

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Kowzun, Maria J

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): hamma

POSITION TITLE: Assistant Professor of Surgery

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Yale University, CT	BA	5/27/2002	East Asian Studies
John A. Burns School of Medicine, HI	MD	5/18/2008	Doctor of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, MA	Internship	6/23/2009	General Surgery
New Jersey Medical School, NJ	Residency	6/30/2016	General Surgery
Institute of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery, NY	Postdoctoral	6/30/2013	Research Fellowship
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, NJ	Fellowship	7/31/2017	Breast Surgical Oncology

A. Personal Statement

As a breast cancer surgeon and specialist at New Jersey's only NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, I hope to provide the best possible breast care experience for our patients. I work closely with a strong multidisciplinary team of experts to help prevent, diagnose, and treat the various stages of breast cancer, ranging from early screen-detected cancers to metastatic disease, with access to the latest clinical trials. I also manage the spectrum of breast pathology for individuals with both benign and high-risk breast lesions. My ultimate goal is to offer my patients the best quality of care according to the most recent practice recommendations and surgical techniques with a caring and compassionate smile. As such, my research interest includes improving the care of breast oncology patients through different techniques and treatment options. In summary, I have the expertise and motivation to continue various research projects within my role as a breast surgical oncologist at Rutgers CINJ.

B. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors**Academic Appointments:**

7/2019 to Present: Assistant Professor at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Division of Surgical Oncology, Section of Breast Surgery

Hospital Appointments:

1/2019 to 9/2021 Interim Director of the Breast Surgery Program at Clara Maass Medical Center
10/2021 to Present Medical Director of the Breast Surgery Program at Clara Maass Medical Center

Memberships:

8/2016 to Present Member in Society of Surgical Oncology
3/2017 to Present Member of American Society of Breast Surgeons
2/2020 to Present Member of ASBS Breast Imaging Technologies Committee
5/2018 to Present Member of Association of Women Surgeons
10/2018 to 10/2019 Member of American College of Surgeons
10/2019 to Present Fellow of American College of Surgeons

Honors:

5/2011 Excellence in Teaching Award, New Jersey Medical School
4/2010, 4/2011, 4/2015 Golden Apple Award Nominee, New Jersey Medical School
2/2019 AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar, Association of American Medical Colleges
1/2021 to 4/2022 Rutgers Program for Early Career Excellence (PECE)

C. Contributions to Science

My position on the American Society of Breast Surgeons Breast Imaging Technologies Committee as a reviewer for surgeons to obtain their Ultrasound Breast Certification lends itself to a particular interest in the use of intraoperative ultrasound during breast conserving surgery.

Fosko NK, Gribkova Y, Krupa K, Bs KJ, Moore D, Chen C, Potdevin L, Kumar S, Eladoumikhachi F, **Kowzun MJ**. The Use of Intraoperative Ultrasound During Breast Conserving Surgery. *Clin Breast Cancer*. 2022 Oct 11:S1526-8209(22)00226-9. doi: 10.1016/j.clbc.2022.10.003. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36319507.

I am also heavily involved in the Surgical Oncology Division at Rutgers CINJ where various publications have contributed to the overall literature.

Gazivoda V, Greenbaum A, Roshal J, Lee J, Reddy L, Rehman S, Kangas-Dick A, Gregory S, **Kowzun M**, Stephenson R, Laird A, Alexander HR, Berger AC. Assessing the immediate impact of COVID-19 on surgical oncology practice: Experience from an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in the Northeastern United States. *J Surg Oncol*. 2021 Mar 25. doi: 10.1002/jso.26475. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33765341.

Fencer M, Abghari M, Eladoumikhachi F, **Kowzun M**. Rare presentation of pure mucinous carcinoma of the breast: HER2-positive subtype in a premenopausal woman. Submitted to American College of Surgeons Case Reviews in Surgery.

Fencer MG, Krupa KA, Bleich GC, Grumet S, Eladoumikhachi FG, Kumar S, **Kowzun MJ**, Potdevin LB. Diagnosis, Management, and Surveillance for Patients With PALB2, CHEK2, and ATM Gene Mutations. *Clin Breast Cancer*. 2023 Feb 16:S1526-8209(23)00034-4. doi: 10.1016/j.clbc.2023.02.004. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36966080.

I am also part of a robust group of breast oncologists involved with various radiation oncology techniques.

Sayan M, Vergalasova I, Jhavar S, Kumar S, George M, **Kowzun M**, Potdevin L, Toppmeyer D, Haffty B, Ohri N. Utilization of Hypofractionated Whole-Breast Radiotherapy with Concurrent Anti-Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2 (HER2) Therapy. *Clin Breast Cancer*. 2021 Feb;21(1):31-36. doi: 10.1016/j.clbc.2020.06.007. Epub 2020 Jun 29. PMID: 32792224.

Sayan M, Vergalasova I, George M, **Kowzun M**, Potdevin L, Kumar S, Haffty B, Ohri N. Patterns of post-mastectomy radiation therapy in clinically node positive breast cancer patients with pathologically negative lymph nodes after neoadjuvant chemotherapy. *Turk J Med Sci*. 2021 Nov 13. doi: 10.3906/sag-2109-200. PMID: 34773699.

Yoon J, Yehia Z, Sayan M, Kumar S, **Kowzun M**, Potdevin L, George M, Haffty B, Ohri N. Does the use of Biozorb® result in smaller breast seroma volume? *Anticancer Research* 2022 Vol 42 Issue No 6. Accepted, awaiting publication.

Sayan M, Hathout L, Kilic SS, Jan I, Gilles A, Hassell N, **Kowzun M**, George M, Potdevin L, Kumar S, Sinkin J, Agag R, Haffty BG, Ohri N. Reconstructive complications and early toxicity in breast cancer patients treated with proton-based postmastectomy radiation therapy. *Front Oncol*. 2023 Jan 20;13:1067500. doi: 10.3389/fonc.2023.1067500. PMID: 36741008; PMCID: PMC9895832.

Most recently, I became involved in a national multicenter phase II study of vaccines to prevent recurrence in patients with HER2-positive breast cancer.

Hyo Sook Han, Mary Disis, Robert Wesolowski, William Gwin, Carla Fisher, Shipra Gandhi, Maria Kowzun, Keerthi Gogineni, Hien Liu, Ricardo Costa, Julian Guerrero, Stephy Mathew, Michael Schell, Hatem Soliman, Brian Czerniecki. A Multicenter Phase II Study of Vaccines to Prevent Recurrence in Patients with HER-2 Positive Breast Cancer. Abstract accepted to ASCO 2023.