 7 am

Cutaneous Malignancies Tumor Board
R Building; Conference Room #1
Monthly; 3rd Tuesday; 12 pm

Limb Preservation Multidisciplinary Clinic
R Building; Conference Room #13
Every other month; 1st Tuesday; 12 pm

**Dr. Behnam encourages you to start a project-study that would culminate in a conference presentation and or paper. He will mentor you through the process.**

**Dr. Behnam relies on you to be very independent and proactive with all didactics and conferences. He does not want to remind you about your obligations. And he encourages you to not ask questions that you can easily answer yourself.**

Towards the end of your rotation, do the next upcoming Fellow (and all the Reading Attendings) a favor: communicate the requirements and expectations before they arrive to Reading.

On occasion there will be a rotating resident and or student; eg. Transitional Year Medicine Resident, Podiatry Residents, etc. They are not to be integrated into the team as a traditional resident would be. In no way are they responsible to complete any tasks independently or take call, unless absolutely necessary and discussed-cleared with Dr. Behnam. The rotating resident-student are here to be exposed to the field of plastic surgery in the most basic way possible, ie. without obligation except to be present in clinical rounds, surgery, and in general to participate as a peripheral team member supervised directly by the PCOM Fellow and or any of the Attendings. Transitional Year Residents associated with the Internal Medicine Program at RHS are one group of the aforementioned trainees; their specific expectations are detailed in Appendix A.
OR:

The OR is currently located in the Surgical Tower on the Lower Level (LL) of the T Building.

To schedule cases contact the number below. Most cases that are added with short notice (24 hours) daily will be placed on “the desk”; desk cases are performed sequentially based on urgency and availability of operating rooms and OR staff. On occasion Attendings do have open block time where cases can be directly scheduled.

There is a designated **Plastics Team of Operating Room Staff**: contact any of them through the main contact below to discuss cases, general logistics-protocol, or anything you are uncertain of. It is a good idea to meet them early on in your rotation as a courtesy and for your general benefit.

Main desk contact: 484-628-8278.

*If you scrub on cases with Dr. Behnam and Dr. Cho, always list your pager - 484.338.1315 - in the nursing orders as the primary contact to be called first no matter who is on call. Neither wants the other Attendings paged - who may be on call - about issues with their patients.*
Work Hours, Call, and Consults:

The RH call and work hour obligations are derived from recommendations of the ACGME.

Most nights are quiet at Reading. The Offices and or the Hospital Operator will update your availability in the computer system to reflect your call status. The pager is provided by the hospital: 484.338.1315.

*Weekend call expectations are that the Fellow takes call 2 of 4 weekends when there are 4 weekend months; and 3 of 5 weekends when there are 5 weekend months.*

*Ideally, you will evenly distribute your call weekends among all the core Attendings,* in circumstances where this is not possible, please try to schedule at least one weekend call with each attending during your entire rotation. All Attendings are very understanding when it comes to dividing your time among them.

Dr. Behnam and Dr, Cho take alternating weekly call for the majority of in-house patients and wound care patients. *Daily, you are expected to check if there are any consults directly through the EPIC EMR system without phone or pager notification.* These consults are listed under “Patient Lists”→”Physician Group Consults”→ “RPS Plastic Surgery”. These are usually “routine”, are rarely called to the Fellow or Attending directly, and don’t need immediate attention but typically need to be added to Dr. Behnam’s-Cho’s surgery schedules as scheduled cases or “desk” cases. Schedule the cases through their office manager Melissa Haley at 484-628-9131 or directly with the operating room at 484-628-8278 after discussing the case with either Attending.

Additionally, a good way to find out about Trauma Consults is to have a working relationship with the PCOM Trauma Residents.

*The Attendings understand that your obligation is in the OR. If an Attending (out of your OR) gets called for an ED/Floor consult - as long it does not need immediate attention - it is that Attending’s obligation to address the Consult without disrupting your OR case.* He/she may then get you involved with the consult later.

Since 2012, Dr. Dooley has not involved the Fellows in his call, the remaining Attendings ask that you take your call days off when Dr. Dooley is on call. When Dooley is not on call any given week, the Fellows are more than welcome to take the day that Dr. Behnam is on call off or any other day as long as it has been cleared by the Attending on call for the day requested off.
PTO:

All Attendings are very understanding of the need for PTO.

*Please make sure you take no more than 1 week off the RH Rotation (5 weekdays and one weekend) during your entire given year of residency.* Whether that time is used for sick time, job-fellowship interviews, vacations, holidays, and or conference is up to you.

If for some unforeseen circumstance you need to take more time, then you will be expected to make your time away up with extra weekend call or extending the rotation date.

As discussed with Dr. Lam, PTO taken during your RHS rotation is deducted from your overall PCOM PTO yearly allotment.

*If you are planning to take PTO during the RHS Rotation, initially contact Dr. Lam and Dr. Behnam; Dr. Behnam will then direct you to contact the Attending that will be on ED call during your proposed PTO. You must confirm with that on-call Attending that it is okay to take the proposed PTO; if okayed, you are then expected to send an e-mail to all the core Attendings.*

Please make every effort to notify the Reading Attendings well in advance of PTO requests; at least one month prior would be ideal.

Again, please – as best as possible – coordinate your time off so that you still cover each attending once in two months with regard to weekend call.
Appendix A

Transitional Year Resident Guide for the Reading Health System Plastic Surgery Rotation:

1. This rotation’s goal is to educate the TY in Plastic Surgery. Ideally the rotation provides useful education-skills to be incorporated into the TY’s career specialty.

2. Before the TY starts the rotation, they should contact Dr. Behnam to touch base and meet up with the Plastic Surgery Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) Fellow for further logistic information. The PCOM Fellow is a plastic surgery rotates at the Reading Health System among other sites and Dr. Behnam is their site Director. The PCOM Fellow is aware of the TY Resident and their Rotation obligations as detailed here.

3. Dr. Behnam, Dr. Cho, the PCOM Fellow, and or any of the other Attendings in the Division may ask you to assist them in rounding, seeing consults, and or completing orders. The TY goal here is to learn and participate as a care team member-1st year resident; including: potentially participating in surgery in the OR, Hospital floors, and or ED; interviewing a patient in consultation or follow up and eliciting communicating assessing pertinent historical physical exam and adjunct data related to the present illness, and ultimately generating a plan of action; much as the TY did during your surgery rotations in medical school. The TY in no way is mandated to function independently; the TY is to communicate their level of comfort to all team members for any tasks; all work completed will be reviewed by the Attending or Fellow before finalized.

4. TY Residents are welcome to participate in didactic discussions on topics in Plastic Surgery that overlap with the TY’s primary residency field. Typically discussions take place in the morning; there is no need to prepare and there is no knowledge prerequisite. Schedule to be determined by the TY and Dr. Behnam.

5. Before the TY starts the rotation, they should contact any of the Plastic Surgery Division OR Staff to notify them that they will be actively participating in operations-surgery. Attendings operate at:

   The Reading Hospital Main Campus C4: 484.628.8278
   The Reading Hospital at Spring Ridge 3rd Floor: 484.628.3050

6. Melissa Haley is the Office Manage for RHPN Plastic Surgery, ie. the Hospital based practice for Dr. Behnam and Dr. Cho. She is your office contact person and will have
both Attendings operative schedule for your review daily and or weekly. Of note; surgical cases are added on sometimes daily and the schedule changes often.

7. The TY may be asked to present an article for Journal Club; this could be from the plastic surgery journal PRS or any other journal; ideally the article(s) reviewed is-are relevant to the TY’s specialty and plastic surgery. The PCOM Fellow and Dr. Behnam will discuss this with the TY Resident when applicable.

8. You are not expect to take call. However, you may be asked to work late based on the work load of the day.

9. Apply your residency work hour mandates to the plastic surgery rotation as they exist for your other transitional year rotations.

10. Dr. Behnam welcomes any research and will support the TY’s efforts in anyway.