

Hugo Bonatti, MD, Advances Robotic And Minimally Invasive Surgery Through Research And Education And Innovation Today

University of Maryland Surgeon and Associate Professor Combines Decades of International Experience with Leadership in Bariatric Surgery, Surgical Critical Care, and Nutritional Research



Baltimore, Maryland May 22, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](http://www.IssueWire.com)) - Hugo Bonatti, MD, is an accomplished attending surgeon and Associate Professor at the University of Maryland Medical Center, where he

specializes in minimally invasive, bariatric, and robotic surgery. With a distinguished medical career spanning Europe and the United States, Dr. Bonatti has dedicated decades to advancing surgical innovation, improving patient outcomes, and mentoring the next generation of surgeons. His expertise includes laparoscopic and robotic procedures, surgical critical care, and the management of complex surgical infections, making him a respected leader in modern surgical practice.

Dr. Bonatti began his surgical career in Austria, where he became a fully licensed surgeon in 1995 and worked extensively as a general and transplant surgeon. Initially intending to spend only one year in the United States conducting research, he ultimately chose to continue his medical career in America. This decision led him to complete extensive retraining and two fellowships before achieving full board certification in the United States in 2013. His international background and broad clinical training have provided him with a unique perspective on surgical care and healthcare delivery across diverse patient populations.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bonatti has served at both major academic medical centers and rural healthcare facilities across Maryland. This experience has allowed him to provide critical surgical care to underserved communities while gaining valuable insight into the challenges faced by smaller hospitals and rural healthcare systems. Today, one of his professional priorities is expanding access to minimally invasive and robotic surgery in underprivileged regions and community hospitals that may not traditionally have access to advanced surgical technologies.

Board-certified in General Surgery and Surgical Critical Care by the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Bonatti is an active member of several respected professional organizations, including the Surgical Infection Society, the American College of Surgeons, the Southeastern Surgical Congress, and the Society of Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgeons. His commitment to research and academic medicine is reflected in an impressive body of scholarly work that includes approximately 300 peer-reviewed publications. His research has focused extensively on surgical infections, minimally invasive surgery, and emerging challenges in surgical patient care.

Among Dr. Bonatti's current research interests is the role of nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in surgical recovery and healing. His work in this area was deeply influenced by the loss of a patient from undiagnosed scurvy several years ago, an experience that motivated him to investigate how nutritional deficiencies — particularly deficiencies in vitamin C and thiamine (vitamin B1) — can negatively impact surgical outcomes. He continues to study the effects of highly processed foods and poor nutrition on patient recovery, advocating for greater awareness of nutritional health in surgical medicine.

At the University of Maryland, Dr. Bonatti is actively involved in redeveloping a bariatric surgery program while also mentoring medical students and surgical residents. He views education as one of the most important responsibilities in medicine, particularly in surgery, where physicians must now master open surgery, laparoscopic techniques, and robotic procedures simultaneously.

“What I enjoy most is getting more into education because I think we have a great responsibility to teach our medical students and residents,” Dr. Bonatti shared. “We have to teach them regular open surgery, laparoscopic surgery, and now robotic surgery as well. It is challenging, but it can be done.”

Reflecting on his career, Dr. Bonatti credits his early fascination with anatomy, biology, chemistry, and languages for inspiring his path into medicine. A memorable experience observing brain dissections as a student solidified his desire to become a surgeon — a decision he says he has never regretted.

“I never regretted doing medicine, not a moment,” he said. “And I never regretted going into surgery.”

Especially now, with the development of robotic surgery, it is just fantastic.”

Through clinical excellence, groundbreaking research, and a steadfast commitment to education, Dr. Hugo Bonatti continues to make meaningful contributions to the advancement of surgery and patient care both nationally and internationally.

Learn more about Dr. Hugo Bonatti:

Through his America’s Best in Medicine profile, <https://americasbestinmedicine.com/connect/Hugo-Bonatti>

America’s Best in Medicine

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Media Contact

America's Best in Medicine

*****@americasbestinmedicine.com

1-877-346-0175

<https://americasbestinmedicine.com>

Source : Dr. Hugo Bonatti

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