

Mourning the Loss of James Dargin, MD

Dear Colleagues,

The Lahey Hospital & Medical Center (LHMC) community is saddened to note the death of James Dargin, MD, a much-beloved critical care physician and medical intensive care unit leader. Dr. Dargin passed away this weekend unexpectedly.

A graduate of Boston University School of Medicine, Dr. Dargin completed his internship at LHMC, his residency in Emergency Medicine at Boston Medical Center where he was also Chief Resident. He did his fellowship in Critical Care Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Dargin began his career at LHMC in 2010 as an intensivist in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care.



James Dargin, MD

During his 11 years at LHMC, Dr. Dargin held multiple leadership roles including Director of 5-ICU, Medical Emergency Team (MET), and Medical Director of Respiratory Therapy. In addition, Dr. Dargin was Associate Medical Director of Boston MedFlight. He cared for patients in Burlington as well as Winchester Hospital and Beverly Hospital.

Truly dedicated to his vocation, he also focused his career on teaching others. He received many teaching awards from within LHMC and beyond. He was recognized multiple times with LHMC's Department of Internal Medicine Critical Care Teaching Award. He also received the Clinical Teaching Recognition Award from the Department of Critical Care Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the David A. Frommer Award for Academic Excellence at Boston Medical Center. In addition, he mentored countless clinicians, nurses, and team members in every discipline.

In addition to his teaching accolades, he had a passion for research, participating in many projects which have improved the quality of critical care delivery as well as mentoring others into the field of research. Dr. Dargin was LHMC's Principal Investigator for two multi-center airway trials in partnership with the Pragmatic Critical Care Research Group and he was also known for his involvement with the American College of Chest Physician's Critical Skills for Critical Care course, which was incredibly well-received.

All in all, Dr. Dargin embodied all that is admirable in our profession. Through his direct patient care, he saved countless lives; through his leadership, teaching, and research he amplified that impact many times over. Most notably, Dr. Dargin was among the leaders directing our ICU response through the darkest times of the COVID pandemic. He led with steady wisdom, compassion, and grace serving as a role model for us all.

His impact on the patients and colleagues of LHMC is immeasurable. We will honor his legacy through our dedication to the patients and values that served as his compass. Beyond his professional roles, Dr. Dargin was a cherished friend to so many and a loving husband and father to two daughters. Our world will not be the same without him.

No specific service arrangements have been made at this time. We are keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Victor Pinto-Plata, MD

Division Chair, Pulmonary Critical Care Medicine

Sheri Keitz, MD, PhD

Chair, Department of Medicine

Timothy N. Liesching, MD

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