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## NABIL SABBAK, MD

**Interventional & Structural Cardiologist | Expert Medical Witness**

Atlanta, GA

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(678) 641-3474

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### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY



Dr. Nabil Sabbak is an Interventional and Structural Cardiologist with advanced fellowship training from the Cleveland Clinic, specializing in catheter-based therapies to treat valvular heart disease, coronary artery disease, congenital heart disease, and heart failure. He practices as a high-volume operator performing complex procedures including percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), transcatheter mitral and tricuspid repair and replacement, left atrial appendage occlusion, and mechanical support device implantation for cardiogenic shock. He also offers consultative services in general cardiology, heart failure, and cardiac critical care. The nature of his practice requires continuous real-time decision-making in complex clinical environments. He is a valued and respected member of his clinical practice performing among the most technically complex and highest risk procedures in his discipline.

In addition to training in cardiovascular disease, interventional and structural cardiology at the Cleveland Clinic, he completed internal medicine training at Emory University, and holds a bachelors degree in Economics and Neuroscience from Vanderbilt University.

Since 2020, Dr. Sabbak has served as a clinical trial adjudicator with Cleveland Clinic's C5Research division, an Academic Research Organization within the Heart, Vascular & Thoracic Institute that provides blinded, independent oversight for multi-center cardiovascular clinical trials. As a Phase 2 adjudicator, he has independently reviewed and adjudicated thousands of adverse events and clinical endpoints across pharmaceutical and medical device studies, applying rigorous protocol definitions, clinical event criteria, and regulatory standards to real-world clinical data.

Dr. Sabbak actively contributes to ongoing clinical trials in the cardiovascular device space and has published medical literature in numerous high impact journals.

In medico-legal matters, Dr. Sabbak is valued for his clarity and precision in explaining complex cardiovascular issues to non-medical audiences. He approaches each engagement with thorough preparation and delivers well-supported, evidence-based opinions that withstand close scrutiny. His experience reviewing and analyzing medical records for legal matters is informed by years of high-acuity clinical practice and extensive clinical trial adjudication, where objective assessment and consistency are essential. Attorneys rely on his current, practice-based understanding of cardiology standards of care and his ability to present medically rigorous analyses in a clear, credible manner.

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### MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**Interventional and Structural Cardiologist**

**2024 - Present**

*Wellstar Kennestone Regional Medical Center, Marietta, GA*

- Provide cardiovascular consultative and procedural services at this flagship tertiary care hospital designated as an **ACS-verified Level I Trauma Center** with >630 beds; high-volume **STEMI-capable cardiac catheterization labs**, dedicated **CCU and CVICU**,

**NABIL SABBAK, MD**

comprehensive **cardiac surgery and structural heart programs**, and one of the busiest emergency departments in the region.

- Active member of multidisciplinary **Structural Heart and Valve Team**, involved in evaluation, case planning, and performance of transcatheter valve replacement and repair, longitudinal patient management, and optimization of quality outcomes.
- Actively participate in the **STEMI and Pulmonary Embolism Response Team (PERT)** call-pools
- Perform **over 350 transcatheter interventions per year** including complex percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI), intravascular lithotripsy, coronary rotational atherectomy, transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), mitral and tricuspid valve repair and placement, left atrial appendage occlusion, closure of patent foramen ovale and atrial septal defect, mechanical support including ECMO and Impella placement, and pulmonary artery thrombectomy
- Routinely perform and interpret invasive diagnostic cardiovascular tests including left and right cardiac catheterization, intravascular ultrasound (IVUS), optical coherence tomography (OCT), and interpret non-invasive tests such as echocardiogram, cardiac CT, nuclear stress testing, and electrocardiogram.

## MEDICAL TRAINING

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**Cleveland Clinic Foundation** (Cleveland, OH) **2019 - 2024**

- Interventional & Structural Cardiology Fellowship - Cleveland Clinic (2022-2024)
- Cardiovascular Medicine Fellowship - Cleveland Clinic (2019-2022)

**Emory University** (Atlanta, GA) **2016 - 2019**

- Internal Medicine Residency - Emory University Medical Center

## EDUCATION

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**Vanderbilt University - BA, Class of 2011** **2007 - 2011**

- Economics (major), Neuroscience (minor)
- Omicron Epsilon Delta Economic Honors Society

**Medical College of Georgia - MD, Class of 2016** **2012 - 2016**

- Vice President Class of 2016
- Gold Humanism Honors Society Member

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Cleveland Clinic C5 Research Division** **2020 - present**

Clinical Trial Adverse Event Adjudicator

- Independently reviewed and adjudicated thousands of adverse events and clinical endpoints across pharmaceutical and medical device studies, applying rigorous protocol definitions, clinical event criteria, and regulatory standards to real-world clinical data.

Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Implementation Specialist

- Ensured successful implementation of EMR at specific hospital sites and ensured regulatory and information technology compliance with meaningful use criteria at the enterprise level

## **LICENSURE AND BOARD CERTIFICATIONS**

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1. American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), Internal Medicine: Board Certified
2. ABIM, Cardiovascular Disease: Board Certified
3. ABIM, Interventional Cardiology: Board Certified
4. Certification Board of Nuclear Cardiology (CBNC): Board Certified
5. State Medical Board of Georgia, Doctor of Medicine (MD)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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1. American College of Cardiology (2019 - present)

## **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

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- Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI - stent placement)
- Rotational atherectomy (drilling through plaque in coronary arteries)
- Intravascular lithotripsy/Shockwave (fracturing calcium in coronary arteries)
- Intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) and optical coherence tomography (OCT)
- Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR)
- Transcatheter mitral and tricuspid valve edge-to-edge repair (TEER / MitraClip, PASCAL)
- Transcatheter mitral valve replacement (TMVR)
- Transcatheter tricuspid valve replacement (EVOQUE)
- Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve Replacement (TPVR)
- Left Atrial Appendage occlusion (WATCHMAN)
- Patent Foramen Ovale (PFO) and Atrial Septal Defect (ASD) closure
- Pulmonary artery thrombectomy (removal of blood clots from lungs)
- Impella device (minimally invasive heart pump)
- Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO - heart-lung bypass machine)
- Management of cardiogenic shock
- Acute coronary syndrome including STEMI / NSTEMI (heart attack)
- Cardiac Arrest management
- Structural Heart Disease (heart valve and congenital defects)
- Coronary Angiography

## **NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS**

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**Sabbak N**, Kapadia S. *Aortic Stenosis*. In: Griffin B, Menon V, editors. *Manual of Cardiovascular Medicine*. 6th ed. Chapter 15: Aortic Valve Disease. July 2025.

Isogai T, Spiliadis N, Bakhtadze B, **Sabbak N**, Denby KJ, Layoun H, Agrawal A, Shekhar S, Yun JJ, Puri R, Harb SC, Reed GW, Krishnaswamy A, Kapadia SR. *Outcomes and treatment strategy of transcatheter aortic valve replacement with balloon-expandable valve in borderline-size annulus*. *Cardiovascular Revascularization Medicine*. 2024 Sep;66:6–14. doi: 10.1016/j.carrev.2024.03.030. PMID: 38641438.

**Sabbak N**, Kapadia S. *Atrial fixation transcatheter mitral valve replacement technology: Can we forget about the neo-LVOT?* Cardiovascular Revascularization Medicine. 2024 Jan;58:31–33.

**Sabbak N**, Denby K, Kumar A, Ghobrial J. *Intravascular lithotripsy for severe RVOT calcification to optimize transcatheter pulmonary valve replacement.* JACC: Case Reports. 2023 Aug 19.

Chan N, Dong T, **Sabbak N**, Xu B, Wang TKM. *Contemporary review of transcatheter mitral valve interventions for mitral regurgitation.* Life. 2023 Jul 5.

**Sabbak N**, Ghobrial J. *Successful emergent transcatheter pulmonary valve replacement within failing pulmonary artery conduit in cardiogenic shock with ECMO support.* European Heart Journal – Case Reports. 2021 Oct 25.

Spiliadis N, **Sabbak N**, Harb SC, Yun JJ, Vargo PR, Unai S, Puri R, Reed GW, Krishnaswamy A, Kapadia SR. *A novel method of assessing commissural alignment for the SAPIEN 3 transcatheter aortic valve.* JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions. 2021 Jun 14.

Koh JS, Hung OY, Eshtehardi P, Kumar A, Rabah R, Raad M, Kumar S, Chaudhry S, Gupta S, Hosseini H, Brilakis E, Corban M, **Sabbak N**, Burnett GM, Liu C, Mehta PK, Quyyumi AA, Samady H. *Microvascular assessment of ranolazine in non-obstructive atherosclerosis: The MARINA randomized, double-blinded, controlled pilot trial.* Circulation: Cardiovascular Interventions. 2020 Dec 13.

Al-Badri A, Samman Tahhan A, **Sabbak N**, Mehta PK, Quyyumi AA. *Soluble urokinase-type plasminogen activator receptor and high-sensitivity troponin levels predict outcomes in nonobstructive coronary artery disease.* Journal of the American Heart Association. 2020 Apr 17.

Samman Tahhan A, Hammadah M, **Sabbak N**, Vaccarino V, Waller EK, Quyyumi AA. *Progenitor cells and clinical outcomes in patients with acute coronary syndromes.* Circulation Research. 2018 Mar 7.