

# Joseph M. Bellezzo M.D.

Emergency Physician Expert Witness

ADDRESS: 13319 Poway Road #179  
Poway, CA 92064

EMAIL: [Emergency.md@gmail.com](mailto:Emergency.md@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: [joebellezzo.com](http://joebellezzo.com)

PHONE: 619-807-5841



## Highlights

- Board Certified in Emergency Medicine
- Extensive experience as a medical expert witness
- Acclaimed International public speaker
  - emergency medicine, advanced resuscitation, shock, cardiac arrest, and heart-lung bypass (ECMO), hospital administration
- Chief-of-Staff Elect at Sharp Memorial Hospital (San Diego, CA)
- Immediate Past Chief of the Department of Emergency Medicine
- Chairman of the Sharp Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors
- Author of numerous textbook chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles
- Founded the first World's first Emergency Department ECMO Program
- Producer/Host/Co-Founder: the [REANIMATE Conference](#)

## Current Positions

### Emergency Physician

(2003-present)  
Sharp Metropolitan Medical Campus  
San Diego, California

### Chief-of-Staff Elect, Sharp Memorial Hospital

(January 2022-present)  
Sharp Metropolitan Medical Campus  
San Diego, California

### Medical Staff Officer, Sharp Memorial Hospital

(January 2020-present)  
Sharp Metropolitan Medical Campus  
San Diego, California

### Chairman, Sharp Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors

(October 2021-present)  
Sharp Healthcare Foundation  
San Diego, California

### Board Member, Sharp Healthcare Board of Directors

(October 2021-present)

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Sharp Healthcare  
San Diego, California

## **Board Member, Sharp Healthcare Information Technology Board of Directors**

(January 2022-present)

Sharp Healthcare  
San Diego, California

## **Board Member, Sharp Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Board of Directors**

(January 2022-present)

Sharp Healthcare  
San Diego, California

## **Board Member, Medical Executive Committee**

(January 2016-present)

Sharp Metropolitan Medical Campus  
San Diego, California

## **Producer/Host/Co-Founder: The REANIMATE Conference**

(2014-present)

[www.reanimateconference.com](http://www.reanimateconference.com)

- *Co-developer, co-producer, and co-host of the endovascular resuscitation conference REANIMATE: [www.reanimateconference.com](http://www.reanimateconference.com), a resource dedicated to teaching physicians and nurses cutting-edge hyper-invasive care of critically ill patients.*

## **Emergency Department ECMO Co-Director**

(2010-present)

Department of Emergency Medicine, Sharp Memorial Hospital

- *Established the first Emergency Department ECMO program in the Western Hemisphere and was the first Emergency Physician in history to successfully use resuscitative ECMO to save a patient's life (July 28, 2010)*

## **Member, Emergency Medicine Supervisory Committee**

(October 2010-present)

Sharp Memorial Hospital

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<b>Medical Board Certification</b>	<b>Diplomate, American Board of Emergency Medicine</b> (2003-present)
<b>Professional Memberships</b>	<b>American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)</b> (2021-present)
<b>Previous Positions</b>	<b>Secretary/Treasurer, Sharp Memorial Hospital Medical Staff</b> (January 2020-January 2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>served as the Secretary/Treasurer of our hospital Medical Staff until elected Chief-of-Staff Elect beginning January 1, 2022</i></li></ul> <b>Podcast/Blog Co-Host: The EDECMO Podcast</b> (2014-2021) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Co-hosted the podcast/blog/educational website teaching advanced resuscitation techniques, including extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</i> <a href="http://www.edecmo.org">www.edecmo.org</a></li></ul> <b>Co-Founder, 2Vital2Die 501(c)3 Foundation</b> (2019-2021) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Co-owned and co-founded the 501(c)3 healthcare Foundation 2Vital2Die, a Foundation dedicated to raising revenue to support the San Diego Emergency Medical Services community with tools necessary to assist resuscitation and transport of patients who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. This Foundation was closed in 2021 after its mission was met.</i></li></ul> <b>Chief, Department of Emergency Medicine</b> (January 2016-2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Elected Chief of the Department of Emergency Medicine in 2016 &amp; served 4 years in that role until elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Medical Staff at Sharp Memorial Hospital on January 1, 2020.</i></li></ul> <b>Ultrasound Director, Department of Emergency Medicine</b> (2006-2012) Sharp Memorial Hospital
	<b>Owner and Operator, Bill's Dive Locker</b>

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	<p>(2001-2002) Oahu, Hawaii</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>DIVEMASTER :SCUBA training, instruction, and guided tours</i></li></ul> <p><b>Emergency Physician</b> (2001-2002) Emergency Physician St. Francis Hospital Honolulu, Hawaii</p> <p><b>Emergency Physician</b> (1999-2001) Emergency Physician Kaiser Permanente Hospital San Diego, California</p>
<b>State Medical Licenses</b>	<p><b>California State Medical License Number: A067932</b> (10/31/2002-present)</p> <p><b>Hawaii State Medical License Number: MD-11566</b> (06/01/2001-05/31/2003)</p>
<b>Education</b>	<p><b>Residency in Emergency Medicine</b> (7/1/1998 - 6/30/2001) Department of Emergency Medicine University of California, San Diego</p> <p><b>Internship in General Surgery</b> (7/1/1997 – 6/30/1998) Department of Surgery University of California, San Diego</p> <p><b>Medical Doctor (M.D.)</b> (8/17/1992 - 6/6/1997) St. Louis University School of Medicine</p>

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	<b>Bachelor's Degree</b> (1991) Loyola Marymount University
<b>Awards &amp; Recognitions</b>	<b>M.D. with Distinction in Research</b> (1997)  <b>Howard Hughes Medical Institute Student Research Fellow</b> (1996)  <b>Full Scholarship - Varsity Baseball</b> (1989-1991) Loyola Marymount University Los Angeles, California  <b>Full Scholarship - Varsity Baseball</b> (1986-1991) University of Nevada, Las Vegas Las Vegas, Nevada  <b>Drafted by the Houston Astros in the MLB June Amateur Baseball Draft</b> (1986)
<b>Professional Certifications</b>	<b>Board Certified, Emergency Medicine</b> (2003-present)  <b>Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)</b> (1997-present)  <b>Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)</b> (1997-present)
<b>Conferences Hosted</b>	<b>REANIMATE 8</b> (September 7-8, 2022)

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[www.reanimateconference.com](http://www.reanimateconference.com)

Paradise Point Resort  
San Diego, California

**[REANIMATE Intensive: Sharp Healthcare ECPR Conference](#)**

(March 9, 2022)

REANIMATE Labs  
Alpine, California

**[2021 Sharp Memorial Hospital ECMO Training Conference](#)**

(March 8, 2021)

REANIMATE Labs  
Alpine California

## **REANIMATE 7**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (September 17-18, 2019)

## **REANIMATE 6**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (February 1-2, 2019)

## **2018 New Mexico Presbyterian ECMO Training Conference**

(November 9, 2018)

## **REANIMATE 5**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (March 7-8, 2018)

## **REANIMATE 4**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (September 21-22, 2017)

## **REANIMATE 3**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (March 2-3, 2017)

## **REANIMATE 2**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (September 8-9 2016)

## **REANIMATE 1**

UCSD Center for the Future of Surgery (February 2-3 2016)

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## Live Presentations

**Bellezzo J.** *ECMO in the Emergency Department.* HR2022 Conference. Montreal.

**Bellezzo J.** *Why ECPR & the Three Stages of ECMO.* 2022 REANIMATE INTENSIVE Sharp Healthcare ECMO Training Conference (2022)

**Bellezzo J.** *ECPR Al Fresco.* 2022 REANIMATE INTENSIVE Sharp Healthcare ECMO Training Conference (2022)

**Bellezzo J.** *The Three Stages of ECMO.* 2021 Sharp Memorial Hospital ECMO Training Conference (2021)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Extracorporeal Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.* The Cooper Conference (2021)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Resuscitative ECMO: A Bridge to Life.* Sharp Healthcare CME Presentation (2021)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation*  
American Association of Critical Care Nurses CME Lecture (October 17, 2020)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Extracorporeal Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in the Emergency Department*  
Kaiser Permanente Emergency Department Grand Rounds (September 22, 2020)

**Bellezzo, J.** *ECMO for Dying Patients*  
Tijuana International Resuscitation Conference (June 6, 2019)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Transvenous Pacemakers 201: Stop Being so Oversensitive!*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2017  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Using D-Dimer in the Real World*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2017  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel

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Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Vascular Access Tips and Tricks in the Anticoagulated Patient*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2017  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *ECPR: Where We Were, Where We Are Now*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2017  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Cardiopulmonary Bypass in the Emergency Department*  
Getinge CME Conference (January 7, 2017)

**Bellezzo, J.** *Overdrive: Torsades de Pointe*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2015  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Orthodromic/Antidromic Supraventricular Tachycardia*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2015  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Transvenous Pacemakers*  
Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2015  
The Chelsea Theatre at the Cosmopolitan Hotel  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**Bellezzo, J.** *Cutting Edge Resuscitation in the Community ED.*  
Social Media and Critical Care (SMACC) Chicago 2015  
<https://smacc.net.au/2015/12/cutting-edge-resuscitation-in-the-community-ed-by-bellezzo/>  
Chicago, Illinois

Chris Ho vs. **Joe Bellezzo**. *ECPR is a Step Too Far*



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Social Media and Critical Care (SMACC) Chicago 2015

<https://smacc.net.au/2016/02/chris-ho-vs-joe-bellezzo-ecpr-is-a-step-too-far/>  
Chicago, Illinois

**Bellezzo, J.** *ECPR in the Emergency Department*

Bring Me Back to Life 2014

Montreal, Quebec

**Bellezzo, J.** *Advanced Resuscitation*

Bring Me Back to Life 2014

Montreal, Quebec

**Bellezzo, J.** *ECMO in the ED: The Time is NOW!*

Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2014

San Francisco Marriott Marquis Ballroom

San Francisco, California

**Bellezzo, J.** *Not Your Mama's ACLS*

Essentials of Emergency Medicine 2014

San Francisco Marriott Marquis Ballroom

San Francisco, California

**Bellezzo, J.** *Cardiopulmonary Bypass in the Emergency Department*

San Diego Resuscitation Conference

(May 23, 2011)

## Book Chapters Authored

1. **Bellezzo, J** (Sept 9, 2021). *Running an ECPR Code*. In Badulak (Ed.), *ECPR and Resuscitative ECMO*. P 73-88.
2. **Bellezzo, J** (2017). *Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation*. In M. Winters (Ed.), *Emergency Department Resuscitation of the Critically Ill* (2nd ed., pp 87-94). Dallas, TX: American College of Emergency Physicians.
3. **Bellezzo JM**, (2014) *Emergency Department ECPR*. Roberts and Hedges (6<sup>th</sup> Ed). Philadelphia, PN. Elsevier, Inc.

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	<p>4. <b>Bellezzo JM</b>, Shinar Z. (March 2010) <i>Extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the emergency department</i>. Evidence-Based Medicine Special Report; <a href="http://ebmedicine.net">ebmedicine.net</a>.</p>
<p><b>Journal Articles Authored (Peer Review)</b></p>	<p>5. Swol J, Brodie D, Willers A, Zakhary B, <b>Bellezzo J</b>, Shinar Z, Weingart S, Haft J, Lorusso R, Peek G. Human Factors in ECLS – a keystone for safety and quality – a narrative review for ECLS providers. <i>Artificial Organs</i>. 2021 Nov;</p> <p>6. <a href="#">Emergency Physician-Initiated Resuscitative Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation</a>. Zachary Shinar, Lee Plantmason, Joshua C. Reynolds, Walter P. Dembitsky, <b>Joseph Bellezzo</b>, Christophe...<i>Journal of Emergency Medicine</i> 2019 Jun 1 <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31031069/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31031069/</a></p> <p>7. <a href="#">Extracorporeal life support in the emergency department: A narrative review for the emergency physician</a>. Justyna Swol, Jan Belohlavek, Daniel Brodie, <b>Joseph Bellezzo</b>, Scott D. Weingart, Zachary Shinar, And...<i>Resuscitation</i> 2018 Dec 1 <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30336233/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30336233/</a></p> <p>8. <a href="#">Early ECPR for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: Best practice in 2018</a>. Hutin A, Abu-Habsa M, Burns B, Bernard S, <b>Bellezzo J</b>, Shinar Z, Torres EC, Gueugniaud PY, Carli P, L...<i>Resuscitation</i> 2018-05-05 <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29738799/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29738799/</a></p> <p>9. Burns B, Reid C, Scott R, Bernard S, Lamhaut L, <b>Bellezzo J</b>, et al. Authors' response: Extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation probably good, but adoption should not be too fast and furious! <i>Emerg Med J</i>. 2017 Aug;34(8):557. doi: 10.1136/emermed-2017-206801. Epub 2017 Jun 1</p> <p>10. <a href="#">Chest compressions may be safe in arresting patients with left ventricular assist devices (LVADs)</a>. Zachary Shinar, <b>Joseph Bellezzo</b>, Marcia Stahovich, Sheldon Cheskes, Suzanne Chillcott, Walter P. Dem...<i>Resuscitation</i> 2014 May 1 <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24472494/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24472494/</a></p> <p>11. Emergency department initiation of cardiopulmonary bypass: a case report and review of the literature Shinar Z, <b>Bellezzo J</b>, Paradis N, Dembitsky W, Jaski B, Mallon W, Watt T.. J</p>

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Emerg Med. 2012 Jul;43(1):83-6. doi: 10.1016/j.jemermed.2011.06.134. Epub 2012 Feb 9

12. Emergency physician-initiated extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
**Joseph Bellezzo**, Zack Shinar, Daniel P. Davis, Brian E. Jaski, Suzanne Chillcott, Marcia Stahovich, ...Resuscitation 2012 Aug 1

[https://www.resuscitationjournal.com/article/S0300-9572\(12\)00045-7/fulltext](https://www.resuscitationjournal.com/article/S0300-9572(12)00045-7/fulltext)

13. What size chest tube for this pneumothorax

**Joseph M Bellezzo**, Steve Karas...Journal of Emergency Medicine 2002 Jan 1

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11809565/>

14. Coma and respiratory depression following the ingestion of GHB and its precursors: three cases.

Marianne Ingels, Cyrus Rangan, **Joseph M Bellezzo**, Richard F. Clark...Journal of Emergency Medicine 2000 Jul

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/10863118/>

15. Modulation of lipopolysaccharide-mediated activation in rat Kupffer cells by antioxidants

**Joseph M. Bellezzo**, Karen A. Leingang, Gary A. Bulla, Robert S. Britton, Bruce R. Bacon, Eben S. Fox...Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine 1998 Jan 1.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9452125/>

16. N-acetylcysteine and alpha-tocopherol reverse the inflammatory response in activated rat Kupffer cells.

Fox, E. S., Brower, J. S., **Bellezzo, J. M.**, Leingang, K. A....J Immunol 1997 Jun 1

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9164963/>

17. Fibronectin and cytokines increase JNK, ERK, AP-1 activity, and transin gene expression in rat hepatic stellate cells

John E. Poulos, Jason D. Weber, **Joseph M. Bellezzo**, Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, Robert S. Britton, Bruce...American Journal of Physiology-gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology 1997 Oct 1

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9357821/>

18. LPS-mediated NF-kappa beta activation in rat Kupffer cells can be induced independently of CD14

**Joseph M. Bellezzo**, Robert S. Britton, Bruce R. Bacon, Eben S. Fox...American Journal of Physiology-gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology

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1996 Jun 1  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/8764202/>

19. Thiol regulation of endotoxin-induced release of tumour necrosis factor alpha from isolated rat Kupffer cells. Brent A. Neuschwander-Tetri, **Joseph M. Bellezzo**, Robert S. Britton, Bruce R. Bacon, Eben S. Fox... Biochemical Journal 1996 Dec 15  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9003392/>