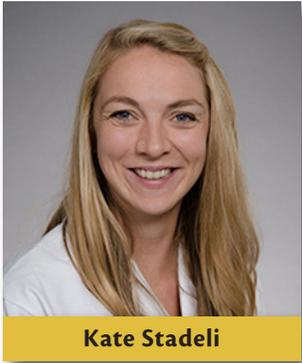


# Surgery News

## Dr. Kate Stadel— Stop the Bleed



Kate Stadel

A collaborative community outreach program, “Working toward Equity in emergencies: WE Stop the Bleed,” has launched to help keep Seattle’s Somali community safer during emergencies. Using the American College of Surgeons’ Stop the Bleed emergency bleeding control course as a starting point, leaders from the Somali Health Board, the University of Washington Department of Surgery, Harborview

Medical Center, Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center, and King County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are working to both improve first aid skills and build trust between the Somali community and emergency responders. **Kate Stadel**, MD, General Surgery Research Resident, developed the initiative in partnership with Ahmed Ali, PharmD and Anisa Ibrahim, MD, of the Somali Health Board, which involves Somali community members and emergency first responders (firefighters, paramedics and law enforcement officers).

Dr. Stadel says “*The key to the WE Stop the Bleed program is that it is designed to go beyond bleeding control skills and aims to tackle difficult bi-directional issues of distrust, fear and implicit biases between marginalized communities, EMS and law enforcement that likely contribute to disparities in pre-hospital emergency outcomes. A lot of important work has focused on identifying these disparities, and this program is one way to build on those efforts and start Working toward Equity together.*”



Harborview Medical Center’s Trauma Outreach Education Coordinator Maria Paulsen, RN, second from left, leads hands-on tourniquet practice in a Stop the Bleed training for health providers at the Somali Health Board offices.

The first step in program development was an initial course attended by 10 Somali health professionals who became certified instructors and offered feedback on culturally adapting Stop the Bleed training. At a second training event in March, 27 community members learned about the EMS system and how to identify life-threatening bleeding injuries, use tourniquets, and pack wounds. The lecture portion was led in Somali by third-year UW medical student, Dirir Abdullahi. The hands-on portion of the course was led by teams of Somali Health Board members and King County emergency responders. The event concluded with collaborative discussion groups about how King County EMS can better engage with the Somali community.

## The 26th Annual Peter K. Buehler Visiting Professorship in Plastic Surgery Lecture

On Friday, April 26th Dr. **Paul Cederna**, Chief of Plastic Surgery at the University of Michigan, gave a glimpse of the future during his recent Buehler lecture titled “*The Six Billion Dollar Man: How Far Away Are We?*”



Combining his undergraduate background in bioengineering with his surgical training, Dr. Cederna has revolutionized the field of hand prosthesis control with his development of regenerative peripheral nerve interface (RPNI).

The concept behind RPNI is to surgically split a major nerve into nerve fascicles to reduce signal interference, then wrap skeletal muscles cells around each fascicle to act as “signal amplifiers”. Each nerve fascicle wrapped with muscle cells is then known as a regenerative peripheral nerve interface. With the reduction in signal interference between nerve fascicles, and the amplification of signal from each fascicle, RPNI allows intuitive hand prosthetic control with dexterity that mirrors a real human hand.

Following the Buehler lecture, Dr. Cederna led a 2-day flap dissection course for the Division of Plastic Surgery. The flap course was well received by the residents, during which they had the opportunity to practice designing and elevating various flaps commonly used in plastic surgery.