

POST-OP

*News update from the
Department of Surgery*

*Stony Brook University
School of Medicine*

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Introducing Our New Surgical Oncologists and Division Chief

We are very pleased to introduce our new chief of surgical oncology Aaron R. Sasson, MD, and his oncologist colleague Joseph Kim, MD

Dr. Sasson comes to Stony Brook Medicine from the University of Nebraska in Omaha, where he was chief of gastrointestinal (GI) surgical oncology at Nebraska Medical Center, and also director of the Gastrointestinal Oncology Center of Excellence at Nebraska Medicine. He joins our faculty as professor of surgery.



Dr. Sasson specializes in cancer surgery, particularly cancers of the GI tract, mainly pancreas cancer, liver cancer, stomach cancer, esophagus cancer, and colon cancer. In addition, he has expertise in the management of endocrine tumors of the intestines and pancreas, as well as intra-abdominal sarcomas.

Dr. Sasson will serve as a leader of Stony Brook University Cancer Center, where he will direct the

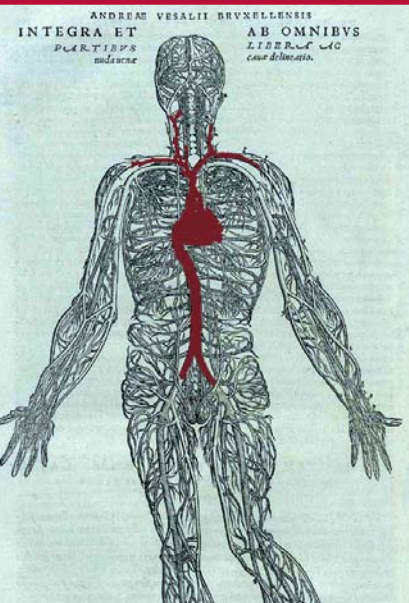
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PHOTOS: JEANNE NEVILLE

Dr. Kim comes to Stony Brook Medicine from the City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA, where he directed the upper GI tumor surgery service, and where he developed and directed the ACGME-accredited surgical oncology fellowship program. He joins our faculty as associate professor of surgery.

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Stony Brook Vascular Center Opens *Offering Expanded Services and Convenience*

We are very pleased to announce the opening of the Stony Brook Vascular Center. The spacious new center will facilitate the growing clinical practice of our Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.

The Vascular Center is conveniently located in Nicolls Professional Park at 23 South Howell Avenue—just off Middle Country Road in Centereach, NY, where it intersects with Nicolls Road.

The facility is complete with on-site procedure rooms, plus an angiography room.

This patient-friendly facility will serve as the home of our Aortic Center, Center for Vein Care, Hemodialysis Access Center, and Limb Preservation Center.

The Vascular Center shows how Stony Brook Medicine is improving access to high-end specialty care and providing an integrated delivery system that will better serve the needs of Long Islanders.

About the Vascular Center, Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos, MD, professor of surgery and chief of vascular and endovascular surgery, says:

“Our new office is designed to offer our patients clinical evaluation with the most advanced diagnostic tests and state-of-the-art procedure rooms for minimally invasive office-based procedures.

“We have expanded our facility to include an outpatient angiography suite for diagnostic and therapeutic endovascular interventions.

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Introducing Dr. Aaron R. Sasson

Continued from Page 1

surgical oncology team, which focuses on the diagnosis and management of cancers or potential cancers of the esophagus, stomach, pancreas, bile ducts, small intestine, and liver.

Dr. Sasson's multidisciplinary team at the Cancer Center is a growing unit, and will continue to expand the use of minimally invasive surgery for complex GI tumors and other diseases.

"We are very lucky to have recruited Dr. Sasson to lead our Division of Surgical Oncology," says Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine. "He is a national leader in the field of gastrointestinal and pancreatic oncology, plus a master surgeon who is much respected by his peers and much sought after by patients."

"I believe there is a tremendous opportunity for surgical oncology at Stony Brook Medicine.

"The Division of Surgical Oncology's mission is to advance patient care with the development of outstanding clinical programs, and in collaboration with faculty in the Department of Surgery and other departments here at Stony Brook, to provide the best multidisciplinary treatment of patients with cancer.

"Additionally, the division will develop a strong educational component for medical students and surgical residents, as well as a dynamic research program to incorporate clinical, basic science, and translational research projects."

—Dr. Aaron R. Sasson

"Dr. Sasson's contribution to the Cancer Center will undoubtedly be tremendous, as he expands our capabilities to provide leading-edge diagnostic and treatment services."

A specialist in pancreas surgery, in particular the Whipple operation, Dr. Sasson has to date performed more than 500 pancreas resections, using both conventional open surgery and minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery.

Dr. Sasson's clinical excellence has been recognized by his peers through his selection for inclusion in the Castle Connolly Guide, *America's Top Doctors*, which represents the top 1% of physicians in the nation. In addition, he has been selected for inclusion in the Castle Connolly Guide, *America's Top Doctors for Cancer*, as well as the *Best Doctors in America* database.

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Stony Brook Vascular Center Continued from Page 1



Clinical Team Leaders at the Stony Brook Vascular Center: (left to right) Drs. David S. Landau, Antonios P. Gasparis, George J. Koullias, Angela A. Kokkosis, Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos, Nicos Labropoulos, Shang A. Loh, and Nicholas Sikalas.

PHOTO: HEATHER WALSH

"Our outstanding team extends far beyond this building, and this new center is designed to offer patients a multidisciplinary approach to treatment.

"By delivering care in this manner, patients receive proactive management and early interventions, and are able to maintain a quality of life that would have been otherwise compromised.

"We pride ourselves in not only delivering outcomes that are among the best in the nation, but in treating each patient with a thorough and timely diagnosis and individualized treatment plan to control risk factors, prevent emergencies, and ultimately save lives."

Our vascular specialists provide diagnosis and treatment of a complete range of vascular disorders, including:

- Arterial blockages (PAD)
- Aneurysms
- Carotid artery disease
- Malformations
- Dialysis access
- Vein disease

Our team includes our seven physicians and a vascular physiologist, plus our clinical and administrative support staff—all dedicated to Stony Brook Medicine's mission of excellence in patient care.

We also offer expertise in:

- Complex aortic aneurysms (AAA and TAA)
- Pelvic congestion syndrome
- Minimally invasive procedures, including angioplasty, stenting, fistulograms, and new treatments for varicose veins

"When patients see one of our experts at the Vascular Center, they are offered the most focused solution to meet their needs, and in many cases, treatments are performed right here on an outpatient basis, with the goal of patients being able to return quickly to their everyday activities with an improved quality of life," says Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine.

For consultations/appointments with our vascular specialists, please call (631) 638-1670.

The Stony Brook Vascular Center was named Business of the Month for November in Council District 3 by the Town of Brookhaven for its "positive impact on the community."



PHOTO: HEATHER WALSH

Chairman's Message



PHOTO: JEANNE NEVILLE

Dr. Mark A. Talamini

Stony Brook Surgery is indeed on the move. As the contents of this issue of POST-OP reflect, there is growth in virtually all of our divisions.

We are establishing new clinics in locations away from the main hospital. We are engaged in the association with Southampton Hospital in meaningful ways.

The excellent care rendered by our faculty Stony Brook surgeons is, therefore, becoming more and more available to residents of Suffolk County, the rest of Long Island, and beyond.

Department faculty also are playing significant roles at a national level.

Dr. Aurora Pryor is now serving as the treasurer of SAGES—the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons—a society with 6,000 members strong that focuses on minimally invasive surgery and revolutionary teaching modalities for surgery.

Dr. Dana Telem is the recipient of the SAGES Young Researcher Award for 2016, in recognition of the excellence of her endoscopic surgical research.

Dr. Joseph Kim is now serving as vice chair of the Gastrointestinal Disease Site Workgroup of the Society of Surgical Oncology, the premier organization for surgeons and healthcare providers dedicated to advancing the science and treatment of cancer.

Our vascular group continues to have a national impact, particularly in the field of venous disease.

The annual Venous Symposium directed by Dr. Antonios Gasparis and Dr. Nicos Labropoulos, which is held in New York, has established itself as one of the premier conferences on issues and treatment related to vein pathology.

These are but a few of the examples where our faculty are making a difference for our patients in the world of surgery on a national level.

We can be particularly proud of our legacy as a department of training the next generation of surgeons. It is thrilling to see the successful careers of previous residents, and to see where our recent resident graduates are investing their careers.

Stony Brook is committed to a number of missions. However, the education of medical students and residents is as true to our core as any other mission.

We hope you take a moment to peruse this issue of POST-OP, and gain an understanding of what is happening here at Stony Brook Medicine.

If you are a previous medical student or resident, we would love to hear from you. Our training programs are competitive, but we welcome applicants and those interested in joining us.

Finally, if you simply wish to learn more about the programs described in these pages, or more about our department, please reach out. I would love to speak with you.

Mark A. Talamini, MD
Professor and Chairman of Surgery
Chief, Surgical Services, Stony Brook
Medicine

Selected Recent Publications*

- Ajani JA, D'Amico TA, Almhanna K, Bentrem DJ, Besh S, Chao J, Das P, Denlinger C, Fanta P, Fuchs CS, Gerdes H, Glasgow RE, Hayman JA, Hochwald S, Hofstetter WL, Ilson DH, Jaroszewski D, Jasperson K, Keswani RN, Kleinberg LR, Korn WM, Leong S, Lockhart AC, Mulcahy MF, Orringer MB, Posey JA, Poultsides GA, **Sasson AR**, et al. Esophageal and esophagogastric junction cancers, version 1.2015. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw* 2015;13:194-227.
- Alfonso K, **Younes A**. The eight-year nasal foreign body: a case report. *Int J Otorhinolaryngol* 2015;2:2.
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- Altieri M, **Pryor AD**. Gastroesophageal reflux disease in the bariatric surgery patient. In: Brethauer SA, Schauer PR, Schirmer BD, editors. *Minimally Invasive Bariatric Surgery*. 2d ed. New York: Springer, 2015: 433-40.
- Altieri MS, **Telem DA**, **Kim P**, **Gracia G**, **Pryor AD**. Case review and consideration for imaging and work evaluation of the pregnant bariatric patient. *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 2015;11:667-71.
- Avila C, Willins JL, Jackson M, Mathai J, Jabsky M, Kong A, Callaghan F, Ishkin S, **Shroyer AL**. Usefulness of two clinical chorioamnionitis definitions in predicting neonatal infectious outcomes: a systematic review. *Am J Perinatol* 2015;32:1001-9.
- Barajas-Gamboa JS, Acosta G, Savides TJ, Sicklick JK, Fehmi SM, Coker AM, Green S, Broderick R, Nino DF, Harnsberger CR, Berducci MA, Sandler BJ, **Talamini MA**, Jacobsen GR, Horgan S. Laparo-endoscopic transgastric resection of gastric submucosal tumors. *Surg Endosc* 2015;29:2149-57.
- Barros M, Nascimento I, Barros T, **Labropoulos N**. Plantar vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. *Phlebology* 2015;30:66-9.
- Bates AT**, Divino C. Laparoscopic surgery in the elderly: a review of the literature. *Aging Dis* 2015;6:149-55.
- Bekelis K, Fisher ES, **Labropoulos N**, Zhou W, Skinner J. Variations in the intensive use of head CT for elderly patients with hemorrhagic stroke. *Radiology* 2015;275:188-95.
- Bekelis K, Missios S, **Labropoulos N**. Cerebral aneurysm coiling: a predictive model of hospitalization cost. *J Neurointerv Surg* 2015;7:543-8.
- Buscaglia JM, Fakhoury J, Loyal J, **Denoya PI**, Kazi E, Stein SA, **Scriven R**, **Bergamaschi R**. Simulated colonoscopy training using a low-cost physical model improves responsiveness of surgery interns. *Colorectal Dis* 2015;17:530-5.
- Choi AH, **Kim J**, Chao J. Perioperative chemotherapy for resectable gastric cancer: MAGIC and beyond. *World J Gastroenterol* 2015;21:7343-8.
- Choi AH, Nelson RA, Schoellhammer HF, Cho W, Ko M, Arrington A, Oxner CR, Fakhim M, Wong J, Sentovich SM, Garcia-Aguilar J, **Kim J**. Accuracy of computed tomography in nodal staging of colon cancer patients. *World J Gastrointest Surg* 2015;7:116-22.

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* The names of faculty authors appear in boldface.

POST-OP

is published by
The Department of Surgery
Stony Brook Medicine
Stony Brook, New York

Editor-in-Chief
Mark A. Talamini, MD

Writer/Editor
Jonathan Cohen, PhD

Contributing Editors
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James A. Vosswinkel, MD

All correspondence should be sent to:

Dr. Jonathan Cohen
Writer/Editor, POST-OP
Department of Surgery
Stony Brook Medicine
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8191

Jonathan.Cohen@
stonybrookmedicine.edu

Grateful acknowledgment is made to Torax Medical for use of the LINX illustration on page 7.

Introducing More New Faculty

We are very pleased to announce that the following physicians have joined our faculty:



Vamsi V. Alli, MD
General Surgeon

Title
Instructor of Surgery

Board Certification
Eligible in Surgery

Education
Medical School
Rutgers U (2008)

Residency Training
General Surgery, Rutgers U

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Acute care surgery
- Advanced laparoscopic surgery
- Benign biliary disease
- Gastrointestinal surgery
- Laparoscopic hernia repair
- Surgical endoscopy



George C. Angelos, MA, MD
Colorectal Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Colon & Rectal Surgery
Surgery

Education
MA
Columbia U (2004;
field, Biotechnology)

MD
U of Buffalo (2007)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Stony Brook U

Fellowship Training
Colon & Rectal Surgery,
U of Texas-Houston

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Laparoscopic/robotic & conventional surgery for colorectal cancer, familial polyposis, diverticulitis & rectal prolapse
- Inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's & colitis)
- Anorectal abscess, fistula, fissure, anal condyloma, hemorrhoids, constipation & fecal incontinence



Andrew T. Bates, MD
General & Bariatric Surgeon

Title
Instructor of Surgery

Board Certification
Eligible in Surgery

Education
Medical School
Case Western Reserve U (2010)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Mount Sinai Hospital

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Minimally invasive surgery
- Bariatric surgery
- Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing)
- Esophageal conditions & diseases
- Gallbladder disease
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
- Hernias
- Obesity
- Spleen disease
- Other abdominal conditions



Lukasz Czerwonka, MD
Head & Neck Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Surgery

Education
Medical School
U of Wisconsin-Madison (2008)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Wright State U

Fellowship Training
Head & Neck Oncologic Surgery,
U of Toronto

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Management of head and neck cancers (incl. oral, lip, tongue, larynx, salivary gland, nasopharynx, skin)
- Sentinel node biopsy
- Thyroid nodules/cancer
- Thyroid ultrasound & biopsy
- Thyroid/parathyroid surgery
- Microvascular reconstructive surgery
- Skull base surgery & reconstruction



Jill C. Genua, MD
Colorectal Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Colon & Rectal Surgery
Surgery

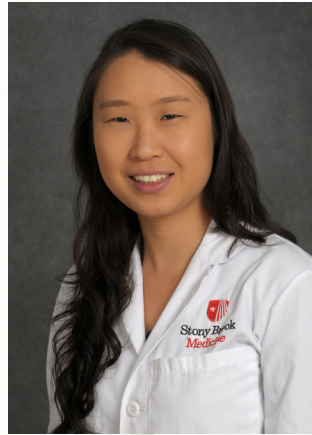
Education
Medical School
Albany Medical College (2000)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Stamford Hospital/Columbia
U College of Physicians &
Surgeons

Fellowship Training
Colon & Rectal Surgery,
Cleveland Clinic Florida

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Laparoscopic/robotic & conventional surgery for colorectal cancer, familial polyposis, diverticulitis & rectal prolapse
- Inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's & colitis)
- Transanal excision of rectal polyps
- Anorectal abscess, fistula, fissure, anal condyloma, hemorrhoids, constipation & fecal incontinence



Pamela S. Kim, MD
General & Vein Surgeon

Title
Instructor of Surgery

Board Certification
Eligible in Surgery

Education
Medical School
U of Texas-San Antonio (2010)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Stony Brook U

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Venous diseases & syndromes
- Chronic venous disorder
- Chronic venous insufficiency
- Venous obstruction
- Pelvic venous congestion
- Lymphedema
- Venous tumors
- Venous thromboembolism



George J. Koullias, MD, PhD
Vascular & Thoracic Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Surgery
Thoracic Surgery
Eligible in Vascular Surgery

Education
Medical School
Aristotle U Medical School (1991)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
New York Medical College
Cardiothoracic Surgery, Yale U

Fellowship Training
Advanced Thoracic Aortic
Endovascular Surgery,
German Heart Institute
Vascular & Endovascular Surgery,
Arizona Heart Institute
Vascular & Endovascular Surgery,
Stony Brook U

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Thoracic aortic surgery
- Endovascular surgery for management of abdominal aortic aneurysms
- Endovascular & hybrid treatment for thoracic aortic aneurysms
- Stroke prevention
- Lower extremity open & interventional vascular reconstruction
- Minimally invasive treatment of venous disease
- Hemodialysis access



Jerry A. Rubano, MD
Intensivist & General Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Surgery
Surgical Critical Care

Education
Medical School
New York Medical College (2009)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
Stony Brook U

Fellowship Training
Trauma/Critical Care,
Stony Brook U

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Pre- & post-operative critical care of surgical patients
- Surgical management of injured patients—all aspects of traumatology
- Basic & advanced minimally invasive & laparoscopic surgery
- Management of diseases involving the liver, spleen, upper & lower GI systems
- Hernia repairs
- Surgical treatment of benign soft-tissue tumors
- Tracheostomy & tracheotomy



Jessica R. Schnur, MD
General Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Surgery

Education
Medical School
Mount Sinai School of Medicine (2006)

Residency Training
General Surgery,
North Shore–Long Island
Jewish Medical Center

Fellowship Training
Minimally Invasive &
Bariatric Surgery,
Albert Einstein College
of Medicine

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Acute care surgery
- Advanced laparoscopic surgery
- Benign biliary disease
- Colorectal surgery
- Gastrointestinal surgery
- Laparoscopic hernia repair
- Surgical endoscopy



Nicholas Sikalas, MD
Vascular Surgeon

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Board Certification
Surgery
Eligible in Vascular Surgery

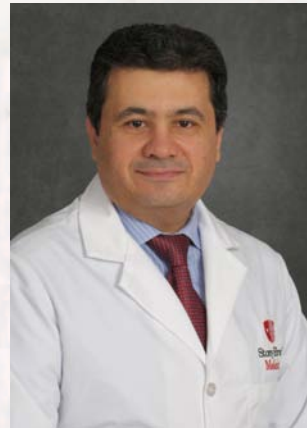
Education
Medical School
SUNY Downstate (2008)

Residency Training
General Surgery, Drexel U

Fellowship Training
Vascular Surgery,
Mount Sinai Hospital

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Arterial & venous surgery
- Open & minimally invasive endovascular management of all arterial conditions
- Complex venous disease, including treatment of acute DVT with thrombolysis, pelvic congestion syndrome & vascular malformations
- Minimally invasive treatment of varicose veins & spider veins
- Thoracic outlet syndrome
- Hemodialysis access
- Lower extremity limb salvage



Abbas A. Younes, MD
Pediatric Otolaryngologist

Title
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Chief, Pediatric Otolaryngology

Board Certification
Eligible in Otolaryngology

Education
Medical School
American U of Beirut (1995)

Residency Training
General Surgery &
Otolaryngology,
American U of Beirut

Fellowship Training
Pediatric Otolaryngology,
Cleveland Clinic

Pediatric Otolaryngology,
Children’s Hospital of Michigan,
Detroit Medical Center

Clinical Interests/Expertise

- Management of diseases of the ear, nose & throat in children & adolescents
- Cochlear implantation
- Bone-anchored hearing aid (BAHA) implantation
- Middle ear surgery including ossiculoplasty
- Pediatric tracheostomy
- Difficult airway management & endoscopy
- Airway reconstruction
- Pediatric sinus surgery
- Minimally invasive balloon sinuplasty



Stony Brook Medicine

*If you need surgery,
why should you
consider an academic
medical center?*

The answer is clear: to be in the place where the newest and the best surgery is being developed, practiced, and taught. And to be cared for by a team of the brightest, most engaged minds in medicine.

This is what patients get at Stony Brook Medicine, where we are committed to innovation. Our team is always asking, “How can surgery be better?”

The physicians and other healthcare professionals of Stony Brook Surgical Associates—the clinical practice of the Department of Surgery—provide comprehensive care for both adults and children with a wide variety of problems requiring surgery.

In keeping with Stony Brook Medicine’s mission of excellence in patient care, we offer specialized surgical services with several clinical programs and facilities unique in our region.

For our multiple practice locations and the phone numbers to call for appointments/consultations with our physicians, please see pages 19-20.

Implanting a Magnetic Band To Prevent Heartburn

New Minimally Invasive Procedure Represents An Advance in Treatment of Acid Reflux

Our Bariatric, Foregut, and Advanced Gastrointestinal Surgery Division is now performing an innovative new procedure to implant a small magnetic band to help prevent gastric reflux in patients who suffer from gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), commonly known as heartburn, or acid indigestion, the most common symptom of GERD.

Our surgeons are the first on Long Island to be specially trained and certified to use the LINX Reflux Management System. Use of this innovative system further demonstrates our department's commitment to performing procedures with leading-edge technology to lead the way in patient care.



(left to right) Drs. Aurora D. Pryor, Mark A. Talamini, and Dana A. Telem are performing the new LINX procedure to treat GERD.

The new minimally invasive surgical procedure represents the latest advancement in the treatment of GERD. Surgeons implant the LINX band—a small, flexible band of titanium beads with magnetic cores—around the patient's esophagus just above the stomach (see illustration at right). The magnetic attraction between the beads strengthens the weakened esophageal sphincter's barrier function. The procedure usually takes less than an hour to perform.

The band is strong enough to allow food and liquids to pass normally to the stomach, but immediately closes after swallowing to restore the magnetic barrier to reflux.

Following the procedure, patients are able to resume a normal diet, and will typically resume normal activities in less than a week.

Studies have shown the banding procedure decreases esophageal acid exposure, improves reflux symptoms and quality of life, and allows cessation of proton pump inhibitor medication in most patients.

"This new procedure represents a substantial advancement in our ability to treat patients who suffer from GERD," says Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine.

Dr. Talamini, who performs the LINX procedure, adds: "In addition to excellent clinical results, LINX provides many lifestyle benefits compared to the traditional surgery for reflux called Nissen fundoplication. Studies show that implanting the magnetic band often reduces or eliminates the need for medications, and offers improved quality of life for our patients."

Also performing the procedure here are fellow gastrointestinal surgeons Aurora D. Pryor, MD, professor of surgery, chief of bariatric, foregut, and advanced gastrointestinal surgery, and director of the Stony Brook Bariatric and Metabolic Weight Loss Center; and Dana A. Telem, MD, assistant professor of surgery and associate director of the Bariatric and Metabolic Weight Loss Center.

Drs. Talamini, Pryor, and Telem all have advanced laparoscopic skills, and are leaders in the area of minimally invasive surgery. The LINX band is implanted laparoscopically.

"The LINX procedure, which uses the novel LINX technology, is indicated for patients diagnosed with reflux who continue to have chronic reflux symptoms despite maximum medical therapy," says Dr. Pryor.

"GERD is caused by a mechanical defect and requires a mechanical solution, which is achieved through the minimally invasive LINX procedure," Dr. Telem says. "Using this procedure, we have another effective way to directly benefit many patients who suffer from acid reflux."

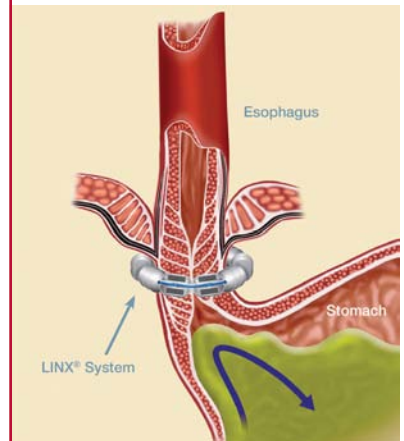
The LINX device was FDA approved in March 2012 after ten years of development and testing, including two clinical trials with 144 patients. A total of 400 implant procedures were performed over five years of clinical use.

A review analysis published in December of this year in *Surgical Endoscopy* found LINX to be "as effective as the medical and conventional surgical therapies." The authors further conclude LINX "will play a more important role in the treatment of GERD because of its unique advantage."

For consultations/appointments with our gastrointestinal specialists who provide LINX as a treatment option for GERD, please call (631) 638-GERD (4373).

New Heartburn And Esophageal Center Offers New Solutions For Treating GERD

Multidisciplinary Approach Involves Team Of Gastroenterologists And Surgeons



Implanted LINX band.

Gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD, affects more than 30 million Americans each month. Its symptoms include heartburn, regurgitation, sore throat, cough, and chest pain.

Left untreated, reflux disease can lead to serious complications, such as esophagitis, stricture, Barrett's esophagus, and esophageal cancer.

For some, medications and simple lifestyle changes provide relief. But for those whose symptoms continue long term, a more comprehensive approach should be considered.

That's what Stony Brook Medicine's Heartburn and Esophageal Center specializes in. The Center's approach to reflux and its complications involves the best ideas in medicine, including today's most advanced, minimally invasive surgical options.

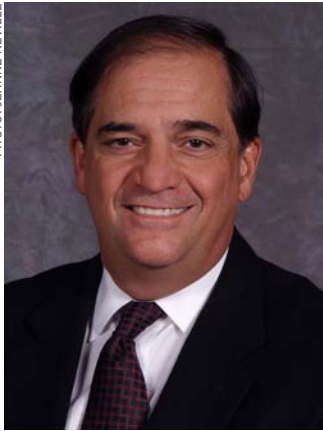
For consultations/appointments, call (631) 444-5220.

Creating the John J. Ricotta Professorship in Surgery

Perpetuating Dr. Ricotta's Legacy of Excellence

We are very pleased to announce the campaign to establish the John J. Ricotta Professorship in Surgery. This professorship, once funded, will be the first endowed professorship in our department. It will enable us to expand our faculty with a distinguished appointment, and to further our mission of excellence in patient care, education, and research.

PHOTO: JEANNE NEVILLE



Dr. John J. Ricotta

The decision to honor John J. Ricotta, MD, professor emeritus of surgery, was based on his distinguished leadership during his tenure here as chairman from 1997 to 2008.

Dr. Ricotta was a dynamic leader at Stony Brook Medicine (known then as Stony Brook University Medical Center). He earned the respect and admiration of all who encountered him. He was not only a great surgeon and physician-scientist, but a great teacher and gentleman. In short, he was for us a model of excellence.

"During the course of his career, Dr. Ricotta has participated in the education of hundreds of medical students, surgical residents, and vascular surgery fellows," says Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine.

"In addition, he has recruited and helped mentor dozens of faculty members across multiple institutions. His involvement in the professional and personal development of physicians and surgeons remains the highlight of his academic career."

As our department's leader, Dr. Ricotta hired over 50 full-time faculty members to build and expand the department, including several of our current leaders who continue to distinguish the department's clinical and academic excellence:

Roberto Bergamaschi, MD, PhD, chief of colon and rectal surgery, and leader of Stony Brook Cancer Center's colorectal oncology team;

Marvin L. Corman, MD, editor of *Corman's Colon and Rectal Surgery* now in its sixth edition ("the gold standard in its discipline," *JAMA*), and first director of our colon and rectal surgery fellowship program;

Alexander B. Dagum, MD, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, and executive vice chair of surgery;

Allison J. McLarty, MD, director of our ventricular assist device program, and associate director of our general surgery residency program;

Ghassan J. Samara, MD, leader of Stony Brook Cancer Center's head and neck, thyroid oncology team;

Steven Sandoval, MD, medical director of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Burn Center at Stony Brook Medicine;

David A. Schessel, MD, PhD, chief of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery;

Marc J. Shapiro, MD, director of our surgical critical care fellowship program;

Richard J. Scriven, MD, director of our general surgery residency program;

Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos, MD, chief of vascular and endovascular surgery, director of our vascular surgery residency program, and director of our Surgical Skills Center;

James A. Vosswinkel, MD, chief of trauma, emergency surgery, and surgical critical care, and medical director of Stony Brook Trauma Center.

Several of these physician-scientists are recognized as not only national leaders in their fields but international leaders. All are making surgery better.

Our endowment goal for the professorship is \$750K.

About Dr. Ricotta, Dr. Tassiopoulos says: "John is a visionary in medical education. He was instrumental in Stony Brook's becoming one of the first six institutions in the country to adopt an integrated five-year vascular surgery residency. This training paradigm is now the accepted practice nationwide."

Indeed, Dr. Ricotta has dedicated his professional career to the education and training of surgeons and to advancing the care of patients with vascular disease.

A native of Buffalo, NY, Dr. Ricotta was educated as an undergraduate at Yale University. He earned his medical degree and completed a surgical residency at Johns Hopkins University. Following his surgical residency, he completed a research fellowship in vascular surgery at Walter Reed, and was a registrar in thoracic surgery at Frenchay Hospital in Bristol, England.

All told, Dr. Ricotta spent 20 years as a professor of surgery at the State University of New York. He returned to Buffalo,

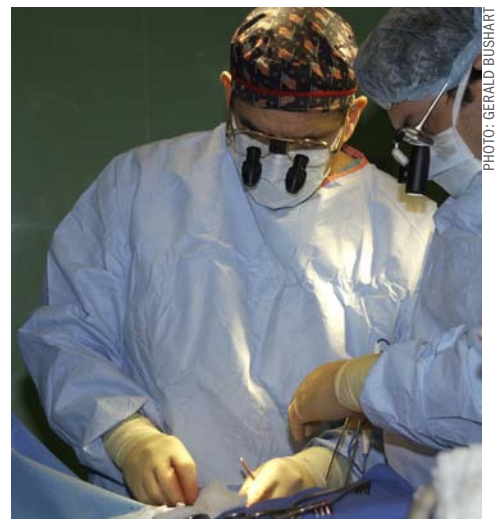
NY, as professor of surgery at SUNY-Buffalo in 1988 where he was chief of surgery at Millard Fillmore Hospitals, founded the department's Division of Vascular Surgery, and established a vascular surgery training program.

Dr. Ricotta moved to Stony Brook in 1997 to serve as chairman of our department. During his time with us, he strengthened the clinical and academic performance of the department. He worked with the faculty to revamp all our educational programs.

As an academic surgeon, Dr. Ricotta has authored more than 250 articles and book chapters in all areas of vascular disease, and has lectured all over the world on all aspects of vascular care.

Currently, Dr. Ricotta is practicing as a vascular surgeon in Washington, DC, where he is chairman emeritus of the Department of Surgery at Washington Hospital Center and professor of surgery at both Georgetown University and George Washington University. In addition, he is a senior director of the American Board of Surgery.

For more information and/or to make a donation (fully tax deductible), please call Ann Boyd-Stewart, assistant vice president of medical advancement, at (631) 444-1091, or email her at Ann.Boyd-Stewart@stonybrookmedicine.edu.



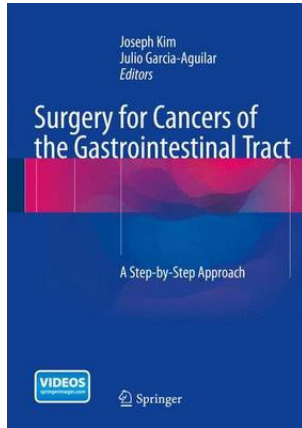
Dr. John J. Ricotta (left) in the OR at Stony Brook University Hospital.

PHOTO: GERALD BUSHART

Dr. Joseph Kim

Continued from Page 1

Dr. Kim specializes in GI surgical oncology with a focus on hepatobiliary-pancreatic disease. He will advance minimally invasive (laparoscopic and robotic) liver, pancreatic, and gastric surgery for Stony Brook Medicine, and he brings his expertise with cytoreduction and heated intra-peritoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) for peritoneal surface cancers.



“Dr. Kim is well known as an excellent clinical surgeon,” says Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine.

“He has mentored scores of residents and fellows, and brings a reputation for active effective teaching in the operating rooms and clinics. We expect he will rapidly become clinically busy, caring for patients afflicted with cancer from throughout Suffolk County and beyond.”

Dr. Kim received his MD in 1998 from the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. He trained in general surgery at the University of Cincinnati, and then completed a three-year fellowship in surgical oncology at the John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica, CA.

Following his training, Dr. Kim joined the City of Hope National Medical Center in 2006, where he rose to the rank of associate professor of surgery.

An active scholar as well as clinician, Dr. Kim is the author or co-author of more than 90 publications, many in high-impact surgical and cancer journals. He serves as a reviewer for numerous journals, including *Annals of Surgery*, *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, *British Journal of Surgery*, *Cancer*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, among several others.

Last year, Dr. Kim published a leading-edge textbook titled *Surgery for Cancers of the Gastrointestinal Tract: A Step-by-Step Approach* (Springer). This 329-page textbook, supplemented by videos, provides a concise summary of the current management of each GI cancer, and is of great utility to not only surgeons at all levels of training, but also for surgeons in practice who seek to reinforce or learn new surgical techniques.

As a scientist, Dr. Kim is currently conducting research aimed at characterizing the role of chemokine receptors in GI cancers and, ultimately, identifying novel therapeutic agents to prolong the survival of patients with these cancers.

For consultations/appointments with Dr. Kim, please call his office at (631) 444-8086.

Dr. Aaron R. Sasson

Continued from Page 2



PHOTO: MARYLOU STEWART

Dr. Sasson received his MD in 1993 from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) in 1993. He completed his residency training in general surgery at the University of California, San Diego, and his fellowship training in surgical oncology at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA.

Subsequently, in 2001, Dr. Sasson joined the surgical faculty at the University of Nebraska, where over the course of a decade he rose in rank from assistant professor to full professor.

Dr. Sasson's commitment to advancing surgery is demonstrated by his scholarly activity. He has to date nearly 70 publications to his credit, including both peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters.

In addition, Dr. Sasson serves on the editorial board of the *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*, and as a reviewer for *American Journal of Surgery*, *Annals of Surgery*, *Anticancer Therapy*, *Cancer Epidemiology & Cancers*, *Gastroenterology &*

Hepatology, *Gastrointestinal Cancer Research*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, *Journal of the Pancreas*, and *Surgical Laparoscopy, Endoscopy & Percutaneous Techniques*, among others.

As a scientist, Dr. Sasson is currently focusing his research on the development of early diagnostic tests for pancreatic cancer and on multimodality treatment of pancreatic and biliary malignancies.

Dr. Sasson is an active member of several research groups, including the Early Detection Research Network Pancreatic Cancer Working Group, Gastrointestinal Spore: Inter-SPORE Clinical Committee, and Pancreatic Cancer Collaborative Registry (member, Steering Committee), among others.

For consultations/appointments with Dr. Sasson, please call his office at (631) 444-8086.

Sixth Annual Research Day Celebrates Our Discoveries

The Department of Surgery's Sixth Annual Research Day took place in June at the Charles B. Wang Center on west campus of Stony Brook University.

Accuracy of VTE Assessment and Compliance with Prophylaxis

Pamela Kim, MD, Antonios P. Gasparis, MD, Kristan Probeck, NP, Doreen Elitharp, NP, Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos, MD, Nicos Labropoulos, PhD

Stony Brook Medicine, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, Stony Brook, New York

INTRODUCTION

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in hospitalized patients. Risk factors for VTE have been identified, and thromboprophylaxis has been shown to be safe and effective. However, multiple studies have shown that appropriate VTE prophylaxis is not being administered. Strategies to improve VTE assessment and prophylaxis have been developed, but few studies have looked at the effectiveness of these systems.

OBJECTIVES

1. To evaluate the appropriateness of the admitting service assessment with a clinical decision support tool in place
2. To determine compliance with ordering recommended prophylaxis

METHODS

A prospective analysis of randomly selected adult patients assessed within 18 hours of admission for VTE risk was performed. Assessment for VTE risk was determined by utilization of the VTE advisor through the electronic medical record of our institution. This is a risk stratification and prophylaxis recommendation tool based on the 2008 ACCP guidelines. The ordering provider is required to perform the assessment, and the advisor provides the patient's risk level and appropriate prophylaxis recommendations. Patients were assessed for VTE risk independently, first by the admitting service, then by a VTE consult service comprised of dedicated nurse practitioners. VTE prophylaxis orders were then reviewed based on the admitting service assessment and compliance with the VTE advisor recommendations.

RESULTS

There was a total of 104 patients, four of whom were excluded because of the presence of VTE on admission. Comparing admitting service to consult service evaluations, inappropriate assessment occurred in 13 patients ($p < 0.001$).

Six patients were under-assessed ($p = 0.029$)

- 2 medical
- 4 surgical

Seven patients were over-assessed ($p = 0.014$)

- 1 medical
- 6 surgical

Inappropriate prophylaxis and potential for harm based on admitting service assessment			Patient VTE risk based on admitting service assessments	
VTE risk assessment	Prophylaxis administered	Potential Harm	Risk category	Percentage
medical low	pharmacologic	bleeding	Medical low	7.7
medical low	mechanical	none	Medical high	92.3
surgical low	mechanical	none	Surgical low	6.3
surgical low	mechanical + pharmacologic	bleeding	Surgical moderate/high	52
surgical low	mechanical + pharmacologic	bleeding	Surgical high	41.7
surgical moderate/high	mechanical	VTE		
surgical moderate/high	mechanical + pharmacologic	none		
surgical very high	pharmacologic	VTE		

SUMMARY

Numerous strategies, including education programs, consultation services, electronic alerts and computerized clinical decision support tools, have been used to improve VTE risk assessment and prophylaxis. However, VTE risk stratification is not always performed correctly, and is dependent on the provider who uses it. Additionally, mandatory completion of a risk assessment tool does not translate to compliance with recommended prophylaxis. As such, strategies to increase the implementation of appropriate assessment and prophylaxis need to be re-examined.

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Stony Brook Medicine

Commenting on the purpose of Research Day, A. Laurie W. Shroyer, PhD, MSHA, professor of surgery and vice chair for research, who oversees the event, says: "Research Day shows the commitment of our department to advancing scientific knowledge in order to improve patient care and population health.

"Residents and fellows, as well as junior faculty, utilize their research projects to address important clinical questions that they face each day, fostering their curiosity and building their excitement and enthusiasm for current and future biomedical research."

Research Day lights the pathway for trainees to envision a future career in academics.

All categorical residents in our general surgery residency program are required to conduct at least one research project each year, and to present their studies at the Research Day program.

The Research Day program offers continuing medical education (CME) credit; this activity is designated for a maximum of 3.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

This year's Research Day program was another great success, as the event continues to grow, with more research presentations.

The morning forum showcased ongoing and completed research projects by way of oral platform presentations, as well as a poster competition by our residents, medical students, and faculty.

"Stony Brook Medicine is geared for making research happen," said Mark A. Talamini, MD, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine, in his opening remarks at the program.

"Our Research Day celebrates our discoveries. Not only that, it demonstrates that our team is always asking, how can we make surgery better?"

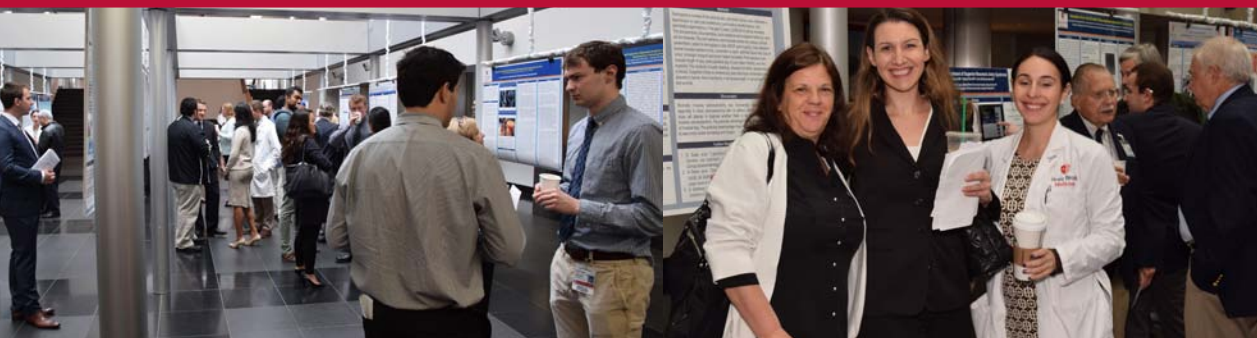
Research Day demonstrates that our team is always asking, how can we make surgery better?

The program included nearly 50 posters presenting study abstracts, plus five oral presentations moderated by faculty discussants, and it attracted more than a hundred attendees from Stony Brook Medicine and the University community.

The keynote speaker was Charles J. Yeo, MD, professor and chairman of surgery at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA. A national leader in the management of pancreatic cancer, he is co-director of the Pancreas, Biliary and Related Cancer Center at Jefferson University Hospital.

Dr. Yeo's talk, "The New Faces of Pancreatic Cancer Treatment," addressed the need for advances in research to increase the survival of patients with pancreatic cancer, which currently is one of the deadliest cancers.

Winner of poster competition, from Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.



2015 RESEARCH DAY POSTERS

Here are the titles/authors of the posters exhibited at this year's Research Day. Together, they demonstrate the range of research activity within our department, and the impressive productivity of our residents and students:

- Accuracy of VTE assessment and compliance with prophylaxis | Kim P, Gasparis AP, Tassiopoulos AK, Labropoulos N. **Winner of poster competition.** *Dr. Kim will receive the expenses to attend a scientific meeting where she can present her study.*
- Acute diverticulitis with abscess and/or retroperitoneal pericolic air: a randomized controlled Trial | You K, McConnolly T, Sullivan R, Bergamaschi R.
- Acute gallbladder volvulus: an unexpected intraoperative finding | Abbas S, Chantachote C, Gracia G.
- Alpha cell contributes to new beta cells after a nondiabetogenic injury to the pancreas | El-Gohary Y, Gittes G.
- Beyond the learning curve: bile duct injuries following laparoscopic cholecystectomy normalize to open in the modern era | Halbert C, Telem DA. **Semi-finalist in poster competition.**
- Burn rates negatively related to median household income: an analysis of burn registry data of Stony Brook University Hospital, NY, USA | Chiu J, Singer A, Sandoval S, Thode H.
- Comparing the psychological and cosmetic outcomes of nipple-sparing mastectomy with simple mastectomy | Kryeziu S, Huston TL, Rizk CR.
- Differences between sex in clinical presentation and outcomes after peripheral vascular intervention | Jasinski P, Tassiopoulos AK, Kokkosis AA.
- Do not snare sessile rectal polyps | Lee J, Connolly T, Ogunlowo D, Bergamaschi R.
- Does PET/CT accurately reassess stage IIIA (N2) non-small cell lung cancer? | Genchanok Y, Nemesure B, Moore W, Matthews R, Bilfinger TV. **Semi-finalist in poster competition.**
- Effect of minimally invasive surgery fellowship on residents' case log | Altieri M, Telem DA, Scriven RJ, Thornton D, Halbert C, Pryor AD.
- Emergency department DVT management: a 5-year analysis of admissions data | Svestka M, Telem DA, Tassiopoulos AK, Gasparis AP.
- Evaluation for rectal cancer before proceeding with a restorative proctocolectomy for ulcerative colitis | Abbas S, Connolly TM, Zitely E, Bergamaschi R.
- Examining coronary artery bypass grafting outcomes of multi-institutional cardiac surgeons: should the regionalization of CABG services be revisited? | Bilfinger TV, Shroyer AL, Taylor JR Jr, Gioia W, Bishawi M.
- The extent of lobular carcinoma in situ at surgical excision predicts for the development of subsequent breast cancer | Gooch J, King T. **Semi-finalist in poster competition.**
- Extralevator vs standard abdominoperineal resection for rectal adenocarcinoma | Hartendorp P, Giuratrabocchetta S, Vellavallil S, Bergamaschi R.
- Fabrication of an in vitro 3D model of tissue-engineered human skin for use as skin graft | Singh G, Klein G, Bui DT, Dagum AB.
- Facial artery musculomucosal flap for reconstruction of partial glossectomy defects | Aliano K, Korsh J, O'Brien K, Kilgo M, Addona T, Saltman B, Frank D, Davenport T.
- Intra-genetic diaphragmatic hernia in infants: potentially catastrophic when overlooked | El-Gohary Y, Schuster I, Scriven RJ, Coren CV, Kessler E.
- Identifying the prevalence of lower extremity deep vein thrombosis among high-risk inpatients at Stony Brook University Hospital | Nzeribe A, Labropoulos N.
- Lap band outcomes from 19, 221 patients across centers and over a decade within the state of New York | Altieri M, Yang J, Telem DA, Meng Z, Frenkel C, Halbert C, Talamini MA, Pryor AD.
- Laparoscopic right colectomy versus laparoscopic-assisted colonoscopic polypectomy for endoscopically unresectable right colon polyps: a randomized controlled trial | Connolly TM, Yang K, Lascarides C, Buscaglia J, Denoya PI, Nagula S, Bucobo JC, Rajapakse R, Richards R, Bergamaschi R.
- Laparoscopic treatment of superior mesenteric artery syndrome | Nasser AE, Chu G, Brathwaite CE.
- Large animal model of tissue ischemia associated with hand-assisted colorectal resection | Leonard M, You K, Connolly T, Sullivan R, Bergamaschi R.
- Long-term post-CABG survival: performance of clinical risk models versus actuarial predictions | Carr B, Romeiser J, Ruan J, Gupta S, Seifert FC, Zhu W, Shroyer AL.
- Management trends in ulcerative colitis in the biologic era | Codipilly D, Chamil MZ, Meng Z, Yang J, Telem DA, Denoya PI.
- Patient satisfaction scores: factors influencing patient perceptions of surgical management, care, and outcome | Kaymakcalan O, Klein G.
- Post-mastectomy seroma and infection: correlated to timing of drain removal? | Trostler M, Landford W, Klein G, Khan SU.
- Prevalence of ECA internalization in patients with ipsilateral ICA occlusion | Monastiriotes S, Arunachalam S, Labropoulos N.
- A prospective analysis of physical exam findings in the diagnosis of facial fractures | Timashpolsky A, Sayeed SM, Romeiser JL, Rosenfeld EA, Conkling N, Dagum AB.
- A prospective, cross-over analysis of the effect and duration of botulinum toxin type A using digital image speckle correlation versus standard approach in the management of glabellar rhytids | Verma R, Klein G, Rfailovich M, Xu Y, Bui DT, Dagum AB.
- Prospective long-term comparison of anticoagulation treatment versus thrombolysis in patients with acute iliofemoral thrombosis | Spentzouris G, Labropoulos N, Foege P, Gasparis AP, Tassiopoulos AK, Bækgaard N.
- Prospective trial of indocyanine green dye angiography in the surgical evaluation of partial thickness burn wounds | Klein G, Borrero M, Fourman M, Phillips B, Khan SU, Bui DT, Singer A, Sandoval S, Dagum AB.
- Quantitative cleft lip evaluations amongst different medical professionals utilizing a basal view | Dhawan A, Klein G, Peredo A, Kelly R, Gelfand MA, Khan SU, Bui DT, Dagum AB.
- A rare case of a giant mucinous cystadenoma in a premenarchal girl | Pagkratis S, Hsieh L, Liu S, Lee TK, Scriven RJ.
- Retrospective review of outcomes of complex abdominal wall hernia repairs | Peredo A, Klein G, Shih J, Khan SU.
- Review of pediatric laparoscopic cholecystectomies in NY state: surgeon differences in surgical outcomes | Hsieh L, Zabrocka K, Yang J, Xue Y, Telem DA, Lee TK.
- Review of readmissions following breast reconstruction during the first postoperative year at a single institution | Klein G, Lipoff D, Laskowski R, Timashpolsky A, Bui DT, Dagum AB, Khan SU.
- Risk analysis for post-operative complications after immediate tissue expander breast reconstruction | Klein G, Landford W, Yang JU, Shroyer AL, O'Hea BJ, Dagum AB, Bui DT, Khan SU.
- Robotic approaches may offer benefit in colorectal procedures, more controversial in other areas: a review of 168,248 cases | Altieri M, Yang J, Telem DA, Zhu J, Halbert C, Talamini MA, Pryor AD.
- Role of ALT flaps in foot reconstruction | Gulamhusein T, Gelfand MA, Bui DT.
- Skate flap technique utilizing the native nipple-areola complex for improving long-term nipple projection after nipple-sparing mastectomy | Gooch J, Huston TL.
- A statewide analysis of the quality, complaint, and demographics of readmissions following breast reconstructive surgery, ventral hernia repair, and ventral hernia repair with panniculectomy | Laskowski RA, Klein GM, Lipoff DM, Khan SU.
- Validity of current VTE risk assessment models for overweight and obese surgical patients | Frenkel C, Detoy K.
- Venous thromboembolism in plastic surgery | Peredo AL, Khan SU, Labropoulos N.
- Vertically-drained, closed-incision, negative-pressure wound therapy following high-risk sternotomies | Niles KP, Subrize M, Lima F, Kikhia R, Leiboff AR, Fernandez HA.
- Visual spatial intelligence is not predictive of medical student residency selection | Villamor AN, Pryor AD. **Semi-finalist in poster competition.**
- What changes are associated with successful bariatric surgery? An evaluation of dopaminergic activity post-laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy | Sullivan B, Chachati G, Altieri M, Kunkel L, Parsey R, Telem DA, Pryor AD.

Next year's Research Day will take place on Thursday, June 2, 2016, at the Wang Center. For more information, please call (631) 444-7875.

PHOTOS: GERALD BUSHART



RESIDENCY UPDATE

Since 1975 when our first graduating residents entered the profession of surgery, 224 physicians have completed their residency training in general surgery at Stony Brook. The alumni of this residency program and our other residency (fellowship) programs now practice surgery throughout the United States, as well as in numerous other countries around the world—and we’re proud of their diverse achievements and contributions to healthcare.

2015 Graduating Residents & Fellows

GENERAL SURGERY

Career Direction

Jason Chiu, MD Hyperbaric medicine fellowship, U of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
 Leonard Copertino, MD Surgical faculty position, VA Medical Center, Northport, NY
 Makkalon Em, MD Private practice in general surgery, Caribou, ME
 Pamela Kim, MD Phlebology fellowship, Center for Vein Care, Stony Brook U
 Georgios Spentzouris, MD Vascular surgery fellowship, Stony Brook U

VASCULAR SURGERY

Carl Gonzales, MD Private practice in vascular surgery, Conyers, GA
 Brian Kelly, MD Private practice in vascular surgery, Stamford, CT

COLORECTAL SURGERY

Cristan Anderson, MD..... Private practice in colorectal surgery, Rockport, ME

MIS/BARIATRIC SURGERY

Caitlin Halbert, DO..... Attending surgeon, Christiana Care Health System, Newark, DE

TRAUMA/CRITICAL CARE

Jerry Rubano, MD Assistant professorship in surgery (Trauma, Emergency Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care Division), Stony Brook U

NOTE: Richard J. Scriven, MD, associate professor of surgery and director of the general surgery residency, comments on the results of the 2015 Residency Match Day: “We were successful in recruiting a FANTASTIC group of incoming categorical surgical residents.

“These results are a ‘team win.’ I have already spoken to each of our new family members, and they said they chose us for many reasons, but among the most important was the positive changes and sense of excitement that they felt on their visit.

“Also, perhaps most mentioned, was the camaraderie and collegiality they felt among the residents, staff, and faculty.”

New Chief Residents

GENERAL SURGERY

Medical School (Grad Year)

Syed Abbas, MD St. George U ('10)
 Patrick Hartendorp, MD Jefferson U ('11)
 Lily Hsieh, MD U of Pittsburgh ('11)
 Ahmed Nasser, MD Tufts U ('09)
 Spyridon Pagkratis, MD U of Athens ('06)
 Andrew Peredo, MD St. George's U ('11)

VASCULAR SURGERY

Medical School (Grad Year)

Justin Margolis, MD Stony Brook U ('11)

Incoming Residents/Categorical PGY-1

GENERAL SURGERY

Medical School (Grad Year)

Ewen Chao, MD Albany Medical College ('15)
 Salvatore Crusco, MD U of Central Florida ('15)
 Joseph Ferrara, MD Drexel U ('15)
 Jocellie Marquez, MD Stony Brook U ('15)
 Anish Shah, MD Icahn at Mt. Sinai ('15)
 Jessica Simon, MD U of Vermont ('15)

VASCULAR SURGERY

Medical School (Grad Year)

Edvard Skripochnik, MD Albert Einstein ('15)



Our 2015 graduates, (left to right) Drs. Jason Chiu, Brian Kelly, Pamela Kim, Carl Gonzales, Cristan Anderson, Jerry Rubano, Makkalon Em, Caitlin Halbert, Georgios Spentzouris, and Leonard Copertino at the graduation banquet held in June at Willow Creek in Mt. Sinai, NY.

PHOTO: WALDIR SILVA



Dr. Maria Altieri (third from left) received the 2015 Esther Rentas Resident Research Award, pictured here with (left to right) Drs. Mark Melendez (SBM Surgery Class of '10), Aurora Pryor, and Laurie Shroyer. Established in 2010 by Dr. Melendez in memory of his grandmother, this award helps residents in pursuing basic and clinical surgical research. When a resident at Stony Brook, Dr. Melendez was a prolific researcher himself.



Dr. Andrew Peredo (second from left) received the 2015 David J. Kreis Jr. Award for Excellence in Clinical Service in Trauma Surgery, pictured here with members of the trauma team: (left to right) Drs. James Vosswinkel, Jerry Rubano, and Marc Shapiro. Established in 2000, this annual award is presented to a senior (fourth-year) surgical resident by the Trauma, Emergency Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care Division in honor of the late Dr. Kreis, who was the founding chief of our trauma/surgical critical care service, and who served with distinction on our faculty until his untimely death.



(left to right) Drs. Spyridon Pagkratis, Gabriel Klein, and William Gioia.

Residents Win Regional Surgical Jeopardy Championship

Earning Yearlong Bragging Rights For General Surgery Residents

Our resident Jeopardy team—William Gioia, DO (PGY-4), Gabriel Klein (PGY-3), and Spyridon Pagkratis, MD (PGY-5)—won first place in the annual Resident Jeopardy Competition sponsored by the Brooklyn and Long Island Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

The competition took place in December in New York, NY. Each Jeopardy team consisted of three residents at different levels of training. First-place winners each earned \$100, but most of all, yearlong bragging rights for general surgery residents.

The college has held Surgical Jeopardy at its annual Clinical Congress for over a decade. The game tests general and specialty surgery knowledge of residents around the country, and has been a great success.

Our residents and faculty faced off in our first annual Jeopardy game here at Stony Brook in 2008, with questions on “All the World’s a Stage” (tumor staging), “Tons of Fun” (bariatric surgery), and “Odds and Ends” (colorectal surgery), among other categories.

Surgical Jeopardy is modeled in format after the popular TV show and in content by a game created by the American College of Surgeons to test and increase surgeons’ knowledge.

Iordache F, Bucobo J, Devlin D, You K, Bergamaschi R. Simulated training in colonoscopic stenting of colonic strictures: validation of a cadaver model. *Colorectal Dis* 2015;17:627-34.

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Recent Publications

Continued from Page 3

Copertino LM, McCormack JE, Rutigliano DN, Huang EC, Shapiro MJ, Vosswinkel JA, Jawa RS. Early unplanned hospital readmission after acute traumatic injury: the experience at a state-designated level-I trauma center. *Am J Surg* 2015;209:268-73.

Dagum AB. Fingertip amputations: supermicrosurgery and replantation. In: Rozmarzyn LM, editor. *Fingertip Injuries: Diagnosis, Management and Reconstruction*. New York: Springer, 2015: 83-96.

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Fourman MS, Gersch RP, Levites HA, Phillips BT, Bui DT. Is there a right way to interpret SPY?

Normalization of indocyanine green angiography readings in a burn model. *Plast Reconstr Surg* 2015;136:128e-30e.

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Francis N, Fingerhut A, Bergamaschi R, Motson R, editors. *Training in Minimal Access Surgery*. London: Springer-Verlag, 2015.

Gavalas M, Meisner R, Labropoulos N, Gasparis A, Tassiopoulos A. Renal infarction complicating fibromuscular dysplasia. *Vasc Endovascular Surg* 2014;48:445-51.

Huston TL, Small K, Swistel AJ, Dent BL, Talmor M. Nipple-sparing mastectomy via an inframammary fold incision for patients with scarring from prior lumpectomy. *Ann Plast Surg* 2015;74:652-7.

ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Tom R. Karl ('81) is now practicing as a pediatric cardiac surgeon at the Johns Hopkins All Children's Heart Institute in St. Petersburg, FL. He started there in December 2014. Prior to this position, he was at the University of Queensland, Australia, where he served as professor of surgery and consultant cardiothoracic surgeon and director of research. His areas of expertise include all aspects of pediatric and congenital cardiothoracic surgery and intensive care. He also serves as an associate editor and editorial board member for *Cardiology in the Young*, the leading medical journal in the world dedicated to the care of patients with pediatric and congenital heart disease. He is one of the six surgeons in the Johns Hopkins Children's Heart Surgery program, a collaboration that includes All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, and Florida Hospital in Orlando. It is one of the largest in the country, with surgeons performing more than 1,000 pediatric and congenital cardiothoracic operations per year. Recent publications include:

- Jacobs JP, Quintessenza JA, **Karl TR**, et al. Summary of the 2015 International Paediatric Heart Failure Summit of Johns Hopkins All Children's Heart Institute. *Cardiol Young* 2015;25 Suppl 2:8-30.
- Jacobs JP, Wernovsky G, Cooper DS, **Karl TR**. Principles of shared decision-making within teams. *Cardiol Young* 2015;18:1-6.
- Mattke AC, Stocker CF, Schibler A, Alphonso N, Johnson K, **Karl TR**. A newly established extracorporeal life support assisted cardiopulmonary resuscitation (ECPR) program can achieve intact neurological outcome in 60% of children. *Intensive Care Med* 2015;41:2227-8.

- Karl TR**, Quintessenza J, Jacobs J. Anatomic repair for congenitally corrected transposition: the promise and the reality. *Eur J Cardiothorac Surg* 2015 Apr 15. Epub ahead of print.
- Strange G, Brizard C, **Karl TR**, Neethling L. An evaluation of Admedus' tissue engineering process-treated (ADAPT) bovine pericardium patch (CardioCel) for the repair of cardiac and vascular defects. *Expert Rev Med Devices* 2015;12:135-41.

In addition, Dr. Karl is a musician who plays alto sax, guitar, bass, and keyboards with the Baby Blue Sound Collective, a diverse group of musical healthcare professionals who care for children and young adults with congenital heart disease.

Dr. Charles R. Dinerstein ('82) has founded Surgical Analytics, a consulting firm that specializes in the innovative use of clinical information and hospital collaboration to advance surgical practices (www.surgicalanalytics.com). Previously, he was practicing vascular surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital in Lebanon, PA, and served as medical director of vascular surgery. Prior to joining the Good Samaritan Hospital, he was chairman of surgery at CentraState Medical Center in Freehold, NJ, and a champion of the National Surgical Quality Improvement Project.

Dr. Patricia R. Kennedy ('92) has been on the surgical faculty at the Indiana School of Medicine since 2005. She is the medical director of breast care at Indiana University Health North Hospital. Her clinical practice is focused on breast disease. She served as medical director of the Faulkner Breast Center of

the Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital, in Jamaica Plain, MA, prior to going to Indiana University where she developed the multidisciplinary breast center at Indiana University Health North Hospital. She is a surveyor for the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers, visiting breast programs across the United States to ensure that women are offered the highest standards of care for breast disease. She also volunteers for Casting for Recovery, a wellness program for breast cancer patients and survivors that incorporates education and support with the art of fly fishing.

Dr. John J. Doski ('93) is a pediatric surgeon practicing in San Antonio, TX. He currently serves as the chief of surgery at Santa Rosa Children's Hospital. (He has served as chair of surgery and chief of staff at Children's Hospital of San Antonio.) He also serves as cancer liaison physician for Southwest Texas Methodist Hospital with the American College of Surgeons, and is on the surgery executive committee of the Children's Oncology Group, a clinical trials group supported by the National Cancer Institute. Recent publications include:

- Hale DF, Fitzpatrick CM, **Doski JJ**, Stewart RM, Mueller DL. Absence of clinical findings reliably excludes unstable cervical spine injuries in children 5 years or younger. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2015;78:943-8.
- Isakoff MS, Goldsby R, Villaluna D, Krailo MD, Gorlick R, **Doski JJ**, Womer RB, Janeway KA. Rapid protocol enrollment in osteosarcoma: a report from the Children's Oncology Group. *Pediatr Blood Cancer* 2015 Sep 16. Epub ahead of print.

- Nice T, Pasara S, Goldfarb M, **Doski J**, Goldin A, Gow KW, Nuchtern JG, Vasudevan SA, Langer M, Beierle EA. Pediatric papillary thyroid cancer >1 cm: is total thyroidectomy necessary? *J Pediatr Surg* 2015;50:1009-13.
- Piccinini PS, **Doski J**. Herlyn-Werner-Wunderlich syndrome: a case report. *Rev Bras Ginecol Obstet* 2015;37:192-6.
- Poles GC, Clark DE, Mayo SW, Beierle EA, Goldfarb M, Gow KW, Goldin A, **Doski JJ**, Nuchtern JG, Vasudevan SA, Langer M. Colorectal carcinoma in pediatric patients: a comparison with adult tumors, treatment and outcomes from the National Cancer Database. *J Pediatr Surg* 2015 Dec 1. Epub ahead of print.
- Rojas Y, Shi YX, Zhang W, Beierle EA, **Doski JJ**, Goldfarb M, Goldin AB, Gow KW, Langer M, Vasudevan SA, Nuchtern JG. Primary malignant pulmonary tumors in children: a review of the national cancer data base. *J Pediatr Surg* 2015;50:1004-8.

Dr. Celso Dias ('08) in November completed his first year of practice as a vascular surgeon in Springfield, MA. He operates at Mercy Medical Center there. Previously, he was practicing in Presque Isle, ME, where for three years he was chair of the surgery department at The Aroostook Medical Center (TAMC), the leading provider of healthcare services in Northern Maine.

Dr. Emily Wood ('13) in June completed her two-year fellowship training in vascular and endovascular surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She has joined the surgical faculty at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in Oklahoma City, where her position as assistant professor is in the Department of Surgery's Section of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

{ ALUMNI NEWS } { SUBMISSIONS }

To submit alumni news online, please visit the Department of Surgery website at www.medicine.stonybrookmedicine.edu/surgery/about/news/alumni

DIVISION BRIEFS

Bariatric, Foregut, and Advanced Gastrointestinal Surgery

Dr. Aurora D. Pryor, professor of surgery and chief of bariatric, foregut, and advanced gastrointestinal surgery, in April was **elected treasurer of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES)**. This is a three-year leadership position on the SAGES Board of Governors.

Dr. Pryor served as **program chair of the 2015 SAGES annual meeting** held in April in Nashville, TN. It furthered the long-standing tradition of SAGES in providing strong didactic sessions by world-renowned experts, combined with exploration of innovative technology in the broad spectrum of gastrointestinal surgery.

Dr. Pryor in June performed the **first LINX procedure for gastroesophageal reflux disease** at Stony Brook Medicine (see page 7).

Dr. Mark A. Talamini, professor and chairman of surgery, and chief of surgical services at Stony Brook Medicine, in May served as **chair of the FDA's Gastroenterology and Urology Devices Panel** of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee.

Over the course of two days, the panel focused on recent reports about the transmission of infections associated with use and reprocessing of duodenoscopes in endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) procedures in U.S. hospitals.

Dr. Dana A. Telem, assistant professor of surgery, is the recipient of the **2016 SAGES Young Researcher Award**. The criteria for this award include significant research, publication, or presentation at national meetings, and dedication to an academic career. She will be honored in March at the SAGES annual meeting.

Breast and Oncologic Surgery

Dr. Brian J. O'Hea, associate professor of surgery and chief of breast and oncologic surgery, in October hosted Stony Brook Medicine's community education program, **"Breast Cancer Overview and Update."** Stony Brook physicians discussed the latest imaging techniques, prevention strategies, and treatment options for breast cancer.

Dr. O'Hea in August provided his expert opinion on a news-making scientific study that concluded treatment of very early breast cancer—Stage 0, as it is commonly known—may make no difference. It raised a lot of questions and caused much concern.

On our blog Dr. O'Hea clarified how a woman's needs can supersede the science and justify surgery: **"It's the woman who is diagnosed with breast cancer, not the medical community, that should be happy with the [treatment] decision."**

Cardiothoracic Surgery

Dr. Thomas V. Bilfinger, professor of surgery and director of thoracic surgery, was again selected for inclusion in ***New York Magazine's Best Doctors*** issue published in June. The 1,282 peer-selected physicians on the 2015 list represent the top 2% of physicians in the greater New York metropolitan area.

Dr. Bilfinger continues to give presentations at national and international meetings. Among his recent presentations are:

- Prognostic factors and outcome after SBRT for stage I non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) using different fractionation regimens from 2007 to 2013. American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology Annual Meeting; San Antonio TX, October 2015 [authors: Yoon H, Kim S, Yang J, Chen H, Hu I, Kim B-S, **Bilfinger TV**, Matthews R, Franceschi D, Moore W, Stessin A, Ryu S].
- Survival of stage IIa non-small cell lung cancer patients treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by surgery versus definitive chemoradiation. American Thoracic Society Annual Meeting; Denver, CO, May 2015 [authors: Genchanok Y, Nemesure B, Keresztes R, **Bilfinger TV**].
- Accuracy of contemporary PET/CT scans in assessing stage IIIa (N2) non-small cell lung cancer. American Thoracic Society Annual Meeting; Denver, CO, May 2015 [authors: Genchanok Y, Nemesure B, Moore W, Matthews R, **Bilfinger TV**].

Dr. Bilfinger has been appointed **acting chief of cardiothoracic surgery**, and will serve in this capacity until the recruitment of the permanent chief is completed.

Dr. Allison J. McLarty, associate professor of surgery and associate director of the general surgery residency program, in February was the **keynote speaker** at Stony Brook University's Black History Month closing ceremony, addressing an audience of mostly students.

Dr. McLarty said: "There is a lot of power in our choices. I think a lot more than you realize.

"I encourage students to think hard about the lives they want to lead. I tell them surgery is satisfying, but very consuming. If you can't think of anything that will make you happy other than surgery, then do it.

"The thing that helps you when you are doing something challenging is that you're really passionate about it."

Dr. McLarty told the audience that being a doctor was her dream ever since she was a little girl.

Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Roberto Bergamaschi, professor of surgery and chief of colon and rectal surgery, in August published another textbook in an area in which he has demonstrated himself to be a world leader; namely, **minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery**. The 214-page book, titled *Training in Minimal Access Surgery*, was published by Springer-Verlag.

Dr. Bergamaschi, with co-editors Drs. Nader Francis, Abe Fingerhut, and Roger Motson, has assembled a comprehensive book that serves as an essential training tool for all those involved with training and education in minimally invasive surgery.

There is well-established and robust evidence to support the benefits of laparoscopic surgery in terms of better pain control, fewer complications, and shorter length of stay with an earlier return to work. Hence, there is now widespread adoption of laparoscopic techniques in many surgical specialties including colorectal and morbid obesity surgery around the world.

Dr. Marvin L. Corman, professor of surgery, in June received the 2015 **Outstanding Faculty Teaching Scholar Award** from the department, presented at our Research Day program.

Dr. Paula I. Denoya, assistant professor of surgery, and her colleagues continue to advance use of **robotic minimally**

invasive surgery for treatment of colon and rectal cancer, diverticulitis, and inflammatory bowel disease.

Dr. Arnold R. Leiboff, assistant professor of surgery, has again been selected as a “**Top Doctor**” for inclusion in *Castle Connolly’s Top Doctors: New York Metro Area*, published in February. He has been selected for the past 15 consecutive years. This selection is based on screening by a physician-directed research team that identifies the top 10% of physicians in the tri-state metropolitan New York area.

Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Dr. Elliot Regenbogen, assistant professor of surgery, in August was awarded funding from the Department of Surgery’s Small Grants Program for his research project titled “**Characterizing Epidemiological Trends Including Factors Related to Readmission among Preterm Infants with Apnea of Prematurity.**”

This study will test the hypothesis that, based on pilot study findings, preterm infants with apnea of prematurity (AOP) and gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) will have a longer hospital length of stay when compared to similar gestation age cohorts, but have a lower readmission rate than those with AOP alone.

The study’s overall goal is to improve the quality of care for this very vulnerable, high-risk, pediatric patient sub-population. Medical student Shouling Zhang is co-investigator, and **Dr. A. Laurie W. Shroyer**, professor of surgery and vice chair for research, senior faculty mentor.

To determine the statewide and local trends, the researchers will use the New York State Department of Health’s Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System data set.

Dr. Regenbogen in April presented these studies at national meetings (co-authors include faculty in the Department of Surgery):

- Epidemiological trends and risk factors of preterm infants with apnea of prematurity—is reflux relevant? American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology/Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meeting, Boston, MA, April 2015 [authors: Zhang S, **Regenbogen E**, Shroyer A, Yang J, Xue Y, Telem D, DeCristofaro JJ].
- Monitoring hypopharyngeal pH in patients undergoing general endotracheal tube anesthesia: a pilot study. American Broncho-Esophagological Association/Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meeting, Boston, MA, April 2015 [authors: **Regenbogen E**, Oleszak SP, Corrado T, Shroyer A, Vanner EA, Goldstein J, Pearl ML].

Pediatric Surgery

Dr. Richard J. Scriven, associate professor of surgery and director of the general surgery residency, in November received media coverage for his remarkable surgery performed on a newborn to correct colonic atresia; only 1 in 80,000 to 100,000 babies are born with the condition. *Newsday* called the child the “**Stony Brook miracle baby.**”

Dr. Scriven in September took part in the four-day **medical mission in Ecuador** sponsored by Blanca’s House. A veteran of missions there, he performed numerous hernia repairs and gallbladder removals.

In May, Dr. Scriven was honored for his “**many years of dedicated service to the Committee on Admissions**” by the School of Medicine.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Dr. Alexander B. Dagum, professor of surgery and orthopaedics, executive vice chair of surgery, and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery, was again selected for inclusion in *New York Magazine’s Best Doctors* issue published in June. The 1,282 peer-selected physicians on the 2015 list represent the top 2% of physicians in the greater New York metropolitan area.

Dr. Dagum in April served as co-director of the 17th Annual Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Center Symposium held at Stony Brook Medicine.

The purpose of the symposium was to educate community physicians and dentists about the importance and different aspects of the **multidisciplinary team approach to the care of patients with cleft palate-craniofacial disorders**. It provides the information needed to facilitate the necessary coordination with each other to give their patients the best possible care.

Long committed to surgical volunteerism, Dr. Dagum in May traveled on an EMAS mission to Yunnan, China, to perform repairs of cleft lips/palates, burn scars, and congenital anomalies—all mostly in children.

Dr. Dagum in September took part in the four-day **medical mission in Ecuador** sponsored by Blanca’s House. He performed numerous repairs of cleft lips/palates, burn scars, and congenital anomalies, as he has done on previous missions there.

Dr. Tara L. Huston, assistant professor of surgery and dermatology, in June was

elected to a second term as an officer on the Stony Brook University Hospital Medical Board. Her two-year term started on July 1.

Dr. Huston in July was featured in the article “**Protect against Uptick in Scalp Skin Cancer Cases**” published in the *Times of Huntington-Northport* to warn the community.

Surgical Oncology

Dr. Joseph Kim, associate professor of surgery, in November served on a **study section of the National Institutes of Health** to review grant applications related to diagnosis and treatment of cancer. This includes biomarkers as prognosticators of cancer, bioimmunotherapies of cancer, and novel approaches to treating cancer.

Surgical Research

Dr. Giuseppe Caso, research assistant professor of surgery, and **Dr. Margaret A. McNurlan**, professor of surgery, are co-authors of the following study presented at the Experimental Biology 2015 Meeting, held in Boston, MA, in the spring: “**Effect of Coenzyme Q10 Supplementation in Patients with Statin-Related Myalgia**” (authors: Mazirka P, Jones E, Strachan P, McNurlan MA, Lawson W, Caso G).

Dr. A. Laurie W. Shroyer, professor of surgery and vice chair for research, continues to give lectures and presentations throughout the country. Among recent ones are:

- Designing a randomized controlled trial. Brigham and Women’s Hospital/Harvard Department of Surgery, Clinical Trials Mini-Course; Boston, MA, May 2015.
- Overview of the CSP#517-FS study status and update. Annual VA Research Meeting; Denver, CO, April 2015.

- On-pump vs. off-pump coronary-artery bypass surgery: the VA ROOBY trial experience. Association of Physician Assistants in Cardiovascular Surgery Annual Meeting; Las Vegas, NV, March 2015.

Dr. Shroyer's 2009 article about the ROOBY trial, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, is the **#82 most cited article in the field of adult cardiac surgery**, according to a bibliometric analysis published this spring in the *Irish Journal of Medical Science*. At the time of the study, there was a total of 296 articles.

Trauma, Emergency Surgery, and Surgical Critical Care

Dr. James A. Vosswinkel, assistant professor of surgery and chief of trauma, emergency surgery, and surgical critical care, in March was **featured in media coverage of the Trauma Center's work saving the life of hero cop** Mark Collins, who was critically wounded while pursuing a suspect in Huntington Station, and who just four days later was discharged from University Hospital.

Dr. Vosswinkel was subsequently honored by Suffolk County Executive Steven Bellone on the occasion of the State of the County Address.

Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

Dr. Angela A. Kokkosis, assistant professor of surgery, in August was awarded funding from the Department of Surgery's Small Grants Program for her research project titled "**Peripheral Arterial Disease in Women.**"

This study will test the hypothesis that earlier recognition of peripheral arterial disease (PAD) in

women will result in better long-term outcomes. **Dr. Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos**, professor of surgery and chief of vascular and endovascular surgery, is co-investigator as well as senior faculty mentor.

The study's overall goal is to provide the means for better recognition of early PAD to improve clinical outcomes including survival, decreased need for amputation, improved functional status, and reduced interventions.

Dr. Kokkosis in June gave the following presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS), held in Chicago, IL: "**Update from Recent O+5 Graduate—Was I Prepared for Practice?**"

Also in June, Dr. Kokkosis was awarded an **SVS Women's Leadership Training Grant**. The purpose of the grant program is to help develop strong women leaders in vascular surgery who will exhibit the outstanding accomplishments and exceptional personal qualities of those vascular surgeons recognized by the SVS for their lifetime achievements.

Dr. Shang A. Loh, assistant professor of surgery, in June received the **Fabio Giron Teaching Award**, which was presented to him at the graduation ceremony for residents and fellows.

Dr. Apostolos K. Tassiopoulos, professor of surgery and chief of vascular and endovascular surgery, was again selected for inclusion in *New York Magazine's Best Doctors* issue published in June. The 1,282 peer-selected physicians on the 2015 list represent the top 2% of physicians in the

greater New York metropolitan area.

The **Sixth Annual Venous Symposium**—directed by **Dr. Antonios P. Gasparis**, professor of surgery, and **Dr. Nicos Labropoulos**, professor of surgery—was held in April in New York, NY, and was a great success with 400-plus health professionals in attendance.

The Venous Symposium has established itself as one of the premier international vein meetings, and provides all specialists a complete program on the current knowledge and management of venous disease. Participation provides a maximum of 22.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

Next year's symposium will take place on April 14-16, 2016, in New York. For more information, please visit the symposium's website: www.venous-symposium.com.

Recent Publications

Continued from Page 13

- Kokkosis AA, Labropoulos N, Gasparis AP.** Investigation of venous ulcers. *Semin Vasc Surg* 2015;28:15-20.
- Leiboff AR.** Vertically drained closed incision NPWT. A novel method for managing surgical incisions: a case series. *J Wound Care* 2014;23:623-9.
- Li Y, Kuscus C, Banach A, Zhang Q, Pulkoski-Gross A, Kim D, Liu J, Roth E, Li E, Shroyer KR, **Denoya PI**, Zhu X, Chen L, Cao J. miR-181a-5p inhibits cancer cell migration and angiogenesis via downregulation of matrix metalloproteinase-14. *Cancer Res* 2015;75:2674-85.
- LoGiurato B, Matthews R, Safaie E, Moore W, **Bilfinger T**, Relan N, Franceschi D. 18F-FDG PET-CT: predicting recurrence in patients following percutaneous cryoablation treatment for stage I primary non-small-cell lung cancer. *Nucl Med Commun* 2015;36:908-13.
- Lopez NE, Peterson CY, Ramamoorthy SL, McLemore EC, Sedrak MF, Lowy AM, Horgan S, **Talamini MA**, Sicklick JK. Single-incision laparoscopic surgery through an ostomy site: a natural approach by an unnatural orifice. *Surg Laparosc Endosc Percutan Tech* 2015;25:74-8.
- Loyal J, **Bergamaschi R.** Staying on target. *Tech Coloproctol* 2015;19:189.

Continued on Page 18

CME CME CME

CME credit through the School of Medicine

Surgical Grand Rounds

Our Surgical Grand Rounds program offers CME credit through the School of Medicine of Stony Brook University. This activity is designated for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.

The weekly Surgical Grand Rounds lectures are generally held on Wednesday morning, from 7:00 to 8:00 am, in the Health Sciences Center (level 2, lecture hall 1).

Topics cover the full range of current surgical concerns, focusing on clinical issues of interest to practicing physicians and surgeons. Featured speakers include distinguished visiting professors from the nation's top universities and medical centers.

For more information, please call (631) 444-1611.

Vascular Surgery Conference

The Vascular Surgery Conference of the Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Division offers CME credit through the School of Medicine of Stony Brook University. This activity is designated for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

The weekly conferences are generally held on Wednesday morning, from 8:00 to 10:00 am, in the Health Sciences Center in the surgery department classroom (level 19, room 025).

Topics cover the full range of concerns related to the diagnosis and management of vascular disease, with case presentations. Presentations are made by surgical residents, as well as the director of the non-invasive vascular lab and attending physicians.

For more information, please call (631) 444-2037/-2683.

Trauma/Critical Care

Conference: For information about this education event, please call (631) 444-9030.

Our Department Administrator Earns Top Healthcare Management Credential

The Leadership of Our Department Is Highly Qualified to Achieve Excellence



PHOTO: JEANNE NEVILLE

John M. Hutter

Our department administrator, John M. Hutter, MBA, MS, FACHE, CMPE, in May became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

"Because healthcare management ultimately affects the people in our communities, it is critically important to have a standard of excellence promoted by a professional organization," says Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, president and chief executive officer of ACHE.

"By becoming an ACHE Fellow and simultaneously earning board certification from ACHE, healthcare leaders can show that they are committed to providing high-quality service to their patients and community."

Fellow status represents achievement of the highest standard of professional development. In fact, only 7,500 healthcare executives hold this distinction.

To obtain Fellow status, candidates must fulfill multiple requirements, including passing a comprehensive examination, meeting academic and experiential criteria, earning continuing education credits, and demonstrating professional/

community involvement. Fellows are also committed to ongoing professional development and undergo recertification every three years.

Our department administrator holds the distinction of being board certified in healthcare management.

Mr. Hutter joined the Department of Surgery's leadership team in April 2014 as the department administrator and also the business manager of Stony Brook Surgical Associates. He had previously been our interim administrator for more than three years, and knows well how to help us succeed.

Mr. Hutter has been a healthcare executive at Stony Brook Medicine since 2008, when he joined the Department of Pathology as its senior administrative director. In that position, among other accomplishments, he created a financial plan that is a model of success.

Prior to Stony Brook, Mr. Hutter was director of ambulatory care (2005-06), then director of operations (2006-08) at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, NY. He had held other leadership and administrative positions at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where he started his career in healthcare in 2002.

A native Longer Islander, Mr. Hutter received his MBA in finance and MS in healthcare management from St. Joseph's College in 2006. He subsequently earned board certification as a certified medical practice executive (CMPE) from the Medical Group Management Association, the nation's leading association for medical practice executives and leaders.

Recent Publications

Continued from Page 17

- Loyal J, Connolly T, **Bergamaschi R**. Sigmoid diverticulitis with brain abscess. *Colorectal Dis* 2015;17:173-4.
- Luyimbazi D, Nelson RA, Choi AH, Li L, Chao J, Sun V, Hamner JB, **Kim J**. Estimates of conditional survival in gastric cancer reveal a reduction of racial disparities with long-term follow-up. *J Gastrointest Surg* 2015;19:251-7.
- Malgor RD, **Bilfinger TV**, McCormack J, **Tassiopoulos AK**. Outcomes of blunt thoracic aortic injury in adolescents. *Ann Vasc Surg* 2015;29:502-10.
- Malgor RD, **Bilfinger TV**, McCormack J, **Tassiopoulos AK**. The impact of blunt thoracic aortic injury on patients aged 80 years or older. *Acta Chir Belg* 2015;115:208-11.
- Mazirka P, Jones E, Strachan P, **McNurlan MA**, Lawson W, **Caso G**. Effect of coenzyme Q10 supplementation in patients with statin-related myalgia. *FASEB J* 2015;29:LB334.
- McLarty AJ**, Bishawi M, Yelika SB, **Shroyer AL**, Romeiser J. Surveillance of moderate-size aneurysms of the thoracic aorta. *J Cardiothorac Surg* 2015;10:17.
- Moore W, Talati R, Bhattacharji P, **Bilfinger T**. Five-year survival after cryoablation of stage I non-small cell lung cancer in medically inoperable patients. *J Vasc Interv Radiol* 2015;26:312-9.
- Regenbogen E**, Trochesset DA. Oral cavity disorders in geriatric patients. In: Sataloff RT, Johns MM III, Kost KM, editors. *Geriatric Otolaryngology*. New York: Thieme, 2015: 200-17.
- Rubano JA**, **Paccione MF**, **Rutigliano DN**, **Vosswinkel JA**, McCormack JE, Huang EC, Yang J, **Shapiro MJ**, **Jawa RS**. Outcomes following prolonged mechanical ventilation: analysis of a countywide trauma registry. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg* 2015;78:289-94.
- Schoellhammer HF, Goldner BS, **Kim J**, Singh G. Beyond the Whipple operation: radical resections for cancers of the head of the pancreas. *Indian J Surg Oncol* 2015;6:41-6.
- Shroyer AL**, Carr BM, Grover FL. Application of Donabedian's framework to improve the quality of clinical care. In: Sobolev B, editor. *Health Services Research*. New York: Springer, 2015.
- Shukla SK, Gunda V, Abrego J, Haridas D, Mishra A, Souček J, Chaika NV, Yu F, **Sasson AR**, Lazenby AJ, Batra SK, Singh PK. MUC16-mediated activation of mTOR and c-Myc reprograms pancreatic cancer metabolism. *Oncotarget* 2015;6:19118-31.
- Spentzouris G, **Gasparis A**, **Scriven RJ**, Lee TK, **Labropoulos N**. Natural history of deep vein thrombosis in children. *Phlebology* 2015;30:412-7.
- Sufian S, Arnez A, **Labropoulos N**, Lakhnpal S. Endovenous heat-induced thrombosis after ablation with 1470 nm laser: incidence, progression, and risk factors. *Phlebology* 2015;30:325-30.
- Szold A, **Bergamaschi R**, Broeders I, et al. European association of endoscopic surgeons (EAES) consensus statement on the use of robotics in general surgery. *Surg Endosc* 2015;29:253-88.
- Telem DA**, **Talamini M**, Altieri M, Yang J, Zhang Q, **Pryor AD**. The effect of national hospital accreditation in bariatric surgery on perioperative outcomes and long-term mortality. *Surg Obes Relat Dis* 2015;11:749-57.
- Telem DA**, **Talamini M**, Gesten F, Patterson W, Peoples B, **Gracia G**, Yang J, Zhang Q, Altieri M, **Pryor AD**. Hospital admissions greater than 30 days following bariatric surgery: patient and procedure matter. *Surg Endosc* 2015;29:1310-5.
- Telem DA**, **Talamini M**, **Shroyer AL**, Yang J, Altieri M, Zhang Q, **Gracia G**, **Pryor AD**. Long-term mortality rates (>8-year) improve as compared to the general and obese population following bariatric surgery. *Surg Endosc* 2015;29:529-36.
- Tou S, **Bergamaschi R**, Heald RJ, Parvaiz A. Structured training in robotic colorectal surgery. *Colorectal Dis* 2015;17:185.
- Tou S, Pavesi E, Nasser A, Mazirka P, **Bergamaschi R**. Robotic-assisted stricturoplasty for Crohn's disease. *Tech Coloproctol* 2015;19:253-4.
- Yang K, Connolly TM, **Bergamaschi R**. Tying up loose ends. *Tech Coloproctol* 2015;19:125-6.
- Xenos M, **Labropoulos N**, Rambhia S, Alemu Y, Einav S, **Tassiopoulos A**, Sakalihasan N, Bluestein D. Progression of abdominal aortic aneurysm towards rupture: refining clinical risk assessment using a fully coupled fluid-structure interaction method. *Ann Biomed Eng* 2015;43:139-53.
- Wedel W, Talmon G, **Sasson A**. Nodular elastosis of the pancreas. *Case Rep Pathol* 2015;2015:521959.
- Zitenly E, Lacey R, **Bergamaschi R**. Rare case of a giant cystic pararectal mass. *Gastroenterology* 2015;148:713-4.

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Stony Brook Surgical Associates



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PRACTICE LOCATIONS

Heart Institute
University Hospital
Level 5
101 Nicolls Road
Stony Brook, NY 11794
(631) 444-6590 (tel)
(631) 444-8963 (fax)

Surgical Care Center
37 Research Way
East Setauket, NY 11733
(631) 444-4545 (tel)
(631) 444-4539 (fax)

Cancer Center / Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center
3 Edmund D. Pellegrino Road
Stony Brook, NY 11794
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(631) 444-6348 (fax)

Plastic & Cosmetic Surgery Center
24 Research Way
Suite 100
East Setauket, NY 11733
(631) 444-4666 (tel)
(631) 444-4610 (fax)

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Suite G
Centereach, NY 11743
(631) 638-1670 (tel)
(631) 638-1691 (fax)

Center for Vein Care
Nicolls Professional Park
23 South Howell Avenue
Suite G
Centereach, NY 11743
and

225 West Montauk Highway
Hampton Bays, NY 11946
and

240 Meeting House Lane
The Schenck Building
Southampton, NY 11968
and

222 Middle Country Road
Suite 209
Smithtown, NY 11787
and

160 Middle Road
Suite 3
Sayville, NY 11782
and

864 West Jericho Turnpike
Huntington, NY 11743
and

1165 Northern Boulevard
Suite 301
Manhasset, NY 11030
and

993 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10028
(631) 444-VEIN (8346) (tel)
(800) 345-VEIN (8346) (tel)
(631) 444-8824 (fax)

Smithtown Office
222 Middle Country Road
Suite 209
Smithtown, NY 11787
(631) 638-2800 (tel)
(631) 638-2830 (fax)

Outpatient Services Center
225 West Montauk Highway
Hampton Bays, NY 11946
(631) 723-5000 (tel)
(631) 723-5010 (fax)

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951 Roanoke Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901
(631) 727-7773 (tel)
(631) 727-7832 (fax)
and
676 County Road 39A
Southampton, NY 11968
(631) 283-2070 (tel)
(631) 283-5927 (fax)

Southampton Vascular Office
240 Meeting House Lane
Schenck Building
Southampton, NY 11968
(631) 638-1670 (tel)
(631) 638-1691 (fax)

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(631) 444-6176 (fax)

Andrew T. Bates, MD
Aurora D. Pryor, MD
Dana A. Telem, MD

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(631) 638-0720 (fax)

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(631) 444-4610 (fax)

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(631) 444-7871 (fax)

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(631) 638-1670 (tel)
(631) 444-8824 (fax)

Morad Awadallah, MD
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