

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

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

2017-present	Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Surgery, Section of Plastic Surgery, University of Michigan
2017-present	Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Michigan
2013-2017	Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Michigan
2012-2017	Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Section of Plastic Surgery, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching: In all aspects of Dr. Waljee's professional life, she is committed to education and mentorship. As a clinical surgeon, she spends substantial time each week in the operating room and outpatient clinics with learners of all levels where she provides education on the clinical aspects of surgical management and the technical aspects of executing surgical procedures. She provides multiple didactic lectures throughout the year for our trainees on key topics in Hand Surgery and serves on the Hand Surgery Program Evaluation Committee to design the curriculum of Plastic Surgery Hand Fellowship. She is a career mentor to multiple residents per year through institutional and national programs and has published and spoken extensively on best practices in mentorship and career development. As the director of the Center for Healthcare Outcomes and Policy, she has the opportunity to teach students, residents, fellows, and early career faculty the principles of health services research through project-based learning as a mentor and in weekly didactic seminars.

Research: Dr. Waljee's research interests include the application of patient-reported outcomes toward surgical quality and the development of strategies to promote optimal opioid prescribing and stewardship during perioperative care. These areas are of high importance, given the escalation of opioid-related morbidity and mortality in the United States in recent decades, and the contribution of excessive and risky opioid prescribing during surgical care toward the opioid epidemic. A patient-centered approach is critical to creating effective strategies to appropriately prescribe opioids to manage post-operative pain. Dr. Waljee's work applying patient-reported outcomes to develop provider-level strategies to optimize opioid stewardship has generated positive change in

perioperative opioid prescribing in the United States. She has published a total of 276 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 36 book chapters. Dr. Waljee has flourished in her grant funding having acquired numerous grants in the past five years with 13 grants still current from funding sources such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Blair E, Levine D, Hu HM, Langa KM, Kabeto MU, Waljee JF, “The influence of cognitive impairment on postoperative outcomes,” *Annals of Surgery* 2021 PMID: 33605584/PMC8353015
- Katzman C, Harker EC, Ahmed R, Keilin CA, Vu J, Cron DC, Gunaseelan V, Lai YL, Brummett CM, Englesbe MJ, Waljee JF, “The Association Between Preoperative Opioid Exposure and Prolonged Postoperative Use,” *Annals of Surgery* 2021 Nov 1;274(5): e410-e416. PMID: 32427764
- Santosa KB, Lai YL, Brummett CM, Oliver JD, Hu HM, Englesbe MJ, Blair EM, Waljee JF. “Higher Amounts of Opioids Filled after Surgery Increases Risk of Serious Falls and Fall-Related Injuries among Older Adults,” *Journal of General Internal Medicine* Oct;35(10):2917-2924. 2020 PMID: 32748343/PMC7572978
- Vu J, Cron DC, Lee JS, Gunaseelan V, Lagisetty P, Wixson M, Englesbe MJ, Brummett CM, Waljee JF, “Classifying Preoperative Opioid Use for Surgical Care,” *Annals of Surgery* 271(6):1080-1086. 2020.PMID: 30601256/PMC7092502
- Harbaugh CM, Lee JS, Chua KP, Kenney B, Iwashyna TJ, Englesbe MJ, Brummett CM, Bohnert AS, Waljee JF, “Association Between Long-term Opioid Use in Family Members and Persistent Opioid Use After Surgery Among Adolescents and Young Adults,” *JAMA Surgery* 154(4): e185838. 2019. PMID: 30810738/PMC6484797

Service: Dr. Waljee has an extensive service record in multiple capacities institutionally and on a national level. Institutionally, Dr. Waljee serves as the vice chair for Health Services Research and as the director of the Center for Healthcare Outcomes and Policy, where she has led a large consortium of faculty researchers and fellows focused on advancing health services research in procedural care. She is the co-director and co-founder of the Michigan Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network. She also serves on the Institute Leadership Team for the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation. Nationally, she served as a member of the Opioid Workgroup of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in 2021. She has served on numerous committees for the American Association of Hand Surgery, and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, including as governor for the American College of Surgeons representing the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. She is a member of a National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine committee tasked with creating a framework for opioid prescribing guidelines for acute pain in 2019, and a member of the Opioid Prescribing Estimates Workgroup for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2018. She has been on numerous external grant review panels through the NIH, Patient-centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), and Agency For Healthcare Research And Quality (AHRQ) as an expert in opioid prescribing. In addition, Dr. Waljee served as the deputy methodology editor for the *Journal of Hand Surgery*, is on the editorial board for *Annals of Surgery*, and is an associate editor for two additional journals. She has been a reviewer for 19 journals, including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, and *Anesthesiology*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “While her grants are one recognition of her quality and accomplishments, her national, regional, and institutional awards reflect one additional peer indication of her excellence...This recognition has led to substantial study section and editorial board participation, and of course journal

reviewer responsibilities. Jennifer Waljee is a rising star in academic plastic surgery and in academic medicine. She has the optimal combination of pedigree, effort, passion, focus, and commitment to continue to rise on a steep trajectory as a leader in academic surgery.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Waljee has several high-impact publications, including her paper on The Influence of Cognitive Impairment on Post-Operative Outcomes published recently in the Annals of Surgery. She was the senior author for this paper. She also has published in the Annals of Surgery on The Association Between Preoperative Opioid Exposure and Prolonged Postoperative Use. It is very rare for a plastic surgeon to publish in the highly regarded Annals of Surgery. This tells me that she is able to cross over from her narrow specialty to the entire world of surgery. This is because the research cuts across various surgical specialties to findings and research patterns critical for all types of surgery. She is making an impact at multiple levels.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Waljee’s career thus far at [the] University of Michigan clearly illustrates excellence in service and administrative leadership as evidenced by her roles as Vice-Chair of Health Services Research and Director of the Center for Healthcare Policy and Outcomes. Equally impressive is her dedication to work with opioid management through the successful collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and [the] resultant founding of the Michigan Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network (OPEN).”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Waljee’s character, work ethic, and teamwork have been always beyond reproach making her a superb plastic surgeon and physician that is held in the highest regard by her peers. Her research funding is unparalleled in Plastic Surgery. She is a superstar.”

Reviewer E: “I believe Dr. Waljee stands at a level higher than her peers in hand and plastic surgery – her accomplishments in research, education, and scholarship are outstanding, with a national reputation, robust federal funding, incredible productivity, and highly engaged institutional and national service.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Waljee has distinguished herself as an exceptional researcher that is nationally and internationally recognized as a leader in the field of opioid stewardship during acute care conditions. She continues to be highly productive with excellence in teaching, mentorship, as well as service. I am pleased to recommend Jennifer F. Waljee, M.D., M.P.H., M.S. for promotion to professor of surgery, with tenure, Department of Surgery, and professor of orthopaedic surgery, without tenure, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Medical School.



Marschall S. Runge, M.D., PhD
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
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