

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### **John A. Braca III, M.D., MMS, FAANS**

#### **Current Position:**

Chief of Neurosurgery UPMC Central and North Central Regions  
Medical Director – Department of Neurosurgery, UPMC Neurological Institute

#### **EDUCATION**

##### **GRADUATE:**

|                 |                                       |                            |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 08/2001-05/2003 | Drexel University College of Medicine | Masters of Medical Science |
| 08/2003-05/2007 | New York Medical College              | Doctor of Medicine         |

##### **UNDERGRADUATE:**

|                 |                    |   |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| 08/1995-05/1999 | Fordham University | Bachelor of Science<br>Major: Biological Sciences<br>Minor: Chemistry |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|

#### **GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION:**

##### **Internship**

|               |                                  |                               |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7/2007-6/2008 | Loyola University Medical Center | Department of General Surgery |
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##### **Residency**

|               |                                  |                                    |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7/2008-6/2014 | Loyola University Medical Center | Department of Neurological Surgery |
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##### **Chief Resident**

|               |                                  |                                    |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7/2013-6/2014 | Loyola University Medical Center | Department of Neurological Surgery |
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#### **CONCENTRATED INTRA-RESIDENCY SURGICAL TRAINING:**

##### **Spine Fellowship**

Dr. Russ Nockels

|               |                                  |                                    |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 7/2012-6/2013 | Loyola University Medical Center | Department of Neurological Surgery |
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#### **FELLOWSHIP TRAINING POST RESIDENCY:**

##### **Endovascular Fellowship** Dr. John Scott, Dr. Andrew DeNardo, Dr. Dan Sahlein

|               |  |
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| 7/2014-6/2015 | Indiana University, Goodman Campbell Brain and Spine |
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##### **Cerebrovascular/Skull Base Fellowship** Dr. Troy Payner

|               |  |
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| 7/2015-6/2016 | Indiana University, Goodman Campbell Brain and Spine |
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#### **FELLOWSHIP APPOINTMENT:**

Council of State Neurosurgical Societies (CSNS) Socioeconomic Fellow (2013-2014)

#### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY and FACULTY APPOINTMENTS:**

##### **Neurosurgery Fellow and Clinical Teaching Appointment:**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| July 2014 to June 2016 | Indiana University, Goodman Campbell Brain and Spine |
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##### **Endovascular Neurosurgeon:**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| July 2016 to July 2023 | Tower Health Neurosurgery, West Reading, PA |
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##### **Assistant Professor:**

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| May 2019 to July 2023 | Drexel College of Medicine, Department of Neurosurgery |
|-----------------------|--|

Chief of Neurosurgery:

October 2023 to present UPMC Harrisburg / West Shore / Community General  
October 2023 to present UPMC Williamsport

Clinical Assistant Professor:

October 2023 to present University of Pittsburgh SOM, Department of Neurosurgery

**BOARD CERTIFICATION AND MEDICAL LICENSURE:**

Certification:

2005 National Board of Medical Examiners – STEP 1 Pass  
2007 National Board of Medical Examiners – STEP 2CK Pass  
2007 National Board of Medical Examiners – STEP 2CS Pass  
2013 National Board of Medical Examiners – STEP 3 Pass  
2011 American Board of Neurological Surgery – Written examination – Pass  
2020 American Board of Neurological Surgery – Oral Board Examination – Pass - Board certified Neurosurgeon

**LICENSURE**

State of Pennsylvania, Dept of State Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs – MD458773  
State of Illinois, Department of Professional Regulation – 125053759 (expired)  
State of Illinois, Controlled Substance License (expired)  
State of Indiana, Professional Licensing Agency – 01074220B (expired)  
State of New Mexico, New Mexico Medical Board (expired)  
DEA License

**HONORS/AWARDS:**

- ◆ Cor et Manus Award, New York Medical College (May 2007)
- ◆ William Cullen Bryant Award (one selected graduating medical student for academic excellence and service to the College of Medicine), New York Medical College (May 2007)
- ◆ Neurosurgery Department Award, New York Medical College (May 2007)
- ◆ Alumni Endowed Scholarship, New York Medical College (May 2007)
- ◆ Loyola University Medical Center Magis Award, LUMC Maywood, IL (2008, '09,'10,'11,'12,'13,'14)
- ◆ Student Athlete of the Year, 1995 - Football, Joel Barlow High School, Redding, Connecticut

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

Member, American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
Member, Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Member, AANS/CNS Cerebrovascular Section  
Member, AANS/CNS Spine Section  
Member, Council of State Neurosurgical Societies  
Member, Pennsylvania Medical Society

**PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS and ADMINSTRATIVE SERVICE**

Reading Hospital Contract and Financing Committee, Member January 2018 – July 2023  
Reading Hospital Operating Room Advisory Committee, Member November 2017 – July 2023  
Reading Hospital Critical Care Committee, Member August 2016 – July 2023  
Reading Hospital Stroke Interdisciplinary Team, Member August 2016 – July 2023  
Reading Hospital Neuroscience Planning Team, Member October 2016 – July 2023

Member (2011-2014), Housestaff Quality and Safety Committee, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
Member (2011), Neurosurgery Chairman Search Committee, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
Member (May 2012), Internal Site Review Committee, Neurology Residency Program, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
Member (February 2012), Internal Site Review Committee, OB/GYN Residency Program, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
Member (December 2011), Internal Site Review Committee, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
Committee Member (2008-2014), Resident Governance Committee, LUMC, Maywood, IL  
President of Student Senate (Elected), (2006-2007), New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY  
Student Senator (Elected), (2003,'04,'05,'06), New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY  
Treasurer, Executive Student Senate, 2004-2005, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY  
Chairman, 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Physician Awareness Day, April 2004  
Chairman (2004), Medical Student Orientation Committee, New York Medical College  
Medical School Admissions Committee Member (2006-2007), Student Member

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Chairman, Planning Committee (2003-2004), NYMC Student-Run Free Health Clinic Project, La Casita De La Salud, East Harlem, NY

### **EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Chief Resident (7/1/2013-6/30/2014), Department of Neurosurgery, Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL  
Chief Resident (7/1/2010-6/30/2011), Department of Neurosurgery, Hines Veterans Administration, Hines, IL  
Founder, Center for Academic Excellence, 2005; Medical Student Tutoring Service, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY  
Tutor: 2003-2006, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY – Pathology, Medical Physiology, Cell Biology/Histology, Medical Neuroscience  
Tutor: 2001, Drexel College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA - Medical Physiology, Cell Biology/Histology, Medical Neuroscience  
Vice President, Alpha Epsilon Delta, Eta Chapter (Pre-med Honors Society) 1998

### **COURSE FACULTY**

1. SNS Resident Boot Camp: First Year Residents, July 11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
2. SNS Resident Boot Camp: First Year Residents, April 17-18<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
3. SNS Resident Boot Camp: First Year Residents, July 10-11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
4. CNS 2019 Annual Meeting: Maximizing Your Neurosurgical Employment Opportunities Symposium; Congress of Neurological Surgeons October 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2019
5. CNS 2021 Annual Meeting: Maximizing Your Neurosurgical Employment Opportunities Symposium; Congress of Neurological Surgeons October 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 2021

### **CLINICAL ACTIVITIES**

**Course Director:** Morbidity and Mortality Conference, Reading Hospital July 2018 to July 2023  
Daily rounds – bedside instruction of medical students, residents and nurse practitioners.  
Development of Reading Hospital Subarachnoid Hemorrhage Protocol 2016-2017  
EMS Dinner and Learn: Aneurysms and Stroke 11/9/2016  
HealthBreak Video: Cerebral Aneurysm Treatment (2016)  
HealthBreak Video: Mechanical Thrombectomy in Stroke (2018)  
HealthBreak Video: Minimally Invasive Skull Base Surgery (2018)

## **SCHOLARLY BIBLIOGRAPHY**

1. \*R.A. Ross, A.M. Hein, **John A. Braca III**, Glucocorticoids Induce Neuroendocrine Cell Differentiation and Increase Expression of N-myc in Human Neuroblastoma N-type Cells. *Oncology Research/Anti-Cancer Drug Design*, 2002, Vol.13, pp. 87-94
2. \***John A. Braca III**, M. Hornyak, R. Murali Marfan Syndrome, hemifacial spasm and Chiari I malformation in a male patient: a case report. *Journal of Neurosurgery*. 2005 Sep;103(3):552-4.
3. \***John A. Braca III**, Sam Marzo, Vikram C. Prabhu. Cerebrospinal fluid leakage from Tegmen Tympani defects repaired via the Middle Cranial Fossa Approach. *J Neurol Surg B*. 2013 January 22<sup>nd</sup> EFirst.
4. Kovanda T, **John A. Braca III**, Prabhu V. Bilateral Ptosis as Initial Presentation of Gliomatosis Cerebri: Case Report. *J Neurol Surg A Cent Eur Neurosurg*. 2013 Feb 20.
5. Farrukh S. Chaudhry, José Biller, Christopher M. Loftus, **John A. Braca III**. Armored Brain. *Arq. Neuro-Psiquiatr*. vol.71 no.10 São Paulo, October, 2013
6. **John A. Braca III**, D Hayward, G Katsevman, J Amport, R Nockels, V Prabhu. Aneurysmal Bone Cysts of the Neuraxis: Part One. Clinical Presentation and Pathogenesis. *Contemporary Neurosurgery*. May 15, 2014, Vol 36 Issue 9 pp1-6.
7. **John A. Braca III**, D Hayward, G Katsevman, J Amport, R Nockels, V Prabhu. Aneurysmal Bone Cysts of the Neuraxis: Part Two. Illustrative Case Reviews and Review of the Literature. *Contemporary Neurosurgery*. May 15, 2014, Vol 36 Issue 9 pp1-6.
8. H Zaidi, C Colen, LM Tumialán, M Linskey, CM Schirmer, **John A. Braca III**, C Watridge. The History of the Council of State Neurosurgical Societies (CSNS) (Submitted for publication)
9. \*VM Ravindra, **John A. Braca III**, RL Jensen, EA Duckworth. Management of intracranial pathology during pregnancy: Case example and review of management strategies. *Surgical Neurology International*. 2015 March 23;6:43.
10. \*T Ibrahim, J Garst, D Burkett, G Toia, **John A. Braca III**, J Hill, D Anderson. Microsurgical Pontine Descending Tractotomy in Cases of Intractable Trigeminal Neuralgia. *Neurosurgery*. 2015 July 31. [Epub ahead of print].
11. \*Katsevman GA, **John A. Braca III**, Welch KC, Ashley WW Jr. Delayed Presentation of an Extracranial Internal Carotid Artery Pseudoaneurysm and Massive Epistaxis Secondary to a Nasal Foreign Body. Case Report and Review of the Literature. *World Neurosurg*. 2016 May 14. pii: S1878-8750(16)30292-3. doi: 10.1016/j.wneu.2016.05.018. [Epub ahead of print]
12. \*Anokwute MC, **John A Braca III**, Bohnstedt B, DeNardo A, Scott J, Cohen-Gadol A, Sahlein D. Endovascular treatment of ruptured tiny (>3mm) intracranial aneurysms in the setting of subarachnoid hemorrhage: A case series of 20 patients and literature review. *Journal of Clinical Neuroscience* 40 (2017) 52-56
13. Commentary: Deficiencies in Socioeconomic Training During Neurosurgical Training. Karsy M, Park, MS, Bekelis K, **John A Braca III**, Nahed BV, Colen CB, Barbaro NM, Berger MS, Mukherjee D. *Neurosurgery*. 2019 January 1;84(1):E79-E85
14. \*Katsevman G, **John A. Braca III**, Amin B, Lena Hatchett. Interdisciplinary Differences in Needlestick Injuries Among Healthcare Professionals in Training: Situational Awareness to Improve Safety. *Annals of Work Exposures and Health* (Submitted for publication)
15. Slater L, **John A Braca, III**, Lee B, Zimmerman R. An uncommon case of neurosarcoidosis presenting as trigeminal neuralgia. *Journal of Community Hospital Internal Medicine*

## **BOOK CHAPTERS**

1. **John A. Braca III**, Markus Bookland, Daniel Heiferman, Christopher Loftus. Chapter 74 Indications for Carotid Endarterectomy in Patients with Symptomatic and Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis. *Stroke: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Management Sixth Edition*.
2. **John A. Braca III**, Aaron Cohen-Gadol. Diagnosis and Management of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage. *The Neurosurgical Atlas*.

## **PRESENTATIONS / ABSTRACTS / POSTERS**

1. TC Origitano, **John A. Braca III**. Image-Guided Skull Base Surgery. Oral Presentation at the XIV World Congress of Neurosurgery Meeting. Boston, MA 2009.
2. **John A. Braca III**, J Whapham. A Novel Approach to Endovascular Repair of a Complex Iatrogenic Vertebral Artery Cervical Spinal Dural Arteriovenous Fistula Utilizing an AMPLATZER Vascular Plug. Society of Neurointerventional Surgery 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Colorado Springs, CO July 25-28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – E-Poster.
3. T Ibrahim, **John A. Braca III**, A Mantravadi. Meningiomas of the Cerebellopontine Angle: Approaches and Outcomes. North American Skull Base Society 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Las Vegas, NV February 17-19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – Oral Presentation.
4. **John A. Braca III**, V Prabhu, S Marzo. Middle Cranial Fossa Approach for Repair of Tegmen Tympani Defects and Temporal Encephalocele. North American Skull Base Society 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Las Vegas, NV February 17-19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – Poster Presentation.
5. **John A. Braca III**, V Prabhu, J Whapham. Ghost Image Extraction Technique Utilizing Intraoperative Angiography for the Controlled Removal of an Intracranial Nail. Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA July 23-27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – E-Poster.
6. **John A. Braca III**, Nikhil Patel, Andrew Mueller, Douglas Anderson. Microsurgical Descending Tractotomy in Cases of Intractable Trigeminal Pain Syndromes. Congress of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, October 6-10, 2012 - Oral Presentation.
7. **John A. Braca III**, Giuseppe Toia, Douglas Anderson. Microsurgical Descending Pontine Tractotomy in Trigeminal Pain Syndromes. American Association of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 5-9, 2014 – Oral Presentation.
8. M Anokwute, **John A. Braca, III**, A DeNardo, J Scott, D Sahlein. Endovascular Treatment of Tiny ( $\leq 3\text{mm}$ ) Intracranial Aneurysms in the Setting of Subarachnoid Hemorrhage: A Case Series of 16 Patients. AANS/CNS Cerebrovascular Section Annual Meeting, February 15-16, 2016, Los Angeles, California – Digital Poster.

## **INVITED COMMENTARIES:**

1. The combined use of mechanical thrombectomy devices is feasible for treating acute carotid terminus occlusion. *Acta Neurochir (Wien)*. 2013 Apr;155(4):635-41. Epub 2013 Feb 23. Lee JS, Hong JM, Lee SJ, Joo IS, Lim YC, Kim SY.
2. Long-term prognosis in patients with clipped unruptured cerebral aneurysms—Increased cerebrovascular events in patients with surgically treated unruptured aneurysms.

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:**

1. Neurosurgery Grand Rounds: “Management of Patients Undergoing Endovascular Procedures” September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
2. Neurosurgery Grand Rounds: “Intracranial circulation and Angiographic Correlates” July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.

3. Reading Hospital's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Stroke Quintessentials Conference: "Clinical Presentation and Treatment of Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage" September 15, 2017
4. Cerebral Aneurysms: Diagnosis, Treatment options and Follow up Care. 1 hour presentation at the Osteopathic Fall Symposium, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019
5. Endoscopic Transsphenoidal Surgery: Imaging Characteristics, Techniques and Case Review. Endocrinology Fellowship Grand Rounds. December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020
6. Endoscopic Transsphenoidal Surgery: Imaging Characteristics, Techniques and Case Review. Endocrinology Fellowship Grand Rounds. December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

**Journals Appointed to Review:**

1. Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases

**WORK HISTORY:**

**Doximity Fellowship Program, Doximity.com**

March 2014-July 2015: Weekly postings on [www.Doximity.com](http://www.Doximity.com) with new Neurosurgery publications, Conduct online discussions regarding management controversies in Neurosurgery.

**Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Ridgefield, CT**

July 2000 – July 2001: Research + Development: Medicinal Scientist - *Operated and maintained Allegro Ultra High-Throughput Screening (UHTS) System, Designed Assays in Assay Development Lab.*

**Fordham University Neurobiology Lab, Bronx, NY**

June 1999 – July 2000: Lab assistant – Lab of Dr. Robert A Ross, Neurobiology. Performed Neuroblastoma molecular cell line analyses.

**Carl M. Rodia and Associates, Trumbull, CT**

Summers 1997+1998: Process Engineer - *Performed on-site CD-R manufacturing equipment alterations to optimize disc quality. Responsible for gathering and processing all Quality Control data.*

**HOSPITAL PRIVILEGES:**

October 2023 – Present: UPMC Harrisburg / West Shore / Community General, Harrisburg, PA

October 2023 – Present: UPMC Hanover / Lititz / Annville / Carlisle / Hershey / Lancaster / Mechanicsburg

October 2023 – Present: UPMC Williamsport, Williamsport, PA

July 2016 – July 2023: Reading Hospital, Tower Health, West Reading, PA 19611

July 2014 – July 2016: Methodist Hospital, Indiana University Health, Indianapolis, IN 46202

July 2014 – July 2016: St. Vincent's Hospital, Indianapolis, IN 46260

July 2014 – July 2016: Community Hospital South, Indianapolis, IN 46227

July 2014 – July 2016: Eskenazi Health, Indianapolis, IN 46202

**Accomplishments within Reading Hospital/Tower Health July 2016 July 2023:**

- Chair: Subarachnoid hemorrhage working group – Authored SAH protocols and outlined care paths, integrated with Neurocritical care, SICU nursing, ER personnel
- Biplane Construction: Led the committee for new Biplane room construction
- Stroke: Thrombectomy capable designation at Reading Hospital (Comprehensive Stroke designation Application withdrawn for administrative lack of support)
- Stroke: Established call schedule for 365 days of coverage (Techs, nurses, MD's, ER)

- Coordinating emergent and urgent neurosurgical transfers in a new health system (Tower Health)
- Established and innovated Cerebrovascular/Endovascular care at Reading Hospital
- Successfully recruited two additional fellowship trained Endovascular Neurosurgeons to Reading Hospital
- Successfully mentored three young Neurosurgeons hired at Reading Hospital
- Successfully built NeuroEndoscopic (anterior skull base and intraventricular endoscopy) program and integrated with the newly formed Endocrinology Fellowship
- Performed complex intracranial tumor cases never before performed at Reading Hospital with excellent outcomes
- Initiated and provided on site didactic lectures and small group case-based learning with medical students at Drexel Medical School West Reading Campus
- Maintained the busiest Neurosurgical schedule in the group at Reading Hospital while simultaneously maintaining a 4.9-5.0 average rating in Press Ganey

**CURRENT PROJECTS:**

1. Thromboelastogram (TEG) – Impact on neurosurgical and endovascular procedures.
2. Endovascular device development.
3. Robotic interface in neurosurgery.
4. Middle Meningeal artery embolization for treatment of Subdural hematoma in the elderly.
5. Medical student mentorship – neurosurgery resident applicants.