

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

Jennifer F. Waljee, M.D., assistant professor of surgery, Department of Surgery, and assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of surgery, with tenure, Department of Surgery, and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, without tenure, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.S.	2006	University of Michigan
M.D.	2002	Emory University
M.P.H.	1998	University of Michigan
B.S.	1996	University of Michigan

Professional Record:

2012-present	Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan
2012-present	Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Waljee's teaching responsibilities include medical student, house officer and fellow education in her day-to-day clinical practice and she participates in direct didactic sessions, teaching rounds, grand rounds and conferences. She mentors and supervises students and fellows along with her research work. Her academic teaching scores average 8.59 on a scale of nine, clinical teaching averages from 8.44 to 8.71, and the resident interaction scores range from 8.51 to 8.78. Comments from learners are highly laudatory and include: "Dr. Waljee is an extraordinary surgeon, scientist, and clinician. She is one of the most approachable, intelligent, compassionate, hard-working individuals that I have come across and I feel distinctly privileged to have an opportunity to work with her," "Dr. Waljee is phenomenal to work with. There is never a time that she doesn't allow me to do cases commensurate with my level of training. She is extremely personable and teaches well. She is very impressive academically, and I think we all aspire to be like her," "There is no better faculty at this institution in surgery, in any specialty. Operatively, she has a long rope and teaches appropriately. She is comfortable with complex problems and able to work out solutions. Educationally, she is thoughtful in discourse and knowledgeable about complex subjects. In research, she is productive, busy and available to residents wanting to pursue a variety of different topics. Above all, she is patient, kind, and, again, thoughtful. She's the total package," "One of the most exceptional academic surgeons and mentors that I have come across. She is truly remarkable in every possible way. She is committed to resident education, patient care, academia, and advancing the field of plastic and hand surgery. It is an honor to work with Dr. Waljee and she is crucial to the University of Michigan plastic and reconstructive surgery program."

Research: Dr. Waljee's research interests include the application of patient centered outcomes as quality indicators in surgery. Prior to joining the faculty, she obtained advanced training in epidemiology and health services research, and with a master's level degree in each. During her residency training, she completed a health-services research fellowship through the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars program, where her work provided a strong foundation in survey research and self-reported measures of disability and quality of life. She has leveraged this training as a highly productive faculty member. To date, she has published 75 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and 31 book chapters. Dr. Waljee has presented 30 extramural presentations and 22 intramural presentations. Dr. Waljee has also established a strong trajectory for obtaining both federal and foundation-sponsored grant funding to support her work. Dr. Waljee has received eight grants on which she was the principal investigator, including a K08 Career Development Award funded through the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and four grants on which she was a co-investigator with collaborators across the University of Michigan.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Waljee JF, Ghaferi A, Finks JF, Cassidy R, Varban O, Carlin A, Carlozzi N, Dimick JB: Variation in patient-reported outcomes across hospitals following surgery. *Medical Care* 53:960-966, 2015.

Waljee JF, Franzblau L, Carlozzi N, Chung KC: Applying PROMIS to assess upper extremity function among children with congenital hand difference. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* 136:200e-207e, 2015.

Waljee JF, Zhong L, Hou H, Davis EN, Brummett C, Chung KC: The utilization of opioid analgesics following common upper extremity surgical procedures: A national, population-based study. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* 137:3553-3564, 2016.

Waljee JF, Ghaferi A, Finks JF, Cassidy R, Varban O, Chung KC, Carlozzi N, Dimick JB: Are patient-reported outcomes correlated with clinical outcomes following surgery? A population-based study. *Annals of Surgery*. In press, 2016.

Ranganathan K, Shapiro D, Vercler CJ, Baker M, Kasten SJ, Warschausky SA, Buchman SR, Waljee JF: The feasibility and validity of PROMIS®: A novel measure of quality of life among children with cleft lip and palate. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. In press, 2016.

Service: Dr. Waljee serves both within and outside our institution in numerous capacities. Internally, Dr. Waljee served on the search committee for the Plastic Surgery Section Head position, and has recently been elected as a member-at-large of the Executive Committee of the Department of Surgery. In this role, she is developing a faculty and trainee workshop to explore gender diversity and its influence on leadership skills within academic surgery, and is leading a committee to quantify the culture within surgery with respect to gender diversity and measure change over time in response to key interventions. In addition, she has been elected to serve on the Early Career Faculty Advisory Committee within the Institute for Health Policy and Innovation (IHPI). Finally, Dr. Waljee serves on a task force to integrate patient-reported outcome measures within our electronic medical record in our healthcare system. Externally, Dr. Waljee has been

very active in the two professional societies central to her clinical expertise, the American Society of Surgery of the Hand and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. For the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, Dr. Waljee serves on the Quality and Performance Management Committee, and has served on the Research Grant Review Committee for the Plastic Surgery Foundation. For the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, Dr. Waljee currently serves as an active member of numerous committees, including the Self-Assessment Examination Writing Committee, the Scientific Displays Committee, the Research Management Committee, and the Quality Metrics Committee. She has served previously on the Performance Measures for Quality Assessment in Hand Surgery Task Force and led the PROMIS Implementation sub-committee. In addition, she is a member of the ASSH Residents and Fellows Committee, and will serve as a co-chair of the 2017 ASSH Residents and Fellows Meeting. Finally, she has held editorial roles for *Hand Clinics and Surgery*, and serves as a peer reviewer for 12 scientific journals, including *Journal of Hand Surgery*, *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*, *Annals of Surgery*, and *British Medical Journal*.

Professional Work: Dr. Waljee enjoys a thriving clinical practice that encompasses all aspects of reconstructive techniques. In summary, her clinical practice has blossomed since joining the faculty and has steadily increased in volume each year, reflecting her dedication and passion for patient care. She is a core member of the Multidisciplinary Comprehensive Hand Surgery Center at the University of Michigan. In this role, she cares for patients referred to the University of Michigan for advanced care of complex acute upper extremity injuries, including traumatic amputations, degloving injuries, and complex fractures, as well as chronic upper extremity conditions including nerve compression, tendinopathies, and arthritis. In addition, she serves for 12 weeks per year on the Acute Burn Service within the Division of Acute Care Surgery. She cares for patients with a wide variety of thermal injuries including flame burns, chemical burns, and frostbite injuries. This practice has now grown to encompass the care of patients with a variety of traumatic and emergent soft tissue injuries, as well as reconstructive procedures for patients with chronic scar conditions. In this capacity, Dr. Waljee cares for both adults and children with scar conditions following traumatic burn injuries, performing complex reconstruction including flap procedures and tissue expansion, as well as laser resurfacing. Dr. Waljee has received multiple internal awards recognizing her clinical care, and her clinical interests provide a robust framework and clinical laboratory allowing for her academic pursuits that involve the implementation of patient-reported outcomes in clinical practice.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Her research has not only caught the attention of state and federal granting institutions, but also some of our most competitive academic societies including the American Foundation for the Surgery of the Hand/American College of Surgeons, Plastic Surgery Research Council, and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. These accomplishments taken as a longitudinal focus speak to both the quality and quantity of her work, as well as their scholarly impact.”

Reviewer B: “She is 1 of 3 hand surgeons [of her cohort] I know in the entire country who has achieved KO8 funding for her research. This automatically puts her in the top 1% of all hand surgery faculty in the world... Simply put, she is a superstar. If for some reason the University of Michigan does not feel that she deserves promotion, I would immediately call her to offer her an

Associate Professor position [at my institution].”

Reviewer C: “What cannot be gleaned from Dr. Waljee’s CV is her strong sense of character and leadership. Sincere, honest, intelligent and trustworthy, Jennifer has developed a national reputation for her commitment, enthusiasm and integrity... A gifted surgeon, a committed educator, and a very productive clinical researcher, Jennifer has gained national prominence in hand surgery.”

Reviewer D: “Her clinical acumen is outstanding and she is regarded as one of the top rising stars in hand surgery around the country...she has become one of the country’s most admired outcome researchers. Her quality and quantity of work and focus make [sic] her a leader in this field in short order.”

Reviewer E: “Regarding her teaching contributions, I have attended numerous national presentations, symposia and panels presented by Dr. Waljee and would rate her teaching and leadership abilities as of the very highest caliber. She is frequently sought out as an instructor for national and international educational activities. She has been an important mentor to many students and residents at Michigan.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Waljee is well respected by her colleagues and is known to be an excellent physician, researcher and clinician. She has demonstrated leadership skills, research success and a strong interest in teaching. I wholeheartedly support Jennifer F. Waljee, M.D. for promotion to associate professor of surgery, with tenure, Department of Surgery, and associate professor of orthopaedic surgery, without tenure, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Medical School.



Marshall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School

May 2017