



AMERICA'S
ESSENTIAL
HOSPITALS



Amgad Makaryus, MD

Chairman of the Department of Cardiology
Nassau University Medical Center (NuHealth)

Dr. Makaryus works at Nassau University Medical Center, a hospital serving a diverse under-served patient population. As Chairman of the Department of Cardiology he applies his skills for the oversight, guidance, and performance improvement of hospital wide inpatient and outpatient programs and initiatives.

He and his colleagues Ms. Kathy Skarka and Dr. Venkatesh Sasthakonar participated in America's Essential Hospitals' yearlong Fellows program in 2013. Their culminating project was focused on "Improving Patient Perception of Nurse and Physician Communication Through Team Steps Methodology."



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Kathy Skarka, RN
Chief Nursing Office
Nassau University Medical Center (NuHealth)

Ms. Kathy Skarka is the Chief Nursing officer at Nassau University Medical Center. She functions at the senior leadership level to establish standards of practice in the delivery of nursing care, treatment and services and assumes an active leadership role within the hospitals governing body. She has a Masters of Science degree in Nursing Administration and Informatics. During her tenure, the hospital has earned Gold plus recognition for stroke as well as Silver recognition for cardiac care. Ms. Skarka was also instrumental in obtaining the status of Bariatric Care Center of Excellence as well as the award of an "A" grade on the Leapfrog report.

Ms. Skarka and her colleagues Dr. Amgad Makaryus and Dr. Venkatesh Sasthakonar participated in America's Essential Hospitals' yearlong Fellows program in 2013. Their culminating project was focused on "Improving Patient Perception of Nurse and Physician Communication Through Team Stepps Methodology."



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Venkatesh Sasthakonar Esackimuthu, MD

Director of Bariatric Surgery
Nassau University Medical Center (NuHealth)

Dr. Sasthakonar Esackimuthu is an International Medical Graduate from India. He completed his surgery residency at North Shore LIJ Health System on Long Island in 2007 and spent a year at New York Medical College pursuing a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery. In 2008 he joined NuHealth as faculty and then in 2010 became the Director of Bariatric Surgery. Under his leadership NuHealth pursued and obtained the Bariatric Center of Excellence designation.

Dr. Sasthakonar Esackimuthu and his colleagues Dr. Amgad Makaryus and Ms. Skarka participated in America's Essential Hospitals' yearlong Fellows program in 2013. Their culminating project was focused on "Improving Patient Perception of Nurse and Physician Communication Through Team Steps Methodology."