CHAIR’S OFFICE
Conor Delaney, MD, MCh, PhD
Interim Chair
The Jeffrey L. Ponsky Professor of Surgical Education

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### UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS CASE MEDICAL CENTER

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### LOUIS B. STOKES CLEVELAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

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As the Department of Surgery at Case Western Reserve University, we are proud to provide high quality patient care, integrated with clinical and basic science research, in an environment that is known for the high quality of education it provides. We are fortunate to have leaders in every surgical discipline who provide such high quality care, and have individually contributed to the high level of esteem in which our Department is held.

Our residency and fellowship programs continue to be an integral part of the Department, whilst adding to the rich culture of education and research. Our teaching hospitals include University Hospitals Case Medical Center, MetroHealth Medical Center, and the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center. Each has a dedicated and unique faculty with special expertise that enriches patient care, and each adds a different perspective to the educational experience. Our faculty continue to present and publish some of the best international clinical outcomes, based on their skill at optimizing the care they provide daily to their patients. The Department also continues to distinguish itself, both nationally and internationally, for its creative and innovative hands-on and web-based postgraduate educational courses.

On a personal note, it has been a great honor to lead the Department over the last eighteen months. At Case Medical Center and throughout the UH system, many changes have occurred in addition to our new compensation plan. By August 2015, 25 surgeon had been recruited at main campus, and in the UH regional hospitals. Dr Scott Steele now leads the Division of Colorectal Surgery, as I move on to lead the Digestive Health Institute. Dr Keith Clancy has joined us to start a new Division of Acute Care and Trauma Surgery, and will be launching our Level I Trauma Center later this year. I wish everyone continued success for 2016.

This latest edition of the Annual Report changes the format used in prior editions. In this edition you will find a summary of the state of each Department, Division and Hospital, as well as a brief listing of some of the accomplishments of our team.

Conor Delaney, MD, MCh, PhD
Interim Chair, Department of Surgery
Surgical Director, Digestive Health Institute
The Jeffrey L. Ponsky Professor of Surgical Education
Case Western Reserve University
University Hospitals Case Medical Center

“Our residency and fellowship programs continue to be an integral part of the Department, whilst adding to the rich culture of education and research.”
University Hospitals
Case Medical Center
DIVISION OF CARDIAC SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Soon J. Park, MD, Professor
Jay L. Ankeney, MD Chair, Professorship of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Faculty/Staff
Salil Deo, MD, Assistant Professor
Yakov L. Elgudin, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor
Peter C. Kouretas, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor
Jai H. Lee, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor
Alan H. Markowitz, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor
Benjamin Medalion, MD, Associate Professor
Basar Sareyyupoglu, MD, Associate Professor
Daniel van Heekeren, MD, Emeritus Professor

Research Faculty
Steve Schomisch, PhD
Director, Surgical Research and Animate Skills Lab
The Division of Cardiac Surgery, comprising eight world-renowned cardiac surgeons, provides the highest-quality patient-centric care at University Hospitals, serving both community-based and tertiary levels of care. The Division is responsible for performing all cardiac surgical procedures at UH Case Medical Center, UH Ahuja Medical Center, UH Elyria Medical Center, UH Parma Medical Center, Southwest General Health Center and UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital.

The faculty members are committed to providing the most comprehensive, up-to-date, patient-centered personalized care with the highest-quality cardiac surgery services and outcomes while making the advanced expertise and leading-edge technologies available to all our patients, the communities and hospitals affiliated with the system.

Several of the comprehensive programs within the Division include:

**Comprehensive End-Stage Heart and Lung Disease Care:** including high risk revascularization, myectomy, acute and chronic mechanical circulatory support, and heart-and-lung transplant.

**Structural Heart Valve Program:** including mitral valve repair/replacement, aortic valve sparing/repair/replacement, TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement), Mitraclip and tricuspid valve repair/replacement.

**Comprehensive Aortic Aneurysm Program:** aortic valve-sparing replacement, aortic aneurysm replacement, aortic dissection repair and hybrid procedures including collaboration with vascular surgeons for complex aortic aneurysms/dissections that include both open and endovascular procedures.

The Section of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery, under the direction of Dr. Peter Kouretas at UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital, provides state-of-the-art, family-centered and comprehensive care for patients of all ages with congenital heart, lung or vascular disease. Clinical care is provided at Rainbow with the following services: a dedicated pediatric cardiothoracic surgery operating room and specialized pediatric cardiopulmonary bypass and support equipment, a dedicated 6-bed Cardiac Intensive Care Unit within the confines of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, along with access to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and regular and step-down care units. The Section provides 24/7 comprehensive perioperative care and is supported by a multidisciplinary team including pediatric cardiologists, neonatologists, intensivists, anesthesiologists, and other subspecialists as patient care needs dictate. In addition, a full range of professional support services is available that includes child life specialists, respiratory therapists, critical care and step-down cardiac nurses, social workers and other services as patient family needs dictate. Our multispecialty team approach ensures optimal, individualized care with our primary focus being excellent outcomes, the highest quality and superb patient/family satisfaction.
DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

The Division saw many transitions in 2014-15, with the addition of five surgeons and resignation of two surgeons. The Division began operating and managing the cardiac surgery programs at UH Elyria Medical Center, UH Parma Medical Center and Southwest General Health Center. This expansion of services brought world-renowned cardiac surgeons to community anchor programs with a tertiary link to UH Case Medical Center.

Soon J. Park, MD was awarded the endowed Jay L. Ankeney, MD Chair, Professorship of Cardiothoracic Surgery in fall of 2014. He is also on the editorial boards of General Cardiac Surgery, the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, and Clinical Transplantation.

Salil Deo, MD joined the Division in 2014. Dr. Deo completed an advanced clinical fellowship in cardiovascular surgery and a fellowship in mechanical circulatory support and cardiac transplantation at the Mayo Clinic. His clinical expertise is in ventricular assist device and congenital heart surgery.

Benjamin Medalion, MD joined the Division in October 2014. Dr. Medalion completed a fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation with a focus on heart transplantation and VAD implantation. Prior to joining UHCMC, he was Director of Transplantation and Heart Failure Surgery at Rabin Medical Center and Lecturer at Tel Aviv University Medical School.

Basar Sareyyupoglu, MD joined the Division in February 2015. Prior to joining UHCMC, Dr. Sareyyupoglu was Director of Thoracic Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support and the Surgical Director of the Lung Transplant Program at Scott & White Clinic in Temple, Texas and Assistant Professor of Surgery at Texas A&M University Health Science Center.

Jai Lee, MD joined the Division in November 2014. Dr. Lee is the Medical Director and Chief of cardiothoracic surgery at Southwest General Medical Center and St. John Medical Center.

Yakov Elgudin, MD joined the Division in 2014. Dr. Elgudin is also the Section Chief and the Director of Mechanical Circulatory Support Program for the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center.

DIVISION RESEARCH

The Fred Lennon Research Laboratory at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine was originally endowed by the founder of the Swagelok Corporation. Now under the auspices and support of the Department of Surgery, the laboratory is a facility open to cardiothoracic faculty and residents who wish to pursue research in cardiothoracic surgery.

Many animal studies have been conducted. Full anesthetic and operating room capabilities are present in the lab. Cardiac monitoring function includes conducting catheter and sonomicrometric crystal techniques. Computerized real time physiological data collection and analysis are available. Two Langdendorff columns are used for in-vitro studies.

Clinical Research Projects

Study Name: CoreValve Multicenter Clinical Trial: SurTAVI
Co-PI: Alan H. Markowitz, MD
Synopsis: Percutaneous implantation of the CoreValve in high risk or non-candidates with aortic stenosis
Sponsor: Medtronic Corporation

DIVISION GOALS

The main accomplishments for the 2014-2015 academic year include:

- Recruited five world-renowned cardiac surgeons
- Expanded cardiac surgery services into community at UH system and affiliated hospitals
- Re-activated the heart-and-lung transplant programs
- Maintained quality outcomes during a year of great transition and growth

Goals for the 2015-2016 academic year include:

- Expansion and enhancements of scope of practice at UH Case Medical Center and system and affiliated hospitals
- Expansion of quality-improvement initiatives
- Development of new programs
- Enhancement of education and research programs
- Initiation of residency program
Division Chief
Scott R. Steele, MD, Professor

Faculty/Staff
Raul M. Bosio, MD, Assistant Professor
Bradley J. Champagne, MD, Associate Professor
Conor P. Delaney, MD, MCh, PhD, Professor
Jeremy Lipman, MD, Assistant Professor
Eric Marderstein, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor
Harry L. Reynolds, Jr., MD, Associate Professor
Anthony Senagore, MD, Professor
Sharon L. Stein, MD, Associate Professor
Melissa A. Times, MD, Assistant Professor
Joseph A. Trunzo, MD, Assistant Professor

Nurses/Nurse Practitioners
Karen Brady, NP
Pat Cigetich, NP
Mary Kasavich, NP
Melissa Snow, APN
Donya Woconish, NP
Nellie Rhenko, RN

Colorectal Residents
W. Conan Mustain, MD (2014-2015)
Avinash S. Bhakta, MD (2015-2016)
The mission of the Division of Colorectal Surgery is to ensure and provide the highest-quality medical and surgical care for the prevention and management of diseases of the colon, rectum, and anus, while leading the way in worldwide educational and research endeavors, and fostering an environment of camaraderie and teamwork. The research being performed allows the Division to continue to develop the quality of care offered to patients and to allow us to maintain outcomes data with the goal of establishing the Division as a national leader in its area of expertise.

The **overall vision** is to be the recognized national and international authority on diseases of the colon, rectum and anus through the establishment of an integrated network of colorectal specialists with the primary aim of providing excellence in patient care, while providing world-class training and groundbreaking research.

The **clinical vision** is that every decision we make as a Division regarding patient care is based upon what is best for our patients and their families. By placing this focus as our first priority, we will not only ensure top-notch health care delivery, but also lead by example to all other Divisions—raising the level of care for all of UH.

The **educational vision** is that we continue the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery’s rich history of innovation and education of physicians at all levels and stages of their career, both nationally and internationally.
The **research vision** is that we cultivate and grow our existing collaborative research efforts and expand upon our long tradition of excellence in clinical research, along with providing a new focus on basic science and grantsmanship.

The **vision for community service** is that we maximize our efforts to engage the local-regional community to improve overall health and establish the UH brand as the leader in care for colorectal disease.

The Division’s commitment to education is evident in the highly-sought after ACGME-accredited Colorectal Fellowship Program. The Program recently completed its fifth year, and is hoping to expand to two fellowship slots in 2016-2017. In addition, Dr. Champagne, who is Program Director for the Fellowship Program, and Dr. Sharon Stein, have expanded the Case Colorectal Residents Career Course that encompasses a wide variety of topics regarding career advice for colorectal fellows from all over the U.S. The inaugural course took place in the fall of 2010, and has since grown to include the majority of colorectal fellows in the country. Drs. Champagne, Reynolds, Steele, and Stein all participate in quarterly laparoscopic training courses, and the Division continues to host numerous national and international visitors to observe laparoscopic and open surgery.

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### 2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dr. Scott Steele** joined UHCMC in July 2015 as Chief of the Division of Colorectal Surgery. Dr. Steele is a graduate of the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York, and recently left the military after 25 years, serving most recently as the Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis, Washington. He has previously served four combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, being awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Combat Medical Badge, amongst numerous other awards.

- **Dr. Raul Bosio** joined the Division of Colorectal Surgery in July 2014, after completing a Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at the University of California, Irvine.

- **Dr. Anthony J. Senagore** joined the Division in July 2014. Prior to joining UHCMC, Dr. Senagore served as the inaugural Chair of Surgery at the Central Michigan University College of Medicine. Dr. Senagore is the current Chair of the American Board of Surgery and the incoming Chair of the Colorectal Surgery Residency Review Committee for the ACGME. He is listed in Castle Connolly’s Best Doctors in Colorectal and Cancer Surgery.

- **Dr. William Conan Mustain** is the recent outgoing colorectal surgery fellow, having successfully completed the fellowship in June 2015. Dr. Mustain is currently an Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science in Little Rock, Arkansas.

- **Dr. Benjamin Crawshaw** recently completed two years of clinical research as the Jeffrey L. Ponsky Research Fellow at UHCMC, and will now continue to pursue his general surgery residency in the UHCMC Department of Surgery. Dr. Crawshaw recently won the Piedmont Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Award for the top Clinical/Podium Presentation at the 2015 ASCRS Annual Meeting, for his work on education and training of laparoscopic colectomy.

- **Dr. Sadaf Khan**, Director of Surgical Skills Training at the Institute for Surgery and Innovation (ISI) since 2011, has returned home to Pakistan, to continue her practice and spend time with family.

- **Dr. Conor Delaney** is the 2014-15 President-elect for the Midwestern Surgical Association, and the 2015-17 Recorder for the ACS-Accredited Educational Institutes Consortium Meeting.
DIVISION RESEARCH

Research Fellows
- Justin Brady, MD – Jeffrey L. Ponsky Research Fellow
- Eslam Dosoukey, MD
- Dongjin Choi, MD

Bradley Champagne, MD
- Educational Grant for the development of the ASCRS Assessment Tool (EVALV Project). ASCRS Executive Council, $25,000.
- Hemorrhoid Energy Treatment Trial. Role: Principal Investigator. Total amount: $13,000 (Start Up) $2,821 (Per Patient).

Conor Delaney, MD, MCh, PhD
- "Subcutaneous hydration system, method and device". US Provisional Application Serial No. 14/211,006, Filing date Mar 14, 2014.
- Modifications to HARM score and application to different datasets.

Sharon Stein, MD
- A Phase II, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Dose Finding Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Ipamorelin Compared to Placebo for the Recovery of Gastrointestinal Function in Patients Following Small or Large Bowel Resection with Primary Anastomosis. Recovery of Gastrointestinal Function in Patients Following Small or Large Bowel Resection with Primary Anastomosis. Role: Primary Site Investigator. Helsinn Therapeutics, $154,040 in site funding, 2014.

- Dr. Bradley Champagne continues to be named to Best Doctors; Who’s Who of Physicians; America’s Top Surgeon; and Cleveland Magazine Best Doctors. Dr. Champagne also won the Piedmont Society Award at the ASCRS Annual Meeting for best presentation, “Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail.”
- Dr. Harry Reynolds continues to be named to Top Docs Cleveland Magazine; Best Doctors; and America’s Top Doctors. Dr. Reynolds was recently elected to the Board of the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland.
- Dr. Sharon Stein currently has a leadership role on the Council of the Association of Women Surgeons, and is Chair of the Ohio District #1 Committee on Applicants for the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Stein recently won the ASCRS Traveling Fellow Award.
- Dr. Scott Steele is the co-editor of the upcoming 3rd edition of the ASCRS Textbook of Colon and Rectal Surgery.
- Dr. Joseph Trunzo was recently awarded the 2015 University Hospitals Patient Satisfaction Award.
Division Chief
Raymond Onders, MD, Professor
Margaret G. and Walter K. Remen Chair in Surgical Innovation

Faculty/Staff
Mujjahid Abbas MD, Assistant Professor
Heidi Elliott, MD, Assistant Professor
Leena Khaitan, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Jeffrey M. Marks, MD, Professor
Yuri Novitsky, MD, Professor
Ajita Prabhu, MD, Assistant Professor

Community-based Faculty
Amitabh Goel, MD
John Jasper, MD
Jeffrey Parks, MD
Tomasz Rogula, MD
The Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery has maintained a continued high level of academic and clinical productivity, particularly in the field of minimally invasive surgical treatments of gastrointestinal diseases. Our Division strives to provide cutting edge treatment modalities to all aspects of gastrointestinal diseases. With clinical trials in endoscopic treatments of morbid obesity, endoscopic approaches to achalasia, diaphragm pacing, and complex abdominal wall reconstructions, patients are offered the most up-to-date therapies for these and other gastrointestinal diseases.

During the past year, the Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery has continued its strong commitment to providing cutting-edge therapies for all aspects of minimally invasive gastrointestinal surgery. Dr. Jeffrey Marks is an internationally recognized pioneer in the transoral approach to performing a Heller myotomy entirely endoscopically. The procedure is termed POEM: Per Oral Endoscopic Myotomy. This revolutionary approach to Achalasia has eliminated surgical incisions and dramatically improved patients’ recovery with almost no discomfort. Dr. Marks has amassed one of the largest series of POEM procedures in the nation, and is recognized as an international leader in the field of POEM education, as he has trained surgeons from around the world in this innovative approach.
Dr. Onders continues to offer hope to many spinal cord injury patients and those with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis with his groundbreaking research on Diaphragm Pacing (DP). DP was developed at University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC) in Cleveland. To date, UHCMC has the world’s largest experience with DP in ALS as well as other orphan patient populations. Dr. Onders has trained surgeons from around the world, and DP has now been implanted in patients in over 25 countries worldwide. Ventilator dependence in our intensive care units is a major cost and morbidity. Dr. Onders has now completed an FDA early feasibility study of the temporary use of a new diaphragm pacing electrode to try to solve this clinical problem. Dr. Onders continues to lead in innovation with several additional patents in the last academic year.

The Comprehensive Metabolic and Bariatric Treatment Center, led by Dr. Leena Khaitan, continues to offer state-of-the-art therapy for those patients suffering from obesity. In the 2014-2015 academic year, the bariatric program was pleased to welcome two new members, Dr. Mujjahid Abbas at UHCMC and Dr. Tomasz Rogula at UH Geauga Medical Center. They are both fellowship trained in bariatrics. With the addition of the new staff, we have been able to increase our volume and expand our services to an additional site on the west side of Cleveland to cover all of Northeastern Ohio. During this academic year, the bariatric program initiated a partnership with the heart failure team to help patients become candidates for heart transplant. Over the year multiple patients received weight loss surgery in order to become candidates for heart transplant.

The Case Comprehensive Hernia Center, under the direction of Dr. Yuri Novitsky and Dr. Ajita Prahbu, has revolutionized the care of the hernia patient, offering both minimally invasive repairs for routine hernia repair, to reconstructing some of the most complex abdominal wall defects. The multidisciplinary nature of our Center allows close interactions with plastic surgeons and general surgeons to offer the full spectrum of surgical reconstructive options for our patients. Redefining the concept of a functional dynamic abdominal wall reconstruction has resulted in a host of funded research grants, national awards, and direct patient benefits with these unique approaches. Dr. Prahbu has also taken a leading role in surgical education and skills training for residents.

Dr. Khaitan also functions as the Director of the Center for Esophageal and Swallowing Disorders. This Center, within the Digestive Health Institute, encompasses many disciplines including gastroenterology, minimally invasive surgery, thoracic surgery, radiology and oncology. Dr. Khaitan has spearheaded the effort to provide cutting edge diagnostic capabilities for esophageal and swallowing disorders, including high resolution manometry and impedance technology. The Center provides state of the art treatments and implements strategies for expeditious multidisciplinary evaluation of benign and malignant esophageal diseases.
DIVISION RESEARCH

Members of the Division are involved in several areas of research, including clinical trials in endoscopic treatments of morbid obesity, endoscopic approaches to achalasia, diaphragm pacing, and complex abdominal wall reconstructions.

- Dr. Onders research efforts are focused on ways to help people with spinal cord injuries and patients with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease) breathe naturally using their own diaphragm; one of his first research subjects was the late Christopher Reeve, of Superman fame. He also recently completed a FDA early feasibility study of the temporary use of a new diaphragm pacing electrode in patients with ventilator dependence.

- Dr. Abbas research interests include understanding the pathophysiology of morbid obesity and its effects on health.

- Dr. Khaitan is active in research regarding weight loss surgery and swallowing disorders.

- Dr. Novitsky’s laboratory work is focused on testing and improving prosthetic and biologic materials used in hernia repair procedures; he was recently awarded a prestigious SAGES grant for his evaluation of genetic therapies for gastroesophageal reflux disease.

- Dr. Marks is currently collaborating with Dr. Steve Schomisch on research investigating a novel surgical therapy for treating GI lesions and cancer of the esophagus.

DIVISION GOALS

Within the expanding University Hospitals Practice Groups, the groundwork has been laid for true system-wide patient care. Many of the community hospitals are being served by the academic-based general surgeons, in conjunction with the regional surgeons, to provide high quality surgical services. In particular, Dr. Amitabh Goel has provided tremendous leadership to the community-based surgeons while being an active member in the Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery at UHCMC. As this collaborative effort grows, the potential for incorporating these dynamic surgeons into the clinical rotations and residency teaching program are being examined. We look forward to the exciting role that the Division of General and Gastrointestinal Surgery will play to further the care of those patients in all of Northeastern Ohio.

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Mujahid Abbas joined the Division in 2014. Prior to joining UHCMC, Dr. Abbas was on staff at the Cleveland VA Medical Center as Director of the Hernia Repair Center. Dr. Abbas’s clinical interests include primary and revisional bariatric surgery and minimally invasive general surgery.

- In the 2014-15 academic year, the Bariatric Program initiated a partnership with the Heart Failure Team to help patients become candidates for heart transplant by receiving weight loss surgery.

- Dr. Ajita Prabhu took over the role of Surgical Skills Trainer, providing leadership in the surgical education and skills training for the residents.

- Dr. Ray Onders was recently named the Vice Chair of Surgical Innovation for the UHCMC Department of Surgery.

- Dr. Ray Onders recently received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine for his work in advancing medicine.

- Dr. Jeffrey Marks joined the Division in 2014 as community-based faculty at UH Ahuja, UH Richmond, and UH Bedford Medical Centers. His practice scope includes general and advanced laparoscopic surgery.

- Dr. Tomasz Rogula joined the Division Bariatric Program in 2015, working primarily at UH Geauga Medical Center. Prior to joining UH Geauga, Dr. Rogula was on staff at the Cleveland Clinic.

- In 2015, Dr. Jeffrey Marks was selected to the SAGES Executive Council as Secretary. Dr. Marks is also the SAGES representative to the American Board of Surgery SCORE Advisory Council.

- Dr. Ray Onders became president of the Midwest Surgical Association in 2014.

- In 2014-15, Dr. Ajita Prabhu received the CCRT Surgical Innovation Award. Dr. Prabhu also received the UHCMC Faculty Teaching Award, selected by General Surgery Residents for her excellence and commitment to surgical resident education.
DIVISION OF HEPATOBILIARY AND TRANSPLANT SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Christopher T. Siegel, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Faculty/Staff
Mark Aeder, MD, Associate Professor
John Ammori, MD, Assistant Professor
Scott Boulanger, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor
Jeffrey Hardacre, MD, Associate Professor
Vanessa Humphreville, MD, Assistant Professor
Edmund Sanchez, MD, Associate Professor
Kelly Siegel, CNP
Charles Winans, MD, Associate Professor
The Division of Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery has responsibility for performing all abdominal organ (kidney, liver, and pancreas) transplants at the University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC), including Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital. The Division members also perform the majority of hepatobiliary operations including hepatic resections and tumor ablations, using both open and laparoscopic techniques.

The Transplant Program, which was started in 1969 with renal transplantation, was expanded to include liver and pancreas transplantation in the late 1980s. Since its inception, the program has performed over 3,500 abdominal organ transplants with kidney transplants comprising the majority. Currently, the Division performs between 120-140 transplants each year. Live donor kidney transplantation is routinely performed for both adults and children and all donor nephrectomies are performed laparoscopically by Division surgeons. In addition, Division surgeons perform over 250 hepatobiliary and pancreatic operations each year. The members of the Division of Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery participate regularly in local, regional, and national organizations involved with transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery, including OPTN/UNOS, Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, LifeBanc, ASTS, and OSOTC.

The Division does not have a transplant surgery fellowship program; consequently, its primary educational effort is in the training of general surgery and urology residents at UHCMC. In addition, residents from several regional general surgery programs rotate through the service in order to obtain their transplantation experience. The Transplant and Hepatobiliary Service serves as the primary exposure of the resident staff...
2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dr. Charles Winans** joined the Division in February 2015. Previously, Dr. Winans practiced at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, where he was active in pancreas and liver transplantation.
- Under the direction of **Dr. Christopher Siegel**, 2014 was a rebuilding year for the Division, with the joining of Hepatobiliary Surgery and Transplant Surgery.
- The Division performed the first ALPPS (Associating Liver Partition and Portal Vein Ligation for Staged Hepatectomy) procedure in Ohio, only the 4th recorded case in the US.
- The total volume of organ transplants performed at UHCMC surpassed the 3,500 mark in 2014.
- Both **Dr. Charles Winans** and **Dr. Vanessa Humphreville** are on the Medical Advisor Board for LifeBanc.
- **Dr. Edmund Sanchez** serves on the Board of Directors for both OSOTC and LifeBanc, and currently serves on the UNOS Pancreas Committee.
- **Dr. Christopher Siegel** serves on the Medical Advisory Committee of the Ohio Chapter of the American Liver Foundation.
- **Dr. Mark Aeder** is currently Vice Chair of the OPTN/UNOS Kidney Committee and Chair of the Kidney Paired Donation Workgroup.
- **Dr. John Ammori** is a recent inductee into the American College of Surgeons.

DIVISION GOALS

The Division of Hepatobiliary and Transplant Surgery continues to strive for the best outcomes achievable in abdominal organ transplantation and in hepatobiliary surgery. Growth in transplant volume is of paramount importance to the Division and strategies to achieve this goal are being developed through strategic planning efforts with UHCMC administration for each organ. In concert with our colleagues in the Department of Medicine, Division surgeons continue to develop clinical studies in kidney, liver, and pancreas transplantation. Improvement in outcomes for hepatobiliary and pancreatic malignancies continues to be a goal for the Division and is being achieved through the use of multidisciplinary teams in the treatment of these devastating cancers.

to patients with chronic end-stage kidney and liver disease, thereby allowing them to become familiar with the strategies of renal replacement therapy and the management of patients with liver failure and hepatic malignancies. The Division members also participate in the didactic educational programs for the first and third year students and serve as mentors for fourth year students performing assistant internships in the field of transplant and hepatobiliary surgery.

The Transplant and Hepatobiliary Service at UHCMC is a very unique service in that it is attended by both the surgeons from the Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery and the transplant nephrologists and hepatologists from their respective divisions in the Department of Medicine. The primary resident staff are from the programs in general surgery and urology who are variably assisted by fellows from nephrology and gastroenterology in the Department of Medicine. The service has a full-time nurse coordinator whose responsibility is to assist the resident staff with transplant-related management issues and to serve as a liaison between the inpatient service and outpatient management teams. Three Nurse Practitioners work with the surgeons managing non-transplant hepatobiliary and pancreas patients and surgical and medical patients on the transplant service. The pre-transplant and post-transplant efforts are managed by a team of nurse coordinators, and a dedicated team to handle the administrative aspects of the transplant program, including data management, social work, outreach, and patient financials.
DIVISION RESEARCH

Members of the Division are involved in both laboratory and clinical research:

• Dr. Aeder has ongoing clinical research into the processes and improvements of national kidney allocation and the barriers to national paired kidney donation. He is working on algorithms for the national redistricting of kidney allocation units and the metrics for determining the best utilization of en bloc double kidney transplants. He is also working on a national financial model for kidney paired donation and new algorithms for determining how to transplant the hard to match recipients.

• Dr. Ammori is involved in research activities evaluating the immunomodulatory effects of VEGF on human lymph node antigen-presenting and lymphoid cells. In addition, he has recently published on the use of hepatic artery infusion pumps in the treatment of patients with unresectable metastatic colon cancer to the liver.

• Dr. Hardacre is involved in a national multicenter trial evaluating the use of immune stimulants in the adjuvant treatment of resectable pancreatic adenocarcinoma.

• Dr. Sanchez has an ongoing interest in studying renal function in liver transplant patients as well as the use of continuous glucose monitoring in pancreas transplant recipients.

• All members of the Division participate in the Transplant Program’s numerous industry-sponsored, multi-center trials in the area of immunosuppression therapeutics and in the management of liver diseases.

Industry Sponsored Research Projects

• “A Prospective Observational Trial to Evaluate the Correlation of T-Spot response to CMV Infection and T cell mediated Acute Graft Response.” The PROTECT Study. (Oxford Immunotec).

• “Eculizumab for the prevention of delayed graft function in deceased donor kidney transplantation” (Alexion).

• “A 24-month, multicenter, randomized, open label safety and efficacy study of concentration controlled everolimus with reduced calcineurin inhibitor vs mycophenolate with standard calcineurin inhibitor in de novo renal transplantation” (TRANSFORM Study – Novartis).

• “Pilot Study of EGFR Inhibition with Erlotinib in Cirrhosis to Inhibit Fibrogenesis and Prevent Hepatocellular Carcinoma” (Astellas).

• “Phase 2, randomized, open-label, parallel group, multi-center study to assess the safety and efficacy of Alefacept in de novo kidney transplant recipients”(Astellas).

• “Phase 3, open-label, multi-center, prospective, randomized study of the efficacy and safety of conversion from Prograf® capsules twice daily to LCP-Tacro tablets once daily for the prevention of acute allograft rejection in stable kidney transplant patients” (LifeCycle).

• “A facilitated access program to provide everolimus (RAD) for maintenance for patients completing therapy (RAD) trials in solid organ transplantation” (Novartis).

• “Planned transition to sirolimus-based therapy versus continued tacrolimus-based therapy in renal allograft recipients” (Wyeth).

• “Phase 3, double-blind, double-dummy, multi-center, prospective, randomized study of the efficacy and safety of LCP-Tacro™ tablets, once daily, compared to Prograf® capsules, twice daily, in combination with Mycophenolate Mofetil for the prevention of acute allograft rejection in De Novo adult kidney transplant recipients” (Veloxis Pharamceuticals).

• “Advanced liver analysis in computed tomography for liver segmentation and volumetry” (Phillips).

• “A partially blinded, prospective, randomized multi-center study evaluating efficacy, safety and tolerability of oral soratuzumib plus standard or reduced exposure tacrolimus vs myfortic plus tacrolimus in de novo renal transplant recipients” (Novartis).

• “A phase III randomized, double blind, placebo controlled study of sorafenib as adjuvant treatment for hepatocellular carcinoma after surgical resection or local ablation (STORM)” (Bayer Healthcare).

• “Global investigation of therapeutic decision in hepatocellular carcinoma and of its treatment (GIDEON)” (Bayer Healthcare).

• “A phase 2b randomized single blinded trial of JX-594 (Vaccina GM-CSF/Tk deactivated virus) plus best supportive care vs placebo plus best supportive care in patients with advanced hepatocellular carcinoma who have failed sorafenib treatment” (Jennerex Biotherapeutics).

• “The role of social support in liver transplant outcomes” (Ohio Solid Organ Transplantation Consortium).

NIH and HRSA Research Grants

• Randomized Controlled Trial of Infliximab Induction Therapy for Deceased Donor Kidney Transplant Recipients (CTOT -19).

• Noninvasive monitoring to predict outcome in De Novo kidney transplant recipients (CTOT-01, NIH).

• Immune monitoring and CNI withdrawal in low risk recipients of kidney transplants (CTOT-09, NIH).

• Enhancing DCD Utilization with Thrombolytic Therapy (HRSA).
DIVISION OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Dale A. Baur DDS, Associate Professor and Chair

Residency Program Director
Faisal A. Quereshy, MD, DDS, FACS, Associate Professor and Program Director

Faculty/Staff
Jerold S. Goldberg, DDS, Professor
Stanley Hirsch, DDS, Professor (Oral Pathology)
Fady Faddoul, DDS, Professor (General Dentistry and Program Director AEGD)
Andres Pinto, DMD, MPH, Associate Professor (Oral Medicine)
Robert Heckel, DDS, Associate Clinical Professor
Michael Hauser, DMD, MD, Associate Clinical Professor
Aurelio Alonso DDS, PhD, Assistant Professor (Oral Medicine)
Keith Schneider DMD, Assistant Clinical Professor
William Blood, DDS, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor
John Blakemore, DDS, Assistant Clinical Professor
Raymond Piona DMD, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor
Marion Wazney, DDS, Assistant Clinical Professor
The Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery provides a broad range of services to our patient population. As defined by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is the specialty of Medicine/Dentistry that includes the diagnosis, surgical and related treatment of diseases, injuries and defects involving both the functional and esthetic aspects of the hard and soft tissues of the head, face, mouth, teeth, gums, jaws and neck. Oral and maxillofacial surgeons are specialists who treat conditions, defects, injuries, and esthetic aspects of the mouth, teeth, jaws, and face.

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons care for patients who experience such conditions as problematic or impacted wisdom teeth, facial pain, and misaligned jaws. They treat accident victims suffering facial injuries, offer reconstructive and dental implant surgery, and care for patients with tumors and cysts of the jaws and functional and esthetic conditions of the maxillofacial areas. With our advanced training in pain control and anesthesia, we are able to provide our patients with maximum comfort and safety.

The training of our surgical residents includes a four-year graduate degree in dentistry and the completion of a five-year hospital-based surgical residency program which includes attending medical school to obtain a medical degree, and one year of general surgery training.
**DIVISION OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

**2014–15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS**

**National and regional leadership positions held by faculty:**

**Dale Baur, DDS**

Ohio Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons:
- President July 2013–July 2014
- Immediate Past President July 2014–July 2015
- Hospital affairs committee, 2007–2015

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons:
- Committee on Continuing Education and Professional Development, 2009–2015

Chalmers J. Lyons Academy or Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery:
- Vice-president

Strasbourg Osteosynthesis Research Group, North America:
- Appointed to board of directors 2013–2016

**Faisal A. Quereshy, MD, DDS, FACD**

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery:
- Continuing Education Committee member


Program Chair: 2014 AAOMS Annual Meeting (Hawaii)

Program Chair: 2015 Preconference Session Cosmetic Surgery (Washington, DC)

Committee on Residency Education and Training (CRET) (2014–2016)

**Journal Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (JOMS)** scientific article reviewer for publications (2009–present)

**JOMS editorial board** (2015–present)

**Ohio Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon (OSOMS)** alternate delegate Ohio (2014)

**Board examiner ABOMS** (April 2010–present)

**Section II Chairman (OCE)** responsible for fabrication of Oral Board Examination (OCE) (2014–2016)

**Greater Cleveland Dental Society (GCDS)**
- President ELECT (2015–2016)

**American Board of Facial Cosmetic Surgery (ABFCS)**
- Founding Member (Jan 2015–present)

**Executive committee** member (VP)

**OKU (Omicron Kappa Upsilon)**
- President Elect (2014–2015)

**American Dental Educators Association (ADEA)**
- CHAIRMAN committee on Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (2013–present)

**Keith Schneider, DMD**
- Vice-president, Northeast Ohio Dental Society

**DIVISION GOALS**

Our primary goal is to establish the Division/Department as a national center of excellence in modern oral and maxillofacial surgery, by increasing surgical volume and diversifying the experiences for our residents. We also wish to cultivate future academic leaders of our specialty. We strive to continue to provide state-of-the-art care to our patients. As a means to this end, we will continue to recruit strong residents to our training program. As part of our outcome measures, we expect all of our residents to complete the certification process and become diplomates of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Additionally, we encourage our graduates to seek subspecialty fellowship training.
DIVISION RESEARCH

**Project Title:** Perioperative Fluid Replacement in Third Molar Surgery. A Clinical Trial  
**Principal Investigator:** Dale Baur, DDS

**Project Title:** Treatment Outcomes of Keratocystic Odontogenic Tumor: Review of 50 cases  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Faisal Quereshy, MD, DDS

**Project Title:** Comparison of post-surgical complications in bilateral split osteotomy with use of miniplates and monocortical screws or bicortical screws  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Faisal Quereshy, MD, DDS

**Project Title:** Incidence of Patients with Undiagnosed Diabetes Dental Implants and Their Perception of the Quality of Health Care  
**Principal Investigator:** Dale Baur, DDS

**Project Title:** Patient-Centered Quality of Life (QOL) Measures after Temporomandibular Total Joint Replacement Surgery  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Faisal Quereshy, MD, DDS

**Project Title:** TMJ Articular Disc Repair by Anisotropically Aligned Collagen Biotextiles Infused with Human MSCs on Pigs  
**Principal Investigator:** Dale Baur, DDS

**Project Title:** Efficacy of Ketorolac in Postoperative Pain Relief Following Third Molar Extraction  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Faisal Quereshy, MD, DDS

**Project Title:** IV Acetaminophen in Postoperative Pain Management After Third Molar Extractions. A Clinical Trial  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Faisal Quereshy, MD, DDS

**Project Title:** Antibiotic Usage Among Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in Ohio  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Keith Schneider, DMD

**Project Title:** Antibiotic Usage Among Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons among the United States and Canada  
**Principal Investigators:** Dale Baur, DDS, Keith Schneider, DMD
DIVISION OF PEDIATRIC SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Edward M. Barksdale, Jr., MD, Professor
Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital
Vice Chairman of Surgery, UHCMC

Faculty/Staff
Scott C. Boulanger, MD, Assistant Professor
Michael Dingeldein, MD, Assistant Professor
Anne Kim, MD, Assistant Professor
The Division of Pediatric Surgery currently comprises four, full-time academic faculty and provides complete consultative and surgical services for all child/adolescent populations at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital (RB&C). In addition, we partner with two seasoned and talented community physicians to help supplement 24/7 coverage of all pediatric surgical/trauma needs. These services include, but are not limited to, all general and thoracic surgical conditions: congenital anomalies, pediatric solid tumors, complex gastrointestinal problems (esophageal disorders, biliary track diseases, inflammatory bowel disease, Hirschsprung’s disease/bowel motility disorders, etc.) and chest wall deformities. A major percentage of these procedures are being approached using advanced minimally invasive surgical technologies.

The Division also provides all comprehensive services and coverage for the only ACS-certified Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center in Northeast Ohio. Dr. Michael Dingeldein is currently the Director of RB&C Trauma Center. The annual volume of trauma admissions for 2014 was 1,052, a significant increase over previous years, which averaged around 425 admissions since the Center’s inception in 1998. In April 2015, the RB&C Pediatric Trauma Program was re-verified by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and maintained its certification as a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center. RB&C is one of only three such pediatric trauma centers in Ohio. The trauma program is now also providing ATLS (Advanced Trauma...
The faculty provides office hours and performs outpatient surgery throughout the Northeast Ohio area. Current sites span main campus RB&C, Landerbrook, Westlake, Twinsburg, Parma and Mentor. Ambulatory surgery in appropriate patients is conducted off the main campus at UH Ahuja Medical Center, UH Westlake Surgery Center and the UH Mentor Surgery Center. We also offer same-day patient access at RB&C Monday–Friday for any needs that occur outside of regularly scheduled clinic hours.

The Division partners with several pediatric surgery nurse practitioners to provide continuity of care for both inpatient and outpatient. We have begun implementation of the Pediatric Certified Nurse Practitioner Physician Extension Model of Care to improve the quality and experience of services provided to our patients and their families. In addition to direct patient care, the team is responsible for defining the Division’s practices related to quality, safety, outcomes, education, primary and referring physician communication, and long-term follow-up care. The Nurse Practitioners are also in the process of developing programs in wound and stoma care and a clinic in chest wall deformities.

The Division (and Hospital) remains actively engaged in diverse community service endeavors to further the mission of improving health and health care for children in Northeast Ohio, through the development of strategic relationships with a variety of community partners. The burgeoning epidemic of urban violence that so tightly grips Cleveland and Northeast Ohio has led to a unique partnership between RB&C and UHCMC, the mayor’s office and local law enforcement. Project FOCUS is a multidimensional endeavor to thwart gang-related urban violence by offering employment and educational alternatives to stiff law enforcement efforts. There is also a collaboration between Case Western Reserve University School of Public Health, family practitioners and nurses at UH Geauga Medical Center, Elders in the Amish community and the schools to develop culturally sensitive injury prevention programs for Amish children, to both decrease the disparities in injury and outcomes.

### 2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- The RB&C Pediatric Trauma Program was re-verified in April 2015 by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and maintained its certification as a Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center, one of only three pediatric trauma centers in Ohio.

- **Dr. Michael Dingeldein** joined the Pediatric Surgery faculty in 2014 as the Director of the RB&C Trauma Center. Dr. Dingeldein brings with him specialty knowledge and expertise in pediatric trauma.

- **Dr. Edward M. Barksdale** received the Avery Award of Excellence for Pediatric Surgery from Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation.

- In 2014, **Dr. Edward Barksdale** was included in Cleveland Magazine Best Docs, Cleveland Super Docs, and Best Doctors in America.

- **Dr. Edward Barksdale** received a Rainbow Foundation award of $156,000 for quality and educational development in pediatric trauma.

### DIVISION RESEARCH

**Anne Kim, MD**

Evaluating the Cost-Effectiveness of Superficial Soft Tissue Abscess Drainage in Sedation Unit vs. Operating Room Abscess, Cost-Effectiveness, Sedation.
DIVISION GOALS

Expansion of Clinical Services
The UH system has invested significantly in acquiring independent hospitals in Northeast Ohio. The addition of UH Elyria and UH Parma will provide an incremental opportunity to serve more patients in the western population of Northeast Ohio. The addition of Dr. Dingeldein has broadened our clinical outreach within the Metropolitan Cleveland area and Northeast Ohio. We will continue to provide office hours at the UH Westlake, Twinsburg, Mentor and Parma. Efforts to more efficiently and strategically deploy faculty to other locations within the region are planned according to both community demand and institutional goals. The Division projects continued surgical volume growth at RB&C and the UH affiliates.

Refinement of Established Multidisciplinary Programs
Established multidisciplinary clinical programs, such as Trauma and emerging programs in Minimally Invasive Surgery, Maternal-Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment and Inflammatory Bowel Disease, continue to be areas of great clinical distinction for our Division. Funding from The Cleveland Foundation has provided critical support to build and mature a clinical center of excellence in Pediatric Minimally Invasive Surgery to programatically coordinate advances in general and thoracic pediatric surgery with neurosurgery, orthopedics and other pediatric surgical subspecialties. The construction of a state-of-the-art Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at RB&C and the recently recruitment of a new Division Chief of Perinatology at McDonald’s Women’s Hospital has facilitated the development of an interdisciplinary fetal diagnosis and treatment center. These efforts have increased our regional referrals of infants with complex congenital anomalies and serve to help us establish our institution as a destination point in the region for the care of these mothers, infants and their families.

Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital's Trauma Center at UH Case Medical Center has been verified as a Level 1 Trauma Center by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). The Committee on Trauma’s certificate of verification has been awarded for an additional two years (April 22, 2015 to April 22, 2017). This achievement recognizes the trauma center’s dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients. RB&C’s Trauma Center has met the essential criteria that ensure trauma care capability and institutional performance (as outlined by the American College of Surgeons Revised 5/20/2009) by demonstrating our commitment to providing the highest quality trauma care for all injured patients.

Establish New Investigative Programs in Pediatric Surgery
The addition of new faculty has now created a critical mass of individuals who can pursue areas of academic interest in concert with their clinical activities. The recent establishment of the Minimally Invasive Program and development of the Pediatric Surgery Database have converged to provide critical infrastructure for the emergence of the clinical research program for the Division. The Pediatric Surgery Database will allow the Division to prospectively record cases and follow outcomes. This data may be repurposed for multiple other uses within both research and quality assurance. Consequently, there has been a remarkable increase in the number of publications from the group. The group will pursue corporate objectives toward continued development of clinical research objectives in minimally invasive surgery, injury prevention and nutrition in the critically ill neonate and child, with a concerted focus on increasing publication productivity, increasing faculty presence at national meetings, and pursuit of extramural support.

Commitment to Undergraduate and Graduate Medical Education
Education is an important component of the Divisional activities and mission, and the Division is widely recognized for its commitment to the education at all levels of undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate medical education. We remain committed to sustaining the efforts needed to improve medical student and resident education. One of the students mentored by the group was recently featured in an upcoming special on the syndicated TV show “The Doctors”. Several investigational studies and projects by students and residents have been proctored and successfully published or presented at national meetings. Furthermore, we endeavor to codify interests and efforts in graduate medical education in pediatric surgery.
Division of Surgical Oncology

Division Chief
Julian Kim, MD, Professor
Charles A. Hubay, MD Chair in the Department of Surgery

Faculty/Staff
John Ammori, MD, Assistant Professor
Jill Dietz, MD, Associate Professor
Mary Freyvogel, DO, Clinical Assistant Professor
Jeffrey Hardacre, MD, Associate Professor
Marjie Persons, MD, Associate Professor
Lisa Rock, MD, Clinical Instructor
Robert Shenk, MD, Associate Professor
Scott M Wilhelm, MD, Associate Professor
The Division of Surgical Oncology continues to make significant contributions to the mission of the Department of Surgery. The Division performed at a high level from a financial perspective by balancing revenue and costs. Over the past academic year, the Division has grown with the addition of Dr. Jill Dietz, a renowned breast surgeon who has national visibility within the American Society of Breast Surgeons. She brings expertise in oncoplastic surgery and is the Director of Breast Center Operations for the entire system.

In addition, Dr. Mary Freyvogel was recruited after completing a fellowship in Breast Surgery, to grow breast surgery market share in the Western Region; and Dr. Lisa Rock, an experienced and established surgeon, has been added to the Division to grow breast surgery market share in the Eastern Region. These additions to the existing faculty will ensure progressive volume growth as the UH system continues to expand and extend services into the northern Ohio region.

All of the members of the Division spend significant time teaching residents and medical students on the Lenhart Surgical Oncology service, the Shuck Hepatobiliary and Endocrine service and in the outpatient clinics. Several of the faculty have been recognized by the residents for excellence in teaching, and the Lenhart and Shuck services ranked high in popularity among the residents at the annual retreat. Several faculty members serve on the Case Surgery Residency Committee and subcommittees involved with resident evaluation and teaching. Dr. Marjie Persons continues a long history of oversight of the
2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Jill Dietz joined the Division in September 2014. Dr. Dietz has national visibility within the American Society of Breast Surgeons, and brings expertise in oncoplastic surgery. She is the Director of Breast Center Operations for the entire system.
- Dr. Mary Freyvogel joined the Division in August 2014, after completing a fellowship in Breast Surgery.
- Dr. Scott Wilhelm was promoted to Society Treasurer for the Ohio American College of Surgeons for 2014-15.
- Dr. Jeffrey Hardacre was a 2014 award recipient to participate in the Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management at Brandeis University, sponsored by the American College of Surgeons and the Society for the Surgery of the Alimentary Tract. Dr. Hardacre was chosen to attend a week-long, intensive course in health policy and management.
- Dr. Jeffrey Hardacre became a member of the Ohio Governor’s Office of Health Transformation Clinical Advisory Group on Cholecystectomy and Appendectomy, a group of physicians asked to provide input on how to transition to episode-based care for cholecystectomy and appendectomy.
- Dr. Kim was appointed Vice Chair of Faculty Development for the UHCMC Department of Surgery, as well as the Chair of the Department’s Academic Promotions and Tenure Committee.

DIVISION GOALS

In the upcoming year, the Division will continue to evaluate opportunities to expand clinical services and develop new services across the UH system. Strategic recruitment of new physicians to fill roles in both at the academic medical center and in the region will be a key part of the growth initiative. Excellence in teaching and research will continue to expand in order to support the mission of “To Heal, To Teach and To Discover”.

Several faculty members have made significant contributions to the academic mission of the Department. Dr. Robert Shenk was part of a group of investigators who presented a novel method of wire localization of cancerous axillary lymph nodes following neoadjuvant chemotherapy at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Surgical Oncology. Dr. Jeffrey Hardacre continues to work with industry partners on the development and FDA approval of a novel pancreatic cancer vaccine and is also the Program Committee Chair for the Annual Meeting of the Central Surgical Association. Dr. Jill Dietz was Program Chair for the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Breast Surgeons. Dr. Scott Wilhelm served on Program Committees of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, Midwest Surgical Society and Central Surgical Association and is past president of the Cleveland Surgical Society. Finally, from a translational research perspective, Dr. John Ammori finished his NIH K12 award studying the development of adoptive T cell therapy from draining lymph nodes from pancreatic cancer patients, and Dr. Julian Kim opened a novel Phase I trial of adoptive T cell therapy in patients with advanced melanoma. Several residents and students have benefitted from spending time in the Division’s translational research lab as well.
DIVISION RESEARCH

John Ammori, MD
Funding Source: NIH/NCI (K12 CA076917-15)
Project Role: Paul Calabresi Scholar (Gerson, PI)
Project Title: Clinical Oncology Career Development Program
Project Period: July 2012 – June 2015
Mentored research experience with a 2-year didactic curriculum designed to provide basic background and highly individualized advanced training in clinical and methodological components of translational cancer research.

Funding source: University Hospitals Immunogene Therapy Fund
Project Role: Principal Investigator
Project Title: Preclinical and Clinical Development of T cell Adoptive Immunotherapy of Cancer
Project Period: 7/1/2012- 7/1/2016
Award Amount: $2,000,000+
The overall goal of this fund is to support preclinical and clinical development of immune-based therapies for patients with cancer. All of the dollars to support the fund were raised through philanthropy.

Funding source: Susan Komen Foundation
Project Role: Mentor (Nicole Steinmetz, Ph.D trainee)
Project Title: A nanoparticle-based HER2 breast cancer vaccine
Project period: 7/1/2014- 6/30/2017
Award Amount: $450,000
The overall goal of this program is to support the translational research career development of young investigators.

Funding source: NIH K12
Project Role: Mentor (John Ammori, M.D. trainee)
Project Title: Adoptive T cell immunotherapy of pancreatic cancer
Project period: 7/1/2012- 6/30/2015
Award Amount: $315,000
The overall goal of this program is to support the translational research career development of young investigators.

Julian Kim, MD
IRB-approved clinical trials
CASE IRB 3612: Phase I study using autologous Ex Vivo Activated (X-ACT) lymph node lymphocytes as adoptive immunotherapy in advanced malignant melanoma patients. (Kim, PI). IND application filed with FDA #15959

CASE IRB 3610: Molecular Studies of T cell clones for adoptive therapy. (Kim, PI) Sponsor- NIH

Scott Wilhelm, MD
Evaluation of Incidentally Discovered Thyroid Nodules- How Does Mechanism of Detection After Risk of Thyroid Cancer. Ongoing project.

Evaluation of PET Scan Positive and Negative Thyroid Nodules- Risk of Thyroid Cancer. Ongoing study.
DIVISION OF THORACIC AND ESOPHAGEAL SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Philip Linden, MD, Associate Professor
David P. Miller and Frances A. Cosentino Master Clinician in Thoracic & Esophageal Surgery

Faculty/Staff
Yaron Perry, MD, Clinical Associate Professor
Jason Robke, MD, Assistant Professor
Christopher Towe, MD, Assistant Professor
The Division of Thoracic and Esophageal Surgery focuses on the minimally invasive treatment of disorders of the lung, mediastinum, pleura, chest wall, and esophagus including lung cancer, gastroesophageal reflux, paraesophageal hernia, esophageal cancer, pleural disease, hyperhidrosis, thoracic outlet syndrome, and tracheal tumors. Minimally invasive procedures commonly performed include VATS lobectomy, VATS pericardial window, laparoscopic hernia repair, laparoscopic Heller myotomy, VATS thymectomy, and stenting of the airway and esophagus. Ablative therapies, including Cyberknife stereotactic radiosurgery and radiofrequency ablation, are available for high risk and prohibitive risk patients.

DIVISION GOALS

- Continued increase in esophageal surgery volume
- Expansion of division to Parma, Elyria and Geauga Hospitals
- Publication of esophageal cancer experience and minimally invasive lung cancer experience
DIVISION RESEARCH

**Project Title:** Computer-Extracted CT Features for Distinguishing Suspicious Lung Lesions with No, Minimal, and Significant Invasion  
**Co-Principal Investigator:** Philip Linden, MD  
**Funding:** Department of Defense, $534,000 over 2 years

**Project Title:** Comparison of Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection versus Mucosal Resection for Neoplasia of the Esophagus, Stomach, Colon, and Rectum  
**Principal Investigator:** John Dumot, DO  
**Sub Investigator:** Philip Linden, MD

**Project Title:** Near Infra-Red Spectrophotometry (NIRS)-Based Cerebral Oximetry Monitoring in Elderly Thoracic Surgical Patients Undergoing Single Lung Ventilation Procedures: A Single Center, Prospective, Randomized Controlled Pilot Study Assessing the Clinical Impact of NIRS-Guided Intervention  
**Co-Principal Investigator:** Philip Linden, MD

**Project Title:** Novel Application of Three Dimensional Brachytherapy Esophageal Stents for Treatment of Esophageal Cancer  
**Principal Investigator:** Yaron Perry, MD

**Project Title:** Socrates Economic Analysis of Esophagectomy  
**Investigators:** Christopher Towe, MD, Philip Linden, MD

**Project Title:** ‘Able to Rescue’: Analysis 8 years of mortality free esophagectomy  
**Investigators:** Philip Linden, MD, Christopher Towe, MD, Yaron Perry, MD

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

**New appointments:**  
- Dr. Christopher Towe and Dr. Luis Argote Greene hired.

**Awards:**  
- Dr. Linden earned the Richard E. Clark Award for best paper using the Society of Thoracic Surgery Database, Annual STS meeting, 2014  
- Dr. Linden appointed Editor, thoracic surgery section, Scientific American (formerly American College of Surgeons) Surgery Textbook  
- Dr. Linden named Top Doctor, Thoracic Surgery  
- Dr. Linden named to Leadership Academy, University Hospitals

**Clinical Expansion:**  
- New suburban clinics opened in Parma, Elyria, Mentor and Geauga  
- Inpatient services opened at Elyria Medical Center, Parma Medical Center, and Geauga Medical Center
The Division of Trauma, Surgical Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery is expanding as we prepare to become a Level I Trauma Center. In addition to providing coverage of the Acute Care Surgery service, the Division members are developing the trauma program and surgical critical care components. We anticipate the trauma program to be up and running by the Fall 2015.

DIVISION RESEARCH

Principal Investigator, University Hospitals Case Medical Center Acute Care Surgery Service Patient Database, IRB Number 05-15-09

Co-investigator, Cancer-and end-of-life care in older individuals diagnosed with metastatic cancer, IRB Number CC00184; CTSC Pilot Grant application submitted under this IRB entitled “Morbidity and Mortality as a Function of Preexisting Multimorbidity Following Emergency Surgery in Geriatric Cancer Patients”

DIVISION GOALS

- The Trauma Division began the process of becoming a verified trauma center by the American College of Surgeons. This is a two-step process. The first step, the Consultative Visit by the ACS, occurred at the end of April 2015.

- As part of the preparation for trauma center accreditation, the Division was actively recruiting surgeons. Dr. Vanessa Ho, joined the Division in November 2014. Additional fellowship-trained trauma surgeons have been recruited and will be joining the Division in the 2015-2016 academic year.

- In conjunction with the Rainbow Trauma Program, we have increased the number of Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) courses provided on campus.
DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY AND ENDOVASCULAR THERAPY

DIVISION FACULTY

Division Chief
Vikram Kashyap, MD, FACS, Professor of Surgery

Faculty/Staff
Henry Baele, MD, FACS, Assistant Professor of Surgery
Teresa Carman, MD, Assistant Professor of Vascular Medicine
Jerry Goldstone, MD, FACS, FRCSE (hon), Professor of Surgery Emeritus
Virginia Wong, MD, FACS, Assistant Professor of Surgery
The mission of the Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Therapy is to provide comprehensive care for patients with diseases of the vascular system to reduce morbidity and mortality from these diseases and improve quality of life for our patients. We do this through education, research and scientifically-based, compassionately delivered clinical care employing the latest advanced techniques and technology.

As one of the Divisions within the Department of Surgery, we participate fully in its academic and educational programs. The Division is also an integral component of the Harrington Heart and Vascular Institute of University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC), working closely with colleagues from cardiovascular medicine, cardiac surgery, and radiology to create system-wide integration and improvements in cardiovascular care.

**2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Division supports highly successful and competitive ACGME-approved training programs. The Fellowship in Vascular Surgery is a 2-year program and is approved for one fellow per year leading to certification in Vascular Surgery by the American Board of Surgery. Recently, the Division was approved for a novel Vascular Surgery Residency (0-5 Program, 5 years); our inaugural resident began in 2012. In addition, we actively participate in the education of general surgery residents and medical students from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

**New appointments:**
- Norman Kumins, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery
- Alexis Powell, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery
- Karem Harth, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery

**2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Division supports highly successful and competitive ACGME-approved training programs. The Fellowship in Vascular Surgery is a 2-year program and is approved for one fellow per year leading to certification in Vascular Surgery by the American Board of Surgery. Recently, the Division was approved for a novel Vascular Surgery Residency (0-5 Program, 5 years); our inaugural resident began in 2012. In addition, we actively participate in the education of general surgery residents and medical students from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

**New appointments:**
- Norman Kumins, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery
- Alexis Powell, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery
- Karem Harth, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery

**DIVISION RESEARCH**

The research efforts are grouped into three broad categories.
- Translational research involving understanding the mechanisms of arterial and venous endothelial dysfunction
- Prospective trials in vascular disease
- Clinical reviews of patients with vascular problems and treatments

**DIVISION GOALS**

- Continue the growth in clinical volume and complexity
- Increase faculty and incorporate vascular staff into one team across Northeast Ohio
- Enhance research activities in both clinical trials and clinical series
University Hospitals
Case Medical Center
Education
Thank you for your interest in the training programs in the Department of Surgery at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Our mission is to provide the finest training available to individuals who are motivated, compassionate and willing to contribute to the excellence of the program for the benefit of all participants.

Please visit the Case Surgical Residency Program website (www.casesurgery.com) to learn more about specific surgical rotations, faculty biosketches, current residents, recent graduates and the educational conferences. As a part of our ongoing effort to improve the educational experience, conferences and yearly rotations may be modified based upon resident feedback at our yearly retreat.

Graduates from our program continually achieve top fellowship positions and move on to make significant contributions in both clinical and academic surgery. The core curriculum follows the SCORE outline, and educational conferences are focused on case-based questions which help the residents achieve proficiency in decision making.

Our mission is “to heal, to teach and to discover.” Our surgical training program is dynamic and steeped in tradition but has an eye towards the future. We look forward to continuing our tradition of excellence in teaching and sharing our vision of surgical education in the new millennium.

Jeffrey M. Marks, MD, FACS, FASGE
Professor of Surgery
Program Director, Surgical Residency Program
Vice Chair of Education
Director of Surgical Endoscopy
University Hospitals Case Medical Center

“Graduates from our program make significant contributions in both clinical and academic surgery.”
SURGICAL RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Faculty of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine are responsible for all training at the clinical facilities of University Hospitals Case Medical Center, MetroHealth Medical Center, and the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, and the Department is fully integrated in its educational programs at these three facilities. Surgical training is divided among these outstanding hospitals to provide a broad range of experience. There are many full-time surgical faculty in our Department, in addition to PhDs, physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

- University Hospitals Case Medical Center is the primary hospital affiliate with Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Case Surgery is a recognized leader in minimally invasive surgery, abdominal wall reconstruction, cutting edge surgical oncologic interventions, and advanced novel endoscopic therapies, including Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM).

- MetroHealth Medical Center is the regional Level I Trauma and Burn Center and is nationally recognized for contributions in the area of emergency surgery, critical care and endocrine surgery.

- Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is one of the Veterans’ Health Administration’s top spinal cord injury centers, as well as a “Center of Excellence” in Cardiothoracic Surgery.

2014-15 Residents (with Medical School attended)

Chief Residents
Katherine Kelly, University of Chicago
Andrea King, University of New Mexico
David Krpata, University of Arizona
Jonathan Kwong, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
Jonah Stulberg, Case Western Reserve University
Anthony Visioni, SUNY Downstate Medical Center

4th Year Residents
Matthew Allemang, The Ohio State University
Aman Banarjee, Virginia Commonwealth
Christopher Bohac, University of Illinois
Vineeta Gahlawat, GSVM Medical College
Kristopher Katira, Louisiana State University
SaAda Seidu, American University of Antigua

3rd Year Residents
Iuliana Bobanga, Wayne State University
Akhil Chawla, University of Cincinnati
Jana Hambley, Tulane University
Kyle Lineberry, Michigan State University
Tobias Long, Penn State University
Clayton Petro, University of Cincinnati
Steven Plato, Michigan State University
Luke Rothermel, Wright State University
Hahn Soe-Lin, Georgetown University
2nd Year Residents
Gener Augustin, University of Rochester
Justin Brady, University of Toledo
Cory Criss, Ross University
Andrew Ibrahim, Case Western Reserve University
Nikita Machado, Kasturba Medical College
Navid Pouraheri, Duke University
Mazen Roskhy, University of Cincinnati
Victor Sandoval, Universidad de Ecuador
Ji Son, Stanford University
Hannah Zhou, Case Western Reserve University
Brenda Zosa, Case Western Reserve University

Janet Li, Case Western Reserve University
Guillermo Lopez-Gonzalez, Texas A&M
Charles Lugo, University of Wisconsin
Chenai Netty, Meharry Medical College
Sean Pack, Case Western Reserve University
Sarah Posillico, Case Western Reserve University
Zhina Sadeghi, Tehran University
Daniel Schwartz, Case Western Reserve University
Zachary Senders, Jefferson Medical College
Akina Tamaki, University of Maryland
Brock Vanderbush, Ross University
Yuewei Wu-Fienbergs

1st Year Residents
Konstantinos Alfaras-Melainis, University of Crete
Colby Brown, Case Western Reserve University
Melody Chen, Boston University
Gabriel Crowl, University of Vermont
Mark Gelpi, Wright State University
Ian Greenwalt, Drexel University
Jared Hooks, Ross University
Kathryn Hoppe, Medical College of Wisconsin
Terence Jackson, Madras Medical College
Helmi Khadra, American University of Antigua
Albert Kim, Virginia Commonwealth
Vladimir Kiselev, Military Medical Academy
David Kurlander, Case Western Reserve University
Husayn Ladhani, University of Texas, Galveston

Research Scholars
Kevin Choong, Washington University
Benjamin Crawshaw, University of Rochester
Jack He, University of Rochester
Daniel Kendrick, SUNY Upstate
Ann Kim, Case Western Reserve University
Arnab Majumber, The Ohio State University
Charles Wojnarski, Jagiellonian University

Fellows
Karem Harth, Vascular Surgery
Hannah Kim, Vascular Surgery
Jeffrey Blatnik, Laparoendoscopic Surgery
William Conan Mustain, Colorectal Surgery
Abel Bello, Bariatric Surgery
Beyond Residency

2015 Graduates

Katherine Kelly, MD
Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
MetroHealth Medical Center
Cleveland, Ohio

Andrea King, MD
Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
MetroHealth Medical Center
Cleveland, Ohio

David Krpata, MD
Laparoendoscopic Surgery Fellowship
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio

Jonathan Kwong, MD
Vascular Surgery Fellowship
University Hospitals Case Medical Center
Cleveland, Ohio

Jonah Stulberg, MD
Assistant Professor
Northwestern University
Chicago, Illinois

Anthony Visioni, MD
Surgical Oncology Fellowship
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

2014 Graduates

Robert Armstrong, MD
Private Practice
West Seneca, New York

Jeffrey Blatnik, MD
Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship
University Hospitals Case Medical Center
Cleveland, Ohio

Amir Fathi, MD
Hepatobiliary Fellowship
Medical College of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Glenn Hall, MD
Colorectal Fellowship
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

William Leukhardt, MD
Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
MetroHealth Medical Center
Cleveland, Ohio

Liming Yu, MD
Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship
Shawnee Mission Health Medical Center
Kansas City, Kansas
MEDICAL STUDENTS

Third year students from the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine rotate through the Department of Surgery in small groups for eight weeks at a time as a part of their curriculum. While the students are in the clerkship, they are assigned to a team of attending surgeons and residents to shadow in the OR, clinics and at Departmental education conferences. The students also attend a series of 36 student-geared lectures, prepared and presented by the Department’s faculty members. Dr. Marjie Persons is the Clerkship Director.

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING

While our residency programs offer experience in all required areas, the trend towards specialized training has accelerated in recent years. The Department of Surgery has established several fellowships to keep up with the demand for specialized training.

The Department currently has the following fellowships:
- Bariatric Surgery
- Colorectal Surgery
- MIS/Laparoendoscopic Surgery
- Vascular Surgery

These fellowships are highly selective and nationally recognized programs.
POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Part of the mission for the Department of Surgery at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine is to advance research and education in surgical science across all disciplines and specialties. Post-graduate education is a goal of the Department of Surgery. We have an abundant amount of training opportunities offered throughout the year.

Our Post-Graduate Education Programs consist of the following:

**CME and Non-CME Educational Courses**

We offer year-round opportunities to obtain CME Credits, eligible for MOC Part II credit, through our educational offerings, including onsite courses and webinars, Morbidity and Mortality and Grand Rounds conferences, as well as online Grand Rounds education.

The onsite course offerings in 2014-15 included:

- Advanced GI Fellows Course
- Americas Hernia Society Post-Graduate Course
- Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Summit
- Colorectal Residents Career Course
- POEM/ESD Course (offered twice)

**Animate Skills Lab Offerings**

The Animate Skills Lab provides opportunities to learn through hands-on training within our eight fully-equipped surgical stations. The Animate Skills Lab provides the following:

- Live and Cadaveric Models
- Fundamental and Minimally Invasive Procedures
- Eight Fully-Equipped Surgical Stations
- Integrated Audio/Visual System and Conference Room
- Non-GLP, Industry Sponsored Research, Prototype Development and Device Evaluation
- Human Factors Usability Engineering Studies
Mini-Fellowships
The mini-fellowship program is a comprehensive educational program that focuses on training surgeons in a specified surgical procedure. It is an educational opportunity for the surgeon to understand and learn procedural specifics and patient management strategies from leaders in their respective fields of study. Mini-fellowships typically are 1-2 days in length and include didactics, experiential instruction in teaching techniques in our skills laboratory and live cases from the operating room. The following mini-fellowships were sponsored in 2014-15:
- Bard Hernia Mini-Fellowship (offered four times)
- Covidien Colorectal Surgery Mini-Fellowship (offered twice)

Preceptorship/Reentry Program (PREP)
These exclusive programs are offered to provide surgeons hands-on experience including clinical work and opportunities to scrub in the operating room. They are designed to address clinical areas where surgeons want to increase skill level in a particular clinical area or practice skills after a period of time out of practice.

For more information on the Post-Graduate Education Programs at Case Surgery, visit our website at casesurgery.com.

Web Symposiums
Our webinars provide a unique, easy way for surgeons and vendors from around the globe to interact with one another in order to train, teach, debate, discuss and learn new techniques in their fields. Webinars eliminate the need to travel; one can watch and listen from the convenience of their home or office, and are a fraction of the cost of traditional meetings. The following webinar series were offered in 2014-15:

Pediatric Ophthalmology Webinar Series – topics included:
- PEDIG
- Genetics
- Strabismus

SAGES Residents Webinar Series – topics included:
- Career Development
- Endoscopic Management of Post-Bariatric Surgery Patients
- Role of Endoscopy and MIS for the Acute Care Surgeon
- Robotic Gastrointestinal Surgery
INSTITUTE FOR SURGERY AND INNOVATION

Dr. Delaney is Director and co-founder of the Institute for Surgery and Innovation (ISI). The ISI is a training institute which has three primary goals:

- To provide skills training, which combines education for medical students and residents, as well as for surgeons in practice in advanced laparoscopic techniques;
- To foster a multi-center research group which will perform clinical trials in various surgical disciplines; and
- To harbor an Innovation Center which interacts with industry to create and test new technical products.

The teaching component has developed the fastest, and there are now between two and four courses each month held in the animate laboratory. Laparoscopic colorectal and hernia mini-fellowships are held on a regular basis. Courses in many other specialty areas are also held, all of which are helping raise the level of awareness of the Institute both regionally and nationally; many surgeons and physicians have been through the ISI in the last several years. The Institute is accredited by the American College of Surgeons as a Level I Training Center. ISI is joined with the Mount Sinai Skills and Simulation Center, as the Case Center for Skills and Simulation.

In July 2015, Dr. Ajita Prabhu took over as the Skills Trainer. Dr. Prabhu will direct skills training for the residents, as well as continue her increasingly busy clinical practice. In 2014-15, several abstracts have been submitted based on educational research being performed at ISI.

FLS/FES/FUSE TRAINING CENTER

University Hospitals Case Medical Center is a designated Test Center for the following SAGES-sponsored programs:

Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS):
The FLS program is a comprehensive web-based education module that includes a hands-on skills training component and assessment tool designed to teach the physiology, fundamental knowledge, and technical skills required in basic laparoscopic surgery. FLS was designed for surgical residents, fellows and practicing physicians to learn and practice laparoscopic skills, and then have the opportunity to definitively measure and document those skills. The FLS program content is a joint educational offering of SAGES and the American College of Surgeons (ACS), and FLS certification is a requirement for board certification by the American Board of Surgery (ABS).

Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery (FES):
The FES program is a comprehensive educational and assessment tool designed to teach and evaluate the fundamental knowledge, clinical judgment and technical skills required in the performance of basic gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopic surgery. FES was designed for medical and surgical residents, fellows, practicing general surgeons, gastroenterologists, and other physicians to learn and test basic endoscopic skills required to form a foundation in the practice of flexible endoscopy. FES is now required by the American Board of Surgery as part of the ABS Flexible Endoscopy Curriculum. Surgeons graduating residency in the 2017-2018 academic year and thereafter must complete the ABS Flexible Endoscopy Curriculum and be FES certified in order to be eligible for board certification in general surgery.
The Mt Sinai Skills and Simulation Center (MSSSC) provides the availability and expertise in all five areas of simulation training (standardized patients, task training, simulation scenarios, virtual reality, and hybrid simulation) for the learners at all levels. These modalities are incorporated into programs for learner assessment, training, certification, testing and research. The MSSSC provides state-of-the-art simulation, both at its 8,500 square foot facility and at various locations (utilizing its in situ equipment) by creating realistic training scenario modules and video debriefing. The expert staff facilitates the teaching and evaluation of clinical and nonclinical skills such as those required by the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the various Certifying Boards. Under the leadership of Dr. Mark Aeder as the Medical Director, the MSSSC has seen a marked increase in the potential programming opportunities and an increased presence at national and international meetings. The expansion of the potential learner base has allowed the Center to pioneer new techniques in corporate and professional education. The MSSSC is a consulting partner for the Global Center for Health Innovation at the Cleveland Convention Center.

**Fundamental Use of Surgical Energy (FUSE):** The FUSE program was developed to meet the need for increased education and training in the principles and properties of operating electrosurgical instruments safely. The Program is designed to determine whether a candidate has the knowledge fundamental to the safe use of surgical energy-based devices in the operating room, endoscopy suite and other procedural areas. The FUSE assessment is an online exam testing cognitive knowledge of the components of the program. The Program was designed for those interested in learning more about electrosurgery - physicians, nurses, residents, fellows, OR techs, and industry personnel.

**CENTER FOR SKILLS AND SIMULATION**

The Case Western Reserve University Center for Skills and Simulation (CWRU CSS) offers national and international resources in a wide spectrum of learning modalities with the ultimate goal of improving health care quality and efficiency. The CWRU CSS provides the opportunity for clinical and non-clinical educational excellence.

Since its inception, CWRU CSS has embraced the multi-disciplinary approach to meet the needs of many trainees within the context of state-of-the-art facilities and high quality educational programs. The Center is an American College of Surgeons Level 1 Comprehensive Accredited Education Institute.
The past year has been a successful one for the MSSSC as it transitions to maximizing its resource offerings. The MSSSC had a 25% growth in the number of simulation/training hours commiserate with the increased number of programs offered. There has been further integration of the interdisciplinary focus as the Center staff has been working to advance these educational opportunities. This has translated into more robust scenario development and programming. The MSSSC has been able to further facilitate the user needs and to enhance the educational experience through new task based education and focus on specific end user gaps. The learner population has included students from all CWRU health schools, residency programs from 3 systems, community and regional professional/physician education and community groups and organizations. Many of these advancements and improvements are noted in the list of course offerings and schedule, and can be viewed on the updated MSSSC website at [http://casemed.case.edu/simcenter](http://casemed.case.edu/simcenter).

The MSSSC offers an outcomes-driven curriculum which focuses on improving patient-provider communication and reducing medical errors and health care costs. In addition to being able to customize any simulation experience, the Center has a vast library of realistic multidisciplinary and inter-professional scenarios which can incorporate all forms of simulation, including standardized patients, basic and complex task trainers, high fidelity manikins, virtual reality trainers and second life programs. The past year has seen an expansion of these programs to provide the learner groups enhanced opportunities for clinical and nonclinical development. A major focus in this initiative is skill enhancement in the areas of critical thinking, problem-solving and teamwork.

The mission of the MSSSC is to:

- Provide assessment, training, and evaluation for multiple levels of learners, to achieve patient safety through leadership, research, and innovative learner-centered experiences;
- Be a unifying force bringing all of the region’s health care institutions together in collaboration and cooperation;
- Provide unparalleled educational facilities both on site and in situ;
- Be an invaluable local, national and international resource for continuing education for health care providers;
- Be a dynamic industrial partner in testing, development, manufacturing, and marketing simulation technology; and
- Be a Center of Excellence in research and leadership development.

Moving forward, the MSSSC will continue to expand its course options to reach an ever expanding health professional population. As the needs for educational opportunities increase and the real time clinical situations become more saturated, the MSSSC will provide teaching and learning in a safe state-of-the-art facility. Further expansion into other associated professions will offer unique educational opportunities for an even wider range of trainees.
SURGERY GRAND ROUNDS

2014-15 Visiting Professor Lectures

September 18, 2014
Dr. Jerry Goldstone Vascular Surgery Endowed Lectureship (Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute)
“How Can Randomized Controlled Trials Even In Leading Journals Be So Misleading?”
Frank Veith, MD
William J. von Liebig Chair in Vascular Surgery
The Cleveland Clinic
Professor of Surgery, New York University Medical Center

October 8, 2014
The Beck Lecture in Thoracic Surgery
“Evolution of Thoracoscopic Lobectomy”
Thomas D’Amico, MD
Gary Hock Endowed Professor of Surgery
Program Director, Thoracic Surgery
Duke University Medical Center

March 4, 2015
The Murdough Lecture in Colorectal Surgery
“How Will We Teach the Next Generation?”
Patricia Roberts, MD
Chair, Division of Surgery
Lahey Hospital and Medical Center
Professor of Surgery, Tufts University School of Medicine

April 22, 2015
The Beck Lecture in Vascular Surgery
“Carotid Atherosclerosis: Revisionist History is Usually Wrong”
Richard Cambria, MD
Chief, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery
Massachusetts General Hospital Vascular Center
University Hospitals
Case Medical Center
Research
SURGICAL RESEARCH

The Department of General Surgery’s Research Section is comprised of two registered nurses, Bridget Ermlich, RN, MSN, CCRP and Christina “Tina” Seafier, RN, CCRP. In addition to the full management and coordination of clinical trials, the Research Section assists and mentors residents, students and other staff investigators in the development of protocols, consent forms, grant and IRB submissions such as departmental databases and other low risk research projects.

Both Bridget and Tina are Certified Clinical Research Professionals (CCRPs) through the Society for Clinical Research Associates (SoCRA). SoCRA established the Certification Program for Clinical Research Professionals in order to create an internationally accepted level of knowledge, education, and experience by which clinical research professionals will be recognized by the medical research community.

SURGICAL ONCOLOGY RESEARCH

Research activities within the Division of Surgical Oncology span clinical, translational and basic and are funded from a variety of sources including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), institutional awards, and industry.

IRB-approved clinical trials

- CASE IRB 3612: Phase I study using autologous Ex Vivo Activated (X-ACT) lymph node lymphocytes as adoptive immunotherapy in advanced malignant melanoma patients. (Kim, PI). IND application filed with FDA #15959
- CASE IRB 3610: Molecular Studies of T cell clones for adoptive therapy. (Kim, PI) Sponsor- NIH

Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding source</th>
<th>Project Role</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Phase Clinical Research Support (NCI P30-CA043703)</td>
<td>Principal Investigator</td>
<td>Clinical Development of T cell Adoptive Immunotherapy of Cancer</td>
<td>6/1/2014-5/31/2015</td>
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<td>University Hospitals Center for Clinical Research and Technology</td>
<td>Principal Investigator</td>
<td>Phase I Clinical Trial of Adoptive Immunotherapy in patients with advanced melanoma</td>
<td>4/1/2014-3/30/2015</td>
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<td>University Hospitals Immunogene Therapy Fund</td>
<td>Principal Investigator</td>
<td>Preclinical and Clinical Development of T cell Adoptive Immunotherapy of Cancer</td>
<td>7/1/2012-7/1/2016</td>
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<td>Susan Komen Foundation</td>
<td>Mentor (Nicole Steinmetz, Ph.D trainee)</td>
<td>A nanoparticle-based HER2 breast cancer vaccine</td>
<td>7/1/2014-6/30/2017</td>
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<td>NIH K12</td>
<td>Mentor (John Ammori, M.D. trainee)</td>
<td>Adoptive T cell immunotherapy of pancreatic cancer</td>
<td>7/1/2012-6/30/2015</td>
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DIAPHRAGM PACING RESEARCH

There have now been nearly 1,600 Diaphragm Pacing Systems (DPS) implanted worldwide for various indications since the first implant over 15 years ago. Diaphragm Pacing (DP) was initially approved for Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) in June 2008. Since that time, we have implanted many SCI patients from around the country at University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC). DPS has freed over 400 SCI persons from mechanical ventilation.

Diaphragm Pacing changes the lives of its users. It stimulates physiologic breathing and decreases pneumonias. It enables people to speak more normally, improves the sense of smell, increases mobility, and sense of independence.

Diaphragm Pacing received FDA approval as a HDE in 2011 for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also called Lou Gehrig's disease. This disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disease of unknown cause that has devastating effects on the muscle of the respiratory system. The multi-center clinical trial data showed DP significantly improved survival in this population. We are currently enrolling in ALS Post Approval Study.

We have implanted a series of pediatric spinal cord injured children with the youngest being two years old. We completed a review of all diaphragm dysfunction patients implanted which included the first patient with Spinal Muscle Atrophy 2 (SMA2). Diaphragm Pacing in the diaphragm dysfunction group showed strong beneficial results ranging from liberating patients from tracheostomy mechanical ventilation to alleviation of symptoms.

Several presentations were done in 2014, including: the 25th International ALSMND Symposium; the 53nd Annual International Spinal Cord Society (ISCOS) Annual Meeting; and the 19th Annual Cure SMA Research Meeting.

The most exciting highlight from 2014-15 is the completion of the Trans Loc Electrode Feasibility Study. This research is the first step in providing diaphragm pacing in the ICU.

VASCULAR SURGERY RESEARCH

The research efforts in the Division of Vascular Surgery are grouped into three broad categories:

- Translational research involving understanding the mechanisms of arterial and venous endothelial dysfunction
- Prospective trials in vascular disease
- Clinical reviews of patients with vascular problems and treatments.

The current Resident Research Scholar for Vascular Surgery is Ann Kim, MD. Dan Kendrick, MD was a Research Scholar from 2013-2015.
ANIMATE SKILLS LAB

The Animate Skills Lab is a surgical research and skills training center serving the Department of Surgery at University Hospitals Case Medical Center. The directive of the Lab is to enhance the training and academic achievements of our surgeons and those from other health care institutes. The laboratory uses a range of animate models; live animal, tissue explants and human cadavers to conduct research in the field of minimally invasive surgical procedures and to coordinate animate training sessions to allow “hands on” training for the medical students, surgical residents, fellows and attending surgeons in a wide array of surgical specialties. In addition to research and training, the lab serves to facilitate the third directive of the Institute for Surgery and Innovation by using its resources to enable development and evaluation of innovative medical devices in a simulated surgical environment.

The Animate Skills Lab operates under the leadership of Dr. Steve Schomisch, Assistant Professor at Case Western Reserve University and Director of the Lab. Dr. Schomisch is responsible for all operations of the Animate Skills Laboratory. Cassandra Cipriano, RVT is the Lab Technician. Ms. Cipriano’s responsibilities include assisting in preparation and implementation of experiments and research endeavors, and management of the animals pre-, intra-, and post-operatively.

In 2014-15, the Animate Skills Lab was used for over 140 research, training or innovative sessions. Suture Workshops were held several times throughout the year, providing medical students with an opportunity to learn basics in the use of surgical instruments, suture materials, stitching and knot tying. Surgical residents were recruited to assist in the instruction, thereby gaining experience in communicating these skills. The School of Medicine Department of Anatomy also used the Lab resources to conduct two annual courses – Anatomy of the Trunk and Anatomy of the Head and Neck, making use of the surgical equipment available to them in the Lab using human cadaver models. Each year in July, new interns in general surgery are welcomed to the Lab with a workshop to introduce basic knowledge of surgical instruments and general surgical principles, and have the opportunity to work on tissue models to practice techniques. Additionally, throughout the year, surgical residents had the opportunity to hone their surgical skills on anesthetized porcine models, with instruction and evaluation from the surgical trainer. With over 70 sessions conducted in 2014, each resident was given the opportunity to attend several sessions.

In addition to the intra-institutional training sessions, attending surgeons from all over the world participated in numerous training courses offered. Multi-day “mini-fellowship” courses were conducted, geared to educate surgeons in hernia repair and demonstrating laparoscopic colectomy, utilizing the anesthetized porcine model to gain hands-on experience. Courses instructing the techniques of Per Oral Endoscopy Myotomy (POEM) using tissue explants were conducted to expose surgeons and gastroenterologist to this novel, minimally invasive approach to treating esophageal achalasia. Due to demand, this course was offered multiple times in 2014-15.

Dr. Schomisch also coordinated many training courses with other departments. These included:

- Plastic Surgery used the Lab for instruction in procedures to treat migraine headaches using human cadavers;
- Orthopedics used the Lab to educate their residents and fellows on arthroscopic joint repair using cadaveric shoulders, knees and hips;
- Neurosurgery conducted courses on procedures common to the Craniovertebral Junction and spine, using human cadaver models;
Basic Science Research Update

- Dr. Schomisch, in collaboration with Peritec sponsorship, is investigating a novel peripheral vascular stent lined with bovine peritoneum. The device has been implanted in a group of animals to test the long-term resistance to thrombosis and stenosis.
- Dr. Schomisch collaborates with Cardiology in investigating a novel, non-invasive technique utilizing CT imaging to detect coronary stenosis.
- Basic science conducted in the Lab also includes investigations of improved methods for performing the SEAL technique for inguinal hernia repair in children.
- The Lab has developed a model of esophageal atresia which has been used to investigate the potential of magnetic anastomosis for repairing these congenital disorders.
- Dr. Schomisch conducts basic research aimed toward the development of novel minimally invasive surgical techniques, therapies and treatments. He currently collaborates with Jeffrey Marks, MD and Horst von Recum PhD on research to investigate a novel surgical therapy for treating GI lesions and cancer of the esophagus. He is investigating a less invasive technique for endoscopic esophageal mucosectomy, the remodeling that occurs following this procedure and therapies to reduce or prevent stricture formation.

From an innovative perspective, several companies utilized the Lab services and expertise to facilitate non-GLP development and evaluation of their medical devices. These included:
- U.S. Endoscopy conducted several sessions with our staff to refine endoscopic devices such as snares, biopsy forceps and foreign body retrieval systems;
- Apollo Endosurgery demonstrated their endoluminal suturing device, the Overstitch, to several of our surgeons and gastroenterologists; and
- A group of our own researchers, including Dr. Schomisch, are working with industry in developing a device to treat enterocutaneous fistulas.

Additionally, Dr. Schomisch attends the annual Clinical Congress meeting sponsored by ACS, assisting in several of the hands-on flexible endoscopy courses offered by the College.
University Hospitals Case Medical Center
Publications and Presentations
PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

CARDIAC SURGERY

- Park, S. Invited speaker at Gordon Research Conference.
- Presentations by Drs. Markowitz, Sareyyupoglu and Deo at NY Valve Symposium and HFSA.
- Course director in Freestyle aortic valve implantation, Edwards TAVR course.
- Abstracts were submitted for ISHLT.

COLORECTAL SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS


• Paspulati RM, Partovi S, Herrmann KA, Krishnamurthi S, Delaney CP, Nguyen NC. Comparison of hybrid FDG PET/MRI compared with PET/CT in colorectal cancer staging and re-staging: a pilot study. Abdom Imaging, 2015; Jun 26; epub ahead of print.


PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS


BOOK CHAPTERS/TEXTBOOK EDITOR


- Russ A, Champagne BJ. “Preparing the Colon and Rectal Resident for Real World Practice; What Should the Graduate in 2015 be Prepared for?” Seminars in Colon and Rectal Surgery. Published online: April 14 2015.


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS

• Champagne, B. Champagne BJ, ASCRS Annual Meeting, Hollywood. FL. “HRA vs Expectant Management for AIN 3”.
• Delaney, C. “Laparoscopic TME” Take me to your OR session. ASCRS, 2014.
• Delaney, C. “En bloc management of T4 disease, what can and can’t be done via MIS?” 14th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery, with the 9th International Congress for Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery and the 22nd International Congress of the European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES), Paris, France, June 2014.
• Delaney, C. “Rectal Cancer Surgery Updates” Aultman Cancer Center, 14th Annual Conference, Sept 2014.
• Delaney, C. “Clinical analytic systems to improve outcomes and efficiency in colorectal surgery”. “Staple line reinforcement: Hope or Hype?”. European Colorectal Congress, Munich, Germany, Dec 2014.
• Delaney, C. “Laparoscopic approaches for proctectomy and colo-anal anastomosis”. 3rd World Rectal Conf. - Organ Preserving Perspectives, Montreal, Canada, May 2015.
• Reynolds H. Invited discussant for Fry DE, Pine M, Lock D, Pine G. Prediction models of medicare 90 day post-discharge deaths, readmissions, and costs in bowel resections. Presented at the 57th annual meeting of the Midwest Surgical Association, Mackinac Island, Michigan, 5 August 2014.
• Reynolds, H. Coordinated session on Complication prevention and management, The annual meeting of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, 31 May 15.
• Crawford B, Nguyen N, Krishnamurthi S, Paspulati R, Delaney P, Reynolds H. Hybrid PET/CT v. PET/CT in the staging and restaging of colorectal cancer: initial clinical experience. Poster presentation at the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons annual meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, Jun 2015.
• Senagore, A. “ERAS in Colorectal Surgery” Loyola University School of Medicine Grand Rounds, 10-8-14.
• Senagore, A. “Management of Rectal Cancer 2015” Rush University Medical Center, Grand Rounds 3/12/15.
• Stein, S. Operating from the Other Side of the Table. University Hospitals/Case Medical Center Colorectal Residents 5th Annual Career Course, Cleveland OH, 2014.
• Stein, S. Bringing up the Difficult Colostomy, Advances and Controversies in Colorectal Surgery, 9th Annual Update, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA, 2015.
- Stein, S. Fecal incontinence and Perianal Disease, Gastroenterology Fellows Lecture, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland, OH, 2015.
- Stein, S. Advances in Surgical Treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease 70th General Meeting of the Japanese Society of Gastroenterological Surgery, Hamamatsu University School of Medicine, Shizuoka, Japan, 2015.
- Stein, S. Empowering Women Surgeons, Showa University, Hatanodai, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan, 2015.

GENERAL AND GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY

- Petro CC, O’Rourke CP, Posielski NM, Criss CN, Raigani S, Prabhu AS, Rosen MJ. Designing a ventral hernia staging system. Hernia. 2015 Sep 5. [Epub ahead of print].


BOOK CHAPTERS/TEXTBOOK EDITOR


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS


• Khaitan, L. SAGES presentation 2015: Endoluminal Anatomy of the Gastric Sleeve: Are we all created equal?.


• Marks, J. “POEM-Technical Tricks and Steps”: Case Medical Center POEM/ESD course. Cleveland, Ohio, October, 2014.

• Marks, J. “Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy-Update”. NorthShore Hospital Surgical Grand Rounds. Youngstown, Ohio, October, 2014.


• Marks, J. “Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy: A Clinical Application of NOTES”. International Society of MIS. Sao Paulo, Brazil, December, 2014.


• Marks, J. “POEM-Technical Tricks and Steps”. Case Medical Center POEM/ESD course. Cleveland, Ohio, March, 2015.


• Marks, J. “Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy”, University of Pittsburgh Annual Update Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, May, 2015.


• Novitsky, Y. Assessing the safety of Vicryl mesh as an adjunct to closure of the posterior fascial sheath/peritoneum during retromuscular mesh placement of synthetic mesh. 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 2015.

• Novitsky, Y. Outcomes of complex abdominal wall reconstructions with transversus abdominis release (TAR) with retromuscular porcine biologic mesh. 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 2015.

• Novitsky, Y. Efficacy of transversus abdominis plane (TAP) block with liposomal bupivacaine during open abdominal wall reconstructions. 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 2015.


• Novitsky, Y. Radical Resection of Abdominal Wall Desmoid Tumor with Reconstruction Using Posterior Component Separation and Mesh Implantation. Society of Surgical Oncology, Houston, TX, March 2015.

• Novitsky, Y. Transversus abdominis release for repair of a complex flank hernia in a kidney transplant recipient. 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 2015.

• Novitsky, Y. Parastomal hernia repair with transversus abdominis release and novel stapled trans-abdominal ostomy reinforcement with mesh (STORM). 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 2015.


PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Onders, R. “Practical Applications of Diaphragm Pacing” Presentation at Chungnam National University Hospital, Daejeon, Korea, Oct. 3rd, 2014.
- Prabhu, A. Frequency of short and long term stoma complication after expert colon surgery, 1st World Conference on Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, Milan, Italy, April 27, 2015.
- Prabhu, A. Advances in Minimally Invasive Hernia Repair, Statewide Campus System Lecture Series, Howell, Michigan, April 22, 2015.
- Prabhu, A. Approaches to Ventral Hernia Repair in Morbidly Obese Patients, Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Summit, Vail, Colorado, February 28, 2015.

HEPATOMOBILIARY AND TRANSPLANT SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS
- The Kidney Allocation System Basics Webinar sponsored by OPTN/UNOS and HRSA, nationally broadcast, 2014.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS
BOOK CHAPTERS


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHPs

- Nijhawan S, Teppa J, Horan MP, Quereshy FA, Baur D. Comparison of Two Methods of Predicting Maxillofacial Volumetric Bony Defects: CBCT Used As A Valuable Preoperative Tool. Poster presentation, AAOMS annual meeting, Honolulu, HA. September 2014.
- Baur, D. Surgical Complications and MRONJ, lecture to Forest City Dental Society, Cleveland, OH, October 18, 2014.
- Baur, D. Local Flaps, Department of OMFS Grand Rounds, January 20, 2015.
- Baur, D. AAOMS Research Summit, lecture on Contemporary Management of Benign Odontogenic Tumors, May 7, 2015, Rosemont, IL.
- Baur, D. AAOMS annual meeting: Update on Resorbable fixation, Moderator. September 11, 2014, Honolulu, HA.
- Baur, D. Surgical Complications and MRONJ, lecture to Forest City Dental Society, Cleveland, OH, October 18, 2014.
- Baur, D. Local Flaps, Department of OMFS Grand Rounds, January 20, 2015.
PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

- Nijhawan S, Quereshy FA, Baur DA. AAOMS 96th Annual Meeting Hawaii. “Comparison of Two Methods of Predicting Maxillofacial Volumetric Bone Defects: CBCT Used As A Valuable Pre-operative Tool” has been accepted as a Scientific poster, 09-11-2014.
- Quereshy, F. Comprehensive Care Seminar: School of Dental Medicine: “Bone Grafting Options for Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Reconstruction”. 04-06 and 04-07-14.
- Quereshy, F. SPEAR Masters in Mastery Course: “All on 4 Solutions”. Scottsdale AZ, 12-1-2014.
- Quereshy, F. AAOMS 2014 Moderator “Obesity Symposium” Honolulu, HI, 09-14-2014.
- Quereshy, F. AAOMS 2014 Blepharoplasty Symposium “Transconjunctival Belpharoplasty”. Honolulu, HI, 09-12-2014.
- Quereshy, F. AAOMS 2014 Cosmetic Facial Surgery “Facial Liposuction for Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery” Surgical Clinic 1 hour; Honolulu, HI, 09-12-2014.
- Quereshy, F. ABOMS Scientific Seminar “Let’s Get Cheeky: Malar Augmentation”. Dallas, TX, 02-06-2014.

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS

- Barksdale, E. “Guidelines for Pediatric Malnutrition”. Invited Speaker, Pediatric Grand Rounds, Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital Cleveland, Ohio, February 27, 2015.
- Barksdale, E. “Moans and Groans: Acute Abdominal Conditions of Childhood”. Invited Speaker, Medical Student Lecture Cleveland, Ohio, November 12, 2014.
- Barksdale, E. “Youth Violence: The Ultimate Health Disparity”. Invited Speaker, Pediatric Grand Rounds Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital Cleveland, Ohio, October 29, 2014.
- Barksdale, E. “Youth Violence: The Ultimate Health Disparity”. Invited Speaker, Visiting Professor, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, California, February 14, 2014.

SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

PUBLICATIONS

• Choong KC, Ammori JB. Hemosuccus Pancreaticus With Superior Mesenteric Artery Branch Pseudoaneurysm. J Gastrointest Dig Syst 2014, 4:5.


• Xuguang Chen, PhD; Jennifer R. Eads, MD; John B. Ammori, MD; Aryavarta M. Kumar, MD, PhD; Tithi Biswas, MD, and Jennifer A. Dorth, MD. Adjuvant and Neoadjuvant Options in Resectable Gastric Cancer: Is There an Optimal Treatment Approach? Curr Oncol Rep. 2015 Apr;17(4):442.


BOOK CHAPTERS


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS


• Case Western School of Medicine Cancer Care Elective. Course faculty for first/second year medical school course.


• Park PJ, Cote DR, Yeh V, Schulak JA, Sanchez EQ, Sarabu N, Augustine JJ, Ammori JB, Woodside KJ. Screening colonoscopy should be required for kidney transplant listing. Presented as a poster at the American Society of Transplant Surgeons Winter Symposium, 2014.


• Choong K, Novitsky N, Ammori JB. Radical Resection of Abdominal Wall Desmoid Tumor with Reconstruction using Posterior Component Separation and Mesh Implantation. Video presentation during the Top Rated Videos Session at Society of Surgical Oncology’s 68th Annual Cancer Symposium, 2015, Houston, Texas.


• Case Western School of Medicine Cancer Care Elective. Course faculty for first/second year medical school course.


• Park PJ, Cote DR, Yeh V, Schulak JA, Sanchez EQ, Sarabu N, Augustine JJ, Ammori JB, Woodside KJ. Screening colonoscopy should be required for kidney transplant listing. Presented as a poster at the American Society of Transplant Surgeons Winter Symposium, 2014.


• Choong K, Novitsky N, Ammori JB. Radical Resection of Abdominal Wall Desmoid Tumor with Reconstruction using Posterior Component Separation and Mesh Implantation. Video presentation during the Top Rated Videos Session at Society of Surgical Oncology’s 68th Annual Cancer Symposium, 2015, Houston, Texas.


• Case Western School of Medicine Cancer Care Elective. Course faculty for first/second year medical school course.


• Park PJ, Cote DR, Yeh V, Schulak JA, Sanchez EQ, Sarabu N, Augustine JJ, Ammori JB, Woodside KJ. Screening colonoscopy should be required for kidney transplant listing. Presented as a poster at the American Society of Transplant Surgeons Winter Symposium, 2014.


PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

ABSTRACTS

SURGICAL RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS

THORACIC AND ESOPHAGEAL SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS
- Perry, Y. Resident Lecture Lung Cancer, January 6, 2014.
- Perry, Y. Advances in the treatment of Lung cancer – St. Vincent Charity Hospital, February 26, 2014.
- Perry, Y. October 18, 2014 – Blast Injuries – 2014 Fall EMS symposium Quail Hollow Resort, Concord, OH.
- Linden, PA. Discussant, Cardiothoracic Session II, American College of Surgeons Conference, San Francisco, CA October 2014.
- Linden, PA. Esophagectomy in the Era of Endoscopic Therapy and Chemoradiation, Medical and Surgical Aspects of Esophageal and Foregut Disorders, Maui, HI.
TRAUMA, SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE AND ACUTE CARE SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS
- Clancy, K. Rural Trauma, Society of Trauma Nurses Annual Meeting, March 2015, Jacksonville, FL.
- Tiu SP, Tom RJ, Melnic GM, Klein TR, Ho VP, Schubl SD. Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) complications: are patients with thinner abdominal walls at increased risk? Poster Presentation, 2014, Medical Student Program of the American College of Surgeons. San Francisco, CA. October 2014.

VASCULAR SURGERY AND ENDOVASCULAR THERAPY

PUBLICATIONS
BOOK CHAPTERS

- Value and Limitations of Optical Coherence Tomography For Use in Lower Extremity Vascular Assessment and Treatments, 41st Annual VEITH Symposium, New York, NY, November 2014.
- Bypass, Stent, or Stem Cells: Which one is the best, 6th Annual Update on Vascular Disease, Warrensville Heights, OH, April 2015.
- Carman, T. American Society for Colon and Rectal Surgeons Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA (5/15).
- Carman, T. When One Limb is Swollen: Differential Diagnosis. NWGAPM 15th Annual Scientific Seminar on the Bay, Huron, OH (1/15).
- Carman, T. Every Wound Tells a Story- Vascular Assessments. 11th Annual Cutting Edge Wound Care Symposium, Cleveland, OH (10/14).
- Carman, T. It’s not PAD or Venous Disease – The Other Vascular Wounds Impacting the Sequelae of Deep Vein Thrombosis. Symposium on Advanced Wound Care, Las Vegas, NV (10/2014).
- Carman, T. Carotid Duplex Ultrasound – Diagnostic Criteria and Interpretation for ICA Stenosis.
- Upper Extremity Arterial Duplex and Physiological Testing - Key Diagnoses Not to Miss. The VEINS (Venous Endovascular Interventional Strategies), Chicago IL (10/14).
- Carman, T. Thrombophilia Testing Does Not Assist with the Management of Venous Thromboembolic Disease; Venous and arterial ulcers including mixed venous/arterial ulcers; How to develop a multidisciplinary wound team; Case-based review of visceral arterial disease: Atherosclerosis and others.
- Society for Vascular Medicine, 26th Annual Scientific Session, Baltimore, MD (6/15).

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS

- Aorto Iliac Occlusive Disease, International webinar in conjunction with 3rd Indovasc Symposium, Bangalore, India, March 2014.
- Upper Extremity Arterial Duplex and Physiological Testing - Key Diagnoses Not to Miss. The VEINS (Venous Endovascular Interventional Strategies), Chicago IL (10/14).
Endowed Chairs were created across University Hospitals as an outstanding way to recognize a leading physician’s exemplary contributions to clinical excellence in his or her field. Chair holders consistently receive high patient satisfaction scores, maintain strong relationships with medical, nursing and allied professionals, and serve as a model for the next generation of physician-scientists.

Currently, new chair positions are only established at UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital. In 2011, University Hospitals launched a new initiative – the Endowed Master Clinician – to recognize our leading physician-scientists. The Endowed Master Clinician honors our most talented experts and is one of the highest honors at UH for physician-scientists who have had a profound impact on the lives of our patients. To be eligible, a physician-scientist must have at least seven years of clinical experience and a reputation for advancing patient care and medical discovery.

**ENDOWED POSITIONS IN SURGERY**

**Charles A. Hubay, MD, Chair in the Department of Surgery**
Funded by Mrs. Gladyce Hubay and friends
Current Chair: Julian Kim, MD
Established on February 20, 2001

**Margaret G. and Walter K. Remen Chair in Surgical Innovation**
Funded by Margaret G. and Walter K. Remen
Current Chair: Raymond P. Onders, MD
Established on February 19, 2008

**Murdough Master Clinician in Colorectal Surgery**
Funded by Joy and Thomas G. Murdough, Jr.
Current Master Clinician: Conor Delaney, MD, PhD
Established June 1, 2011

**David P. Miller and Frances A. Cosentino Master Clinician in Thoracic & Esophageal Surgery**
Funded by David P. Miller and Frances A. Cosentino
Current Master Clinician: Philip Linden, MD
Established on May 13, 2014

**GIFTS/DONATIONS**

Gifts and donations are also received during the year on behalf of the different Divisions within the Department of Surgery. Many times these gifts are the result of the high quality and compassionate care that patients and families received from our surgeons. For the academic year 2014-15, the summary of gifts given to the Department of Surgery totaled over $1.3 million dollars. The generosity of our donors providing these gifts helps to perpetuate the high quality of patient care, education, and research that our Department of Surgery is committed to.
MetroHealth Medical Center
MetroHealth Medical Center is the public hospital for Cuyahoga County, Ohio. MetroHealth serves as the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma and State of Ohio verified Level I Trauma Center and Level I Burn Center for the area. MetroHealth is also a Level II verified Pediatric Trauma Center. The Hospital functions as the tertiary care referral center for the west side of Cleveland and the surrounding counties, providing a rich and diverse mix of patients.

The Department of Surgery provides a full spectrum of clinical services, including Divisions of: General Surgery, with specialists in colorectal, endocrine, hepatobiliary, bariatric, endoscopy, and advanced laparoscopic procedures; Surgical Oncology, with emphasis in the care of breast cancer and melanoma; Trauma, Burns, and Surgical Critical Care; Vascular Surgery, including endovascular procedures; Pediatric Surgery; Plastic Surgery; Cardiothoracic Surgery; Ophthalmology; and Urology. The residency in Surgical Critical Care is based at MetroHealth and is approved to train two fellows each year.

MetroHealth is fully integrated with the surgical residency program and all faculty have full-time appointments at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. In 2014, the Department had more than 5,000 surgical admissions, 2,200 trauma and 200 burn unit admissions. Our faculty performed 8,200 operations, and saw more than 89,000 surgical outpatient visits. The Medical Center has over 100,000 Emergency Department visits each year. The resources of the Institution and Department include 24 state-of-the-art surgical suites and 27 Surgical Intensive Care unit beds. There is a laparoscopic skills training facility for use by the Surgery residents, and a full Simulation Center has been opened on site.

The Department takes great pride in resident and medical student education and research. There are numerous educational conferences scheduled weekly. The faculty hold leadership positions within the Institution, the University, and in local, state, regional, and national professional organizations, including the American College of Surgeons, Association for Surgical Education and the American Board of Surgery. Faculty members have regularly received teaching awards from the Department and School of Medicine and are active in surgical education at a national level.

We are committed to the education and training of future surgeons in Surgery and its specialties. Our core value is that surgical care should be of high quality, patient-centered, humane, responsive, and readily accessible to all.

Christopher P. Brandt, MD
Professor, Case Western Reserve University
Chair, Department of Surgery, MetroHealth Medical Center

“Our core value is that surgical care should be of high quality, patient-centered, humane, responsive, and readily accessible to all.”
DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Director
Christopher R. McHenry, MD, Professor

Staff/Faculty
Bruce J. Averbrook, MD, Professor
Sergio J. Bardaro, MD, Assistant Professor
Christopher P. Brandt, MD, Professor
Jeffrey A. Claridge, MD, Associate Professor
John J. Como, MD, Associate Professor
Joseph F. Golob, Jr., MD, Assistant Professor
Kevin L. J. Grimes, MD, Assistant Professor
Tameka James, RN, FNPC
Natalie E. Joseph, MD, Associate Professor
Anjay E. Khandelwal, MD, Assistant Professor
Laura Kreiner, MD, Assistant Professor
Benjamin Li, MD, Professor
Jeremy M. Lipman, MD, Assistant Professor
Suzanne Miller-Spalding, RN, MSN, FNCP
Edward G. Mansour, MD, Professor
Amy A. McDonald, MD, Assistant Professor
Nimitt J. Patel, MD, Assistant Professor
Paul P. Priebe, MD, Associate Professor
Susan M. Sharpe, MD
Melissa L. Times, MD, Assistant Professor
Debra L. Valadez, RN, BSN
Charles J. Yowler, MD, Professor
The Division of General Surgery consists of 19 full-time and 1 part-time faculty member, and is divided into two clinical services: a Green Surgery Service and a Blue Surgery Service. One attending from each service covers the outpatient General Surgery responsibilities for one week intervals. There is also an Acute Care Surgery service which handles all of the Emergency Department and inpatient General Surgery consultations.

One general surgeon covers the service for a one-week interval. The General Surgery attendings are responsible for training General Surgery residents and providing core training in General Surgery for third and fourth year medical students. There are several areas of specialized expertise in the Division of General Surgery, including bariatric surgery, colorectal surgery, endocrine surgery, flexible endoscopy, gastrointestinal surgery, hepatobiliary surgery, oncologic surgery, pancreatic surgery, advanced laparoscopy and per oral endoscopic surgery.

**2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Dr. Sergio Bardaro** joined MetroHealth in September 2014 as the Director of Bariatric Surgery and the Weight Loss Surgery and Weight Management Center. He and Dr. Jeffrey Claridge provide bariatric surgical services to morbidly obese patients; the majority performed using minimally invasive techniques. They work closely with their medical, mental health and nutritional colleagues to provide care in a multidisciplinary fashion.

- **Dr. Melissa Times** joined MetroHealth in June 2015 as a colorectal surgeon. Previously, she was a senior staff surgeon in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit for 9 years.

- **Dr. Kevin Grimes** joined MetroHealth in August 2015 with clinical interests in gastrointestinal surgery, advanced laparoscopy, and advanced endoscopy, including ERCP. Dr. Grimes trained directly under Dr. Haruhiro Inoue, the creator of the Per-oral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) technique for the treatment of esophageal achalasia, and will be introducing POEM for achalasia to our clinical armamentarium.

- **Dr. Jeremy Lipman** is the section chair of the newly organized section of Colorectal Surgery. He and Dr. Melissa Times offer a wide range of colorectal disease treatments, including the comprehensive, multidisciplinary management of colorectal malignancies, the coordinated care of patients with inflammatory bowel disease, the diagnosis and treatment of complex pelvic floor disorders, and minimally invasive surgery for both benign and malignant colorectal conditions.

- **Dr. Jeremy Lipman** received a Scholarship in Teaching Award from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in 2014 and 2015, as well as the 2014 Kaiser Permanente Award for Excellence in Teaching.

- **Dr. Christopher McHenry** received the Excellence in Communication Award at the 2015 National Patient Experience Week at MetroHealth Medical Center.

- **Dr. Christopher McHenry** was appointed Chairman of the Finance and Stewardship Committee of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and currently serves on the Fellowship Accreditation Committee.

- **Dr. Christopher McHenry** was appointed to the Foundation Board of Directors as Treasurer, the Nominating Committee for 2015-2018 and Past President (2015-2016) of the Central Surgical Society.

- **Tameka James, RN, MSN, FNP** joined MetroHealth in December 2014 as a family nurse practitioner in General Surgery. Ms. James works in the Outpatient Surgery Clinic, evaluating colorectal patients, as well as assisting with and performing minor surgical procedures.
**DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY**

**DIVISION FACULTY**

**Director**
Roderick B. Jordan, MD, Assistant Professor

**Staff/Faculty**
Kyle J. Chepla, MD, Assistant Professor
Bram R. Kaufman, MD, Assistant Professor
Daniel A. Medalie, MD, Assistant Professor
Ali Totonchi, MD, Assistant Professor
Andrea E. Gallup, CNP
Sharon Clark, RN
The Division of Plastic Surgery has five full-time board certified/board eligible faculty members, an advanced practice nurse, and a registered nurse who provide a full spectrum of plastic surgical services. Patient care is delivered on campus at MetroHealth Medical Center, off-campus at the MetroHealth Ambulatory Surgery Center, and in five suburban outpatient offices. The Division performs in excess of 1,100 major surgical procedures and has over 7,800 outpatient visits yearly.

The Division is teamed with the Orthopedic Service to provide hand services for the community and northeastern Ohio. Other services include craniofacial trauma, bariatric reconstruction, pediatric plastic surgery, gender re-assignment surgery, aesthetic and reconstructive breast surgery, lower extremity reconstruction, and facial aesthetic surgery.

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dr. Kyle J. Chepla** joined the Division of Plastic Surgery at MetroHealth in August 2014, after completing a Hand and Upper Extremity Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Chepla’s special interests include surgery of the hand and wrist, peripheral nerve surgery, and aesthetic surgery of the face and breast.

- **Sharon Clark, RN** joined the Division of Plastic Surgery in 2014, but has worked at MetroHealth since 1999, providing care in the outpatient clinics in the areas of plastic surgery, orthopedic surgery, and dermatology services. Ms. Clark assists with pre- and post-operative care, patient education, and provides clinical support to our office staff.

DIVISION RESEARCH

- Patterns of Management and Outcomes in the Complex Hand Injury, Bram R. Kaufman, MD, Principal Investigator, MetroHealth IRB14-00611.

- Insulin Resistance and Glucose and Lipid Metabolism in Pregnancy, Bram R. Kaufman, MD, Investigator, Primary Investigator: Patrick Catalano, MetroHealth IRB05-00544.


- The Utility of a Dermal Suspension Sling in Reduction Mammoplasty and Mastopexy, Prospective Analysis. Kaufman, B.R.


- Reassessment of the Separation of Craniopagus Twins: Minimizing the Morbidity. Harvey DJ, Totonchi A., Gosain A.


- Popescu Modification of Lefort-III Osteotomy, Changes on Cephalometric Measurements. Okada H, Totonchi A., Harvey DJ, Gosain A.

- Migraine Trigger Point Detection with Thermography. Totonchi A., Guyuron B.
DIVISION OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

DIVISION FACULTY

Director
Natalie E. Joseph, MD, FACS, Associate Professor

Staff/Faculty
Bruce J. Averbook, MD, Professor
Benjamin D. Li, MD, Professor
Edward G. Mansour, MD, Professor
Anna Purses, MSN, CNP
The Division of Surgical Oncology is a key component of the Comprehensive Cancer Care Center at MetroHealth Medical Center. Dr. Natalie Joseph was named as the Director of the Division of Surgical Oncology effective January 1, 2015. There are now three full-time faculty members in the Division: Bruce Averbook, MD, Natalie Joseph, MD, and Benjamin Li, MD who specialize in the surgical management of cancer with additional expertise in the areas of breast cancer, colorectal cancer, hepatobiliary cancers, gastric cancers, melanoma and soft tissue sarcomas. Edward Mansour, MD has retired from his full-time Surgical Oncology practice; however, he continues to see outpatients and provide teaching in the Breast Surgery Clinic.

The Surgical Oncology faculty provide surgical care for cancer patients as part of a multidisciplinary team. They are responsible for staffing an outpatient clinic for evaluation and management of patients with benign and malignant breast disease at main campus as well as the new comprehensive Breast Center located at the outpatient surgery center, under the leadership of Dr. Joseph. Dr. Averbook also contributes to the services at the Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center by providing care for military veteran patients with breast cancer, melanoma and soft tissue sarcomas. All of the faculty in the Division of Surgical Oncology have active and ongoing involvement in the education of medical students and residents in their field.

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dr. Benjamin Li** joined the Division of Surgical Oncology in April 2015 as the Director of the Cancer Center. Prior to joining MetroHealth, Dr. Li was the John C. McDonald Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at Louisiana State University, where he established himself as an academic leader on an international level. In addition to his clinical practice, Dr. Li is charged with enhancing and expanding the clinical and academic mission of MetroHealth’s Cancer Center through strategic planning; improved research funding and clinical trial participation; and faculty recruitment.

- **Anna Purses, MSN, CNP**, joined the Division of Surgical Oncology in April 2015. Prior to joining MetroHealth, Ms. Purses was an oncology nurse at University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center. She is certified by the Oncology Nursing Society and is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Ms. Purses has a key role in coordinating services in the Breast Center as well as in assisting in evaluation and management of patients with breast disease and patient education.

- **Dr. Natalie Joseph** was promoted to Associate Professor of Surgery in 2014, and was appointed Director of the Division of Surgical Oncology in January 2015.

- **Dr. Bruce Averbook** was promoted to Professor of Surgery in July 2014.

- **Dr. Averbook** was re-nominated and confirmed for a 2nd term, ending in 2017, as a Member of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

- The Division is active in a project entitled Bringing Education, Advocacy, and Support Together (BREAST), which provides free breast cancer screening services in community locations for uninsured minority women over 35 years of age. The program received funding from Komen of NE Ohio of grants for $117,195 in 2014 and $108,076 in 2015. BREAST is recognized as a leader in community outreach and best practices in Cleveland, and has received numerous awards. This year, prostate screening was added to the outreach effort in response to the community requests for further health offerings, and expansion into other underserved and minority communities is also planned.

DIVISION RESEARCH

The Division of Surgical Oncology is actively involved in clinical trials through the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG). Dr. Bruce Averbook is the Co-Principal Investigator for the Case Western Reserve University ECOG program, and the Toxicity Monitor for the ECOG Melanoma Core Committee. The Division also maintains databases on all breast cancer and melanoma patients cared for at MetroHealth since 1975 and is involved in clinical research in these areas.
Director
Jeffrey Claridge, MD, MS, Associate Professor

Staff/Faculty
John Como, MD, MPH, Associate Professor
Joseph Golob, MD, Assistant Professor
Anjay Khandelwal, MD, Assistant Professor
Laura Kreiner, MD, Assistant Professor
Amy McDonald, MD, Assistant Professor
Nimitt Patel, MD, Assistant Professor
Charles Yowler, MD, Professor
Tammy Coffee, MSN, RN, ACNP-BC
MetroHealth Medical Center is the only American College of Surgeons verified Level I Trauma Center for more than two million people in the metropolitan Cleveland area. MetroHealth is also verified by the American College of Surgeons as a Level II Pediatric Trauma Center and by the American Burn Association as a Level I Burn Center. The faculty consists of eight surgeons with Board Certification in Surgical Critical Care. Upon arrival to MetroHealth, the trauma patient is evaluated and treated by a multidisciplinary team consisting of trauma surgeons, emergency physicians, and surgical subspecialists. Approximately 3,100 trauma patients are admitted annually, making this one of the busiest Trauma Centers in Ohio and in the U.S. We are also dedicated to the treatment of injured children with assistance from subspecialty teams of pediatric medical and surgical specialists.

The Division supervises three Intensive Care Units. A dedicated Trauma Intensive Care Unit has 12 beds and the Surgical Intensive Care Unit has 15 beds. Approximately 2,000 patients are admitted annually to the Intensive Care Unit, making this one of the busiest Intensive Care Units in the City. There is 14-bed Burn Intensive Care Unit at MetroHealth Medical Center, which is Ohio’s only verified adult and pediatric Burn Center. We treat 1,700 burn patients annually and admit more than 200 patients with severe burns and burn-related injuries.

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Dr. Laura Kreiner** joined the Division in 2014 after completing a one-year surgical critical care fellowship at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon, and has already received the MetroHealth STAR-IQ Respect Award.
- **Dr. Jeffrey Claridge** became the Chair of the Ohio Committee on Trauma in 2015.
- **Dr. John Como** became a Fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine (FCCM). He was inducted on January 19, 2015.
- **Dr. John Como** was reappointed as the Section Chair for the Guidelines Committee-Trauma Task Force of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, for the term 2015-2018.
- **Dr. John Como** was appointed to the Fundamental Critical Care Support Program Committee for the Society of Critical Care Medicine, for the term 2015-2018.
- **Dr. Joseph Golob** received the MetroHealth STAR-IQ Quest for Excellence Award.
- **Dr. Anjay Khandelwal** recently launched a collaboration with the National Burns Center in India, and functions as the Medical Director for Camp Karma, India’s only recreational camp for burned children. In 2015, Dr. Khandelwal received the Presidential Honor from the National Academy of Burns in India.
- **Dr. Charles Yowler** was recently appointed to the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons, and is also a consultant on Surgical Critical Care Examination for the American Board of Surgery.

DIVISION RESEARCH

Divisional research is centered in the area of trauma outcomes, burn care, medical informatics, and surgical infection. Dr. Claridge has had continuous NIH funding for research in these areas. Approximately eight to twelve peer-reviewed articles are published annually by the attending staff. The group is very active nationally and presents at several nationally recognized general surgery, trauma, and critical care meetings throughout the year.
DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY

DIVISION FACULTY

Director
Rocco G. Ciocca, MD, Associate Professor

Staff/Faculty
Mireille Astrid Moise, MD, Assistant Professor
Amy Green, CNP
The Division of Vascular Surgery at MetroHealth Medical Center is committed to providing exceptional care for patients with arterial and venous disorders. To achieve this goal, it is linked with the Divisions of Cardiology, Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Vascular and Interventional Radiology to form the Heart and Vascular Center, whose overall goal is to provide broad-based screening and preventative programs, as well as to offer a comprehensive diagnostic and therapeutic plan utilizing a patient-centric and disease-oriented approach. The surgical service focuses on the treatment of extracranial, aortic, visceral, and extremity arterial occlusive disease, arterial aneurysms, vascular trauma, venous disease, and comprehensive wound care.

In addition, the Division is active in providing and maintaining hemodialysis access. Diagnosis of these varied conditions is assisted through its ICAVL-accredited vascular laboratory, and by means of other advanced diagnostic modalities such as enhanced MRA, CTA, and standard or biplanar angiography. Treatments provided by the service include both conventional surgical approaches and newer endovascular options including angioplasty, stent placement, stent graft repair of abdominal and thoracic aneurysms, ultrasound guided treatment of pseudoaneurysms and thrombolytic therapy. The Division is also involved with more innovative approaches to enhance the treatment of arterial and venous disease catheter-based atherectomy, cryoplasty and endoluminal vein ablation.

2014-15 DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Rocco Ciocca joined MetroHealth in July 2015 as Director of the Division of Vascular Surgery and Director of the Noninvasive Vascular Laboratory. Prior to joining MetroHealth, Dr. Ciocca was Chief of Vascular Surgery for the Swedish Medical Group and Executive Medical Director of Vascular Surgery for Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, Washington. His clinical interests include carotid surgery, AAA repair, dialysis access, lower extremity revascularization, the non-invasive vascular lab and comprehensive wound care.

DIVISION RESEARCH

The Division is involved in clinical research studies which have focused on such topics as arterial bypass in patients with renal failure, the use of vena caval filters, venous thrombosis in trauma patients, the outcome of ruptured aortic aneurysms and the natural history of carotid occlusive disease. Current projects are concerned with arterial reconstruction in the younger patient, the prevalence of aspirin resistance in patients with peripheral vascular disease, and the use of vagal stimulation for the treatment of congestive heart failure.
MetroHealth Medical Center Education
RESIDENT EDUCATION AT METROHEALTH

General Surgery Residency Program

The Department of Surgery at MetroHealth Medical Center (MHMC) is a major affiliate hospital for the surgical residency programs of Case Western Reserve University. General surgery residents spend nearly half of their residency at MHMC and have educational rotations on the two General Surgery teams, Vascular Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Burn Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, Trauma Surgery, Acute Care Surgery and Surgical Critical Care. Residents from a number of other residency programs in the region, including the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Akron General Hospital, and the South Pointe Consortium, send residents to spend time in the intensive care units, and on the burn and trauma services. Residents from specialty programs, including Neurosurgery, Urology, Otolaryngology, and Plastic Surgery undertake a significant portion of their training at MHMC. Dr. Jeremy Lipman is the Associate Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program at MetroHealth.

In addition to weekly Grand Rounds, Morbidity and Mortality Conference and system-wide resident education conference, each clinical rotation has its own dedicated weekly teaching conference. The educational space has been renovated to provide residents and students with offices. The Simulation Center provides additional opportunities for teaching and practice, 24 hours a day, outside of the operating room.

Plastic Surgery Resident Education

Residents from the integrated Plastic Surgery residency based at University Hospitals rotate through the Division of Plastic Surgery at MetroHealth. The first and second year residents each spend two months and the PGY-6 residents from the program spend 6 months at MetroHealth. Additionally, residents from the South Pointe plastic surgery residency spend 5 months. The residents gain experience in all clinical areas with emphasis on the treatment of major traumatic defects and burn injuries.

Fellowships

MetroHealth Medical Center offers two ACGME-accredited fellowships in Surgical Critical Care, as well as a Trauma Research Fellowship. The Division provides education in the areas of Trauma, Surgical Critical Care, and Burn Care to the residents of the Case Western Reserve University Surgical Program and the Cleveland Clinic.
MEDICAL STUDENTS

Dr. Jeremy Lipman is the Director for the Core Clerkship in Surgery for third year medical students at MetroHealth Medical Center. He is responsible for the organization of the clerkship and evaluation of the students. He coordinates the didactic teaching sessions for the medical students in which all of the general surgical faculty participate. He also facilitates the acting internship program for fourth year medical students. In addition, Dr. Lipman is the Associate Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program at MetroHealth.

EDUCATION CONFERENCES

General Surgery

The Division of General Surgery is responsible for six weekly educational conferences. There is a Blue Surgery Conference and a Green Surgery Conference, in which residents and medical students are exposed to interactive case-based learning. Dr. Brandt leads the weekly Morbidity and Mortality Conference, a quality assurance and improvement conference in which all surgery patients who develop a complication or die as a result of their surgical disease are critically reviewed. There is a General Surgery Conference, organized and moderated by Dr. McHenry, in which a wide variety of topics are reviewed, with special emphasis on surgical pathology, hematology/oncology, management of critically ill General Surgery patients and case management controversies. Dr. Jeremy Lipman is responsible for the Resident Education series.

Vascular Surgery

Educational activities of the Division of Vascular Surgery are diverse. Weekly didactic conferences are held with students, residents and interventional fellows to discuss the evaluation and treatment of vascular patients. Monthly conferences are also held in conjunction with the Division of Nephrology to review issues specific to hemodialysis access. In addition, regular lectures are given to medical students rotating on the surgical service. Rotating podiatry students take advantage of teaching within the busy outpatient clinics.
2014-15 METROHEALTH ENDOWED LECTURES

July 19, 2014
2nd Annual Richard B. Fratianne, MD Endowed Lectureship in Trauma
“Novel Blood Transfusion Strategies”
Martin A. Schreiber, MD
Chief, Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery
Oregon Health & Science University

November 22, 2014
10th Annual Edward G. Mansour, MD Lectureship in Surgical Oncology
“Defining Quality & Improving Outcomes for Patients with Pancreatic Cancer”
Mark S. Talamonti, MD
Chairman, Department of Surgery
NorthShore University HealthSystem

March 21, 2015
29th Annual William D. Holden, MD Lecture
“Improving the Quality of Surgical Training”
Mark A. Malangoni, MD, FACS
Associate Executive Director
American Board of Surgery

May 30, 2015
3rd Annual Brown M. Dobyns, MD, PhD Endowed Lecture in Endocrine Surgery
“Management of Asymptomatic Hyperparathyroidism”
Janice Pasieka, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Clinical Professor of Surgery & Oncology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Calgary
MetroHealth Medical Center Publications and Presentations
GENERAL SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS
- Transition to Surgical Residency: A Multi-Institutional Study of Perceived Intern Preparedness and the Effect of a Formal Residency Preparatory Course in the Fourth Year of Medical School.
- Khoncharly SM, Tamarkin SW, and McHenry CR. Can ultrasound be used to predict malignancy in patients with a thyroid nodule and indeterminate fine needle aspiration biopsy? Surgery (in press).

BOOK CHAPTERS

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHPES
- Brandt, C. Surgery at the Hiatus, GI Symposium, MetroHealth Medical Center, August, 2014.
- Brandt, C. Surgical Interest Groups, Medical Student Program, American College of Surgeons, October, 2014.
- “Ask the Experts – Operative Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease”, Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America, Northeast Ohio Chapter, March 21, 2015.
- McHenry, C. Surgical management of benign and malignant thyroid nodules and Surgical management of hyperparathyroidism. Mercy St. Anne Hospital and the Toledo Surgical Society. Toledo, Ohio, November 13, 2014.

ABSTRACTS

PLASTIC SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CHAPTERS
PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURESHIPS

- Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headache, Moderator: J. Janis, MD, B. Guyuron, MD; J.B. Moore, MD; D. Stepnick, MD; R. Hagan, MD; A. Totonchi, MD; B. Amirlak, MD, 8th Annual Symposium on the Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches, Nov 8-9, 2014, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland Ohio.
- Patient and Trigger Site Selection, Moderator: D. Reed, MD, Panelists: J. Kriegler, MD; H. Ansari, MD; A. Totonchi MD; J. Janis, MD; B. Guyuron, MD, 8th Annual Symposium on the Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches, Nov 8-9, 2014, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland Ohio.
- Totonchi A, Anatomy of the Zygomaticotemporal Branch of the Trigeminal Nerve (ZTBTN), 8th Annual Symposium on the Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches, Nov 8-9, 2014, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland Ohio.
- Totonchi A, Late and secondary post traumatic orbital repairs. 3rd Annual Conjoint Oculoplastics and Reconstructive Surgery Symposium, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, November 1, 2014.
- Kaufman, B.R. Congenital Hand Surgery, Department of Plastic Surgery Grand Rounds, University Hospitals/Case Medical Center, January 6, 2014.
- Totonchi A, Dallas Rhinoplasty Course, Lab instructor, March 2015.
- Totonchi A, St Barnabas Hospital New Jersey, Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headache, May 2014, Live Cadaveric surgery and demonstration.

OTHER


TRAUMA, CRITICAL CARE, BURNS, AND ACUTE CARE SURGERY

PUBLICATIONS

- Zosa BM, Como JJ, Kelly KB, He JC, Claridge JA. Planned ventral hernia following damage control laparotomy in trauma: an added year of recovery but equal long-term outcomes. Hernia 2015 Apr 16 [Epub ahead of print].


PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES


Como, J. Abdominal Sepsis. MetroHealth Medical Center, Department of Medicine, Pulmonary Conference. June 15, 2015.


Como, J. Obesity in the Intensive Care Unit. MetroHealth Medical Center, Department of Medicine, Pulmonary Conference. December 22, 2014.


Golob, J. TeamSTEPPS Regional Training Center Lecturer (December 10th 2014 and March 5th 2015).


Golob, J. AHA National Webinar Presentation 5/18/15: TeamsSTEPPS Implementation: Fostering buy in from the front lines to the C-suite.


Khandelwal, A. “All Systems Go: The Development of a Burn System” National Academy of Burns, India. 23rd Annual Conference, February 2015, Ludhiana, India.

BOOK CHAPTERS/BOOK EDITOR


Como, J. 2014-15 Annual Report | 89

• Khandelwal, A. “Hypermetabolic Response and Its Consequences” Annual Symposium on Burns, National Burns Centre, September 2014, Mumbai, India.

• “Khandelwal, A. “Winter’s a Coming” Northern Ohio Trauma System, Annual Trauma Symposium, October 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “Burn, Baby, Burn: Basics of Burn Care” Metro Life Flight Critical Care Symposium, June 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Advances in Complex Wound Management” Metro Life Flight Critical Care Symposium, June 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “Burn Basics” Cleveland EMS, March 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “What’s Hot to Scar Not” Educational Symposium, American Burn Association Annual Meeting, April 2014, Boston, MA.

• A. Khandelwal, S. Davis, V. Puri, N. Venkateshwaran. “Camp Karma: Challenges in Creating India’s First Burn Camp.” American Burn Association Annual Meeting, April 2015, Chicago, IL.

• Schechtman D, He JC, Allen D, Claridge JA. Trauma system regionalization improves mortality in patients requiring trauma laparotomy. Presentation at Cleveland Surgical Society Resident Research Forum in Cleveland, Ohio; May 12, 2015.


• Claridge JA: Update Symposium II: What to Do with the Darned Sub-specialists: Common Practices in Surgical Infections. (Moderator)

• Claridge JA. Ethical conflicts surrounding withdrawal of life sustaining therapy – You’re not going to pull the plug on my mom! Presentation at the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma 28th Annual Scientific Assembly; Lake Buena Vista, Florida; January 15, 2015. (Presenter and Moderator)


• Khandelwal, A. “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Advances in Complex Wound Management” Metro Life Flight Critical Care Symposium, June 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “Burn Basics” Cleveland EMS, March 2014, Cleveland, OH.

• Khandelwal, A. “What’s Hot to Scar Not” Educational Symposium, American Burn Association Annual Meeting, April 2014, Boston, MA.

• Khandelwal, A. “Winter’s a Coming” Northern Ohio Trauma System, Annual Trauma Symposium, October 2014, Cleveland, OH.

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• A. Khandelwal, S. Davis, V. Puri, N. Venkateshwaran. “Camp Karma: Challenges in Creating India’s First Burn Camp.” American Burn Association Annual Meeting, April 2015, Chicago, IL.

• Schechtman D, He JC, Allen D, Claridge JA. Trauma system regionalization improves mortality in patients requiring trauma laparotomy. Presentation at Cleveland Surgical Society Resident Research Forum in Cleveland, Ohio; May 12, 2015.

The Louis B. Stokes
Cleveland
VA Medical Center
The Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is the flagship hospital for VISN 10 (Veterans’ Integrated Service Network in Ohio). The Cleveland VA serves northeast Ohio and is the tertiary care referral center for all of Ohio and portions of western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. It is one of the Veterans’ Health Administration’s top spinal cord injury centers, as well as a “Center of Excellence” in Cardiothoracic Surgery. It houses a major inpatient psychiatry service and a unique domiciliary. For many years, there were two campuses — the Wade Park facility and a facility in the south suburb of Brecksville. A major consolidation initiative was completed in 2011 which brought many Brecksville services to the Wade Park campus, to the recently completed and newly constructed C.A.R.E.S. Tower and other new facilities across East 105th Street. A new state-of-the-art, community-based outpatient clinic was also completed in the suburb of Parma. More than 2,600 new parking spaces have been added to the campus in the past couple of years. The makeover of the Cleveland VA Medical Center was made possible by a more than $500 million investment by the federal government and partners in the City of Cleveland. A coordinated network of 13 community-based outpatient clinics (CBOC’s) across northeast Ohio provide convenient access to care for the region’s veteran population.

The Department of Surgery consists of 12 Sections (General Surgery, Vascular, Cardiothoracic, Plastics, Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, Orthopedics, Ophthalmology, Urology, Optometry, Podiatry, Gynecology, and Surgical Intensive Care). General Surgery has two Divisions: Surgical Oncology and Colorectal Surgery. Over 6,700 operations a year are performed by our faculty at the inpatient facility and at the newly opened Outpatient Surgery Center. We have ten surgical critical care beds and a dedicated surgical nursing floor. Construction is underway to completely renovate the surgical intensive care unit.

The Department participates in a robust quality surveillance and management program, as well as VASQIP (Veterans Administration Surgical Quality Improvement Program) and SCIP (Surgical Care Improvement Program).

The Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is fully integrated with the surgical residency programs of University Hospitals and our faculty have appointments at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Our faculty is intimately involved in resident and medical student education and regular teaching conferences are conducted by surgical specialties and subspecialties.

Research opportunities for residents interested in longitudinal database projects and some funded opportunities are available in conjunction with our faculty with Merit and Young Investigator awards. An on-site Assistant Residency Program Director works closely with the Program Director to assure good communication with our faculty and compliance with the objectives of the Case Surgery educational program. A laparoscopic skills training facility is located across the street from the hospital on the VA campus, which is utilized on a regular basis by the residents during their rotation at the VA Medical Center, and protected time is provided for them to utilize the opportunity. Residents have access to a broad and complex case volume. Inpatient care is shared with physician extenders to maximize the educational experience of the resident, and to promote compliance with ACGME work hour requirements, while maintaining high quality patient care.

Our surgeons are extremely proud of their unique responsibilities, which is for the care of the men and women who have ‘borne the battle’ and sacrificed in war and peace for our freedoms.

Brian Cmolik, MD, FACS
Service Chief, Department of Surgery
Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center
The Cardiothoracic Surgery section is comprised of three full-time and one part-time surgeons, as well as two physician assistants, a nurse practitioner, and a nurse scheduler. Two of our surgeons specialize in non-cardiac thoracic surgery and thoracic oncology. About 275 cardiac operations are performed yearly at the Cleveland VA, with patients referred from throughout the state of Ohio, as well as from Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia. More than half of the cardiac surgery cases are referred from more than 50 miles away.

The cardiac group led the VA in the use of off-pump cardiac bypass, and is actively involved in an ongoing study comparing outcomes of off-pump with on-pump bypass surgery. LVAD cardiac assist device surgery was added this year, and the Cleveland VA is the only stand-alone destination therapy center in the VA system nationally. Plans are underway to include transcatheter valve surgery. Surgical outcomes, as assessed by the VA Continuous Improvement in Cardiac Surgery Program, are excellent. Thoracic surgical procedures are performed using both open and minimally invasive techniques, and include a large number of lung and esophageal cancer cases.
The General Surgery Section is staffed by three full-time surgeons, four nurse practitioners, a physician’s assistant, a scheduling nurse, and a wound care and ostomy nurse, providing expertise in surgical oncology, colorectal surgery, and general gastrointestinal and soft tissue surgery. Surgical oncology represents the largest component of the General Surgery Section, offering care of major tumors of the stomach, esophagus, pancreas, large bowel, bile duct, retroperitoneum, endocrine organs, breast, and malignant melanoma.

Three residents, at both junior and senior levels, are assigned to the Service. There are third-year medical students rotating for their core surgery rotations. The Section performed nearly 1,200 operations last fiscal year, affording the residents significant experience in management of a wide range of surgical problems. There is one half-day of general surgery clinic per week. The Section operates four days per week, running two rooms each day. There has been a significant increase in clinical activity at the Cleveland VA, which has been consistent and continues to grow.
DIVISION FACULTY

Section Chief
Devra Becker, MD, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Faculty
David Rowe, MD, MS, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

DIVISION FACULTY

Director
Joel Peerless, MD, Associate Professor

Faculty
Nakul Vakil, MD, Assistant Professor
Cliff Perez, MD, Assistant Professor
Vascular Surgery is staffed by two full-time surgeons and one part-time surgeon, in addition to three nurse practitioners, and a research nurse. Trainees include a vascular surgery fellow, a PGY-4 as chief resident, and a PGY-1 rounding out the team. There are third-year medical students who rotate in 2-week blocks. A non-invasive vascular laboratory is staffed by four vascular technologists.

The Vascular Surgery group provides care for patients with aneurysmal and occlusive disease of the extremity, visceral, and extracranial vessels and the aorta. Our vascular surgeons have an active endovascular program and recently added fenestrated grafts to their surgical offerings. In conjunction with interventional radiology, we have established a minimally invasive Vascular Center of Excellence for our network. Our vascular surgeons work collaboratively with the interventional radiologists both in the operating rooms and radiology suite. Each case is presented and discussed in a multidisciplinary format where treatment planning is initiated. The Vascular Surgery section sees patients in the outpatient clinics one day per week and operates four days per week. The vascular laboratory serves not only the Wade Park division, but outlying clinics throughout northern Ohio.
The Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center Education
The Louis B. Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is an integrated teaching site for the general surgical residency program at Case Western Reserve University. Residents rotate on general surgery, vascular surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, orthopedic surgery, ENT, plastic surgery, podiatry, urology, ophthalmology, critical care, and soon, neurosurgery. Residents are afforded significant responsibility for patient care in the operating rooms, on the wards, in the surgical intensive care unit, and in the outpatient clinics with attending supervision. In addition to teaching in the clinical setting, each of the VA rotations has a structured educational program. The general surgical experience includes weekly, half-day sessions dedicated to education with SICU teaching rounds, a general surgery conference with case-based teaching, and pathology conference where specimens from the previous week are reviewed with the pathology staff. The vascular surgical service also has a formal weekly half-day of teaching, including SICU teaching rounds, case-based teaching rounds, an angiography conference, and an Indications Conference. Residents on the cardiothoracic surgery service have one-on-one weekly teaching sessions with faculty, including technical teaching of bedside procedures. These residents also participate in a weekly tumor board with their faculty. Residents from all services participate in the weekly morbidity and mortality conference.

Residency programs in the surgical subspecialties, including plastic surgery, ophthalmology, orthopaedic surgery, otorhinolaryngology and urology, include the VA as a primary teaching site and share faculty with University Hospitals Case Medical Center. The Cleveland VA Medical Center also sponsors two VA-based residency programs; one in podiatry and podiatric surgery in conjunction with the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine; and one in optometry in conjunction with The Ohio State University.

On-Call Coverage at the Cleveland VA Medical Center

A surgical hospitalist covers the Surgical Service, along with junior residents, four of the seven nights of the week from 5 PM to 7 AM, providing senior in-house supervision, back-up, and teaching for the junior residents. The addition of two night nurse practitioners will soon limit junior night float coverage to just a few days a month. In addition, the surgical hospitalist takes all responsibility for patients in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit those four nights of the week. The chief resident is expected to cover one of the three weekend nights in the SICU as the only in-house responsibility, providing optimum opportunity for the chief resident to participate in operative cases throughout the week, to manage his/her service, and to prepare for teaching conferences and other administrative responsibilities.

Teaching Conference Schedule

**Mondays**
GI Multidisciplinary Tumor Board Conference

**Tuesdays**
Vascular Section Walk Rounds
Multidisciplinary Vascular Conference

**Thursdays**
Morbidity and Mortality Conference (General and Vascular Surgery Sections)
Tumor Board Conference
General Surgery Indications Conference
Critical Care Walk Rounds
Pathology Gross and Microscope Conference (monthly only)

**Fridays**
CV Surgery/Cardiology Multi-disciplinary Catheterization Conference
The Louis B. Stokes
Cleveland
VA Medical Center
Research
Surgical sections at the Cleveland VA are active participants in the VA cooperative studies program and have served as sites for a number of cooperative studies projects. Current cooperative studies include comparison of open and endovascular repair of aortic aneurysms and a comparison of outcomes in coronary artery bypass surgery performed versus off-pump bypass. Several members of the Service are involved with the Cleveland Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) program and have primary responsibility for projects within the FES center. There is ongoing clinical research in the areas of outcomes in carotid disease, atherectomy, hernia repair, colorectal cancer, and urologic surgical oncology. One surgical faculty member obtained a grant to study and initiate novel approaches to the multidisciplinary care of patients with breast cancer; the second phase began in 2014, expanded to include our large population of colorectal cancer patients.

A state-of-the-art, fully integrated electronic medical record system provides the opportunity to investigate a large volume of clinical data across the spectrum of each patient's care and across the VA population. Utilization of this capability can lead to some very interesting database clinical research projects. Residents and students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these longitudinal research opportunities during their training.

**RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

- VA Cooperative Studies Program, “Open versus Endovascular Repair of Aortic Aneurysms (OVER),” Jessie Jean-Claude, MD, Site PI.
- VA Cooperative Studies Program, “VA Coronary Artery Revascularization in Diabetes Study (VACARDS),” Brian Cmolik, MD, Site PI.
- Clinical Trial of the ON-X Valve Using Low Dose Anticoagulation, Brian Cmolik, MD, PI.
- VA Cooperative Studies Program, “Outcomes Following Cardiovascular Revascularization: On and Off Cardiopulmonary Bypass,” Diana Whittlesey, MD, Site PI.
- VA Cooperative Studies Program “REGROUP study” examining open versus endoscopic saphenous vein harvest for coronary artery bypass grafting, Brian Cmolik MD, Site PI.
- VA Career Development Award, “Photoreceptors During Chromophore Deprivation and Supplementation,” Johnny Tang, MD, PI.
- VA Merit Review, “Joint Replacement Utilization Disparity: The Role of Communication,” Denise Kresevic, RN, PhD, PI.
- Cuff Electrodes in Functional Electrical Stimulation, Gilles Pinault, MD, PI.
- VA Center of Excellence Research Grant, “Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Care.”