

Advanced Practice Providers

Advanced Practice Providers, which include nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs), work in collaboration with your physicians to form small “care teams” that manage care for a particular group of patients. This team-based approach allows you to be seen more quickly, as there are more providers available to care for you.



Maria Traverso, NP-C, MSN

Nurse Practitioner
Masters of Science, Nursing
University of Cincinnati
Location: Emory University Hospital

Maria Traverso, NP-C is a board certified Nurse Practitioner. She earned her RN from Cleveland Clinic in 2008, then went on to earn a Bachelor of Science Nursing degree from Ohio University and her Masters of Science, Nursing degree from the University of Cincinnati. Maria joined Emory Healthcare in 2011 working as a charge nurse in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. She has been with the Aortic Center since January of 2016.



Alysa Zellner, NP, MPH

Masters of Science, Nursing
Vanderbilt University
Location: Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital

Alysa Zellner, NP, MPH joined Emory Healthcare Cardiothoracic Surgery in 2013 as a nurse on the cardiac stepdown unit at Emory University Hospital. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Political Science from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. After college, she taught chemistry in Baltimore with Teach for America. She then pursued training in public health at Tulane University, studying child and maternal health. After working in at the Office of Public Health in New Orleans, she moved to Atlanta where she chose Emory for nursing school. She worked for four years as a nurse at Emory while pursuing her advanced practice degree at Vanderbilt University. In August 2017 she earned her Master of Science in Nursing, becoming an adult acute care nurse practitioner. She started her current role as Aortic Navigator Nurse Practitioner with Aortic Center at EUH in December of 2017.