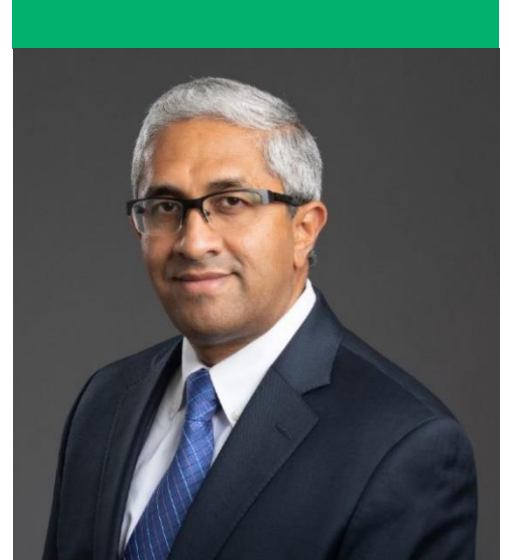




Asokumar Buvanendran, MD

The Anthony D. Ivankovich, MD, Chair of
Anesthesiology



Advancement of Medicine

In 2025, I led notable research activities to implement a large U.S. Department of Defense, or DOD, grant we received to treat chronic pain. We see the potential to expand its preclinical work into clinical practice for the treatment of chronic pain.

The funds from this endowment have supported our research projects and further enhanced our understanding of the mechanisms of pain. In addition to our DoD grant, we intend to apply for additional funding from the National Institutes of Health, or NIH, and are wrapping up the last year of a grant from the NIH Common Fund.

This year, I also attended national meetings, including those of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, to present research findings.

The Year Ahead: 2026 and Beyond

We intend to conduct further research on human pain pathways. Understanding functional magnetic resonance imaging and genomics for pain will be the key to our future work.

With Gratitude

To the family of Dr. Ivankovich, thank you. Your support is helping us advance Rush's mission and improve patient care.