

UPDATE

from



THE DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY,
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT CHAPEL HILL

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A new regional team for heart and vascular care



Andy Kiser, M.D., center, chief of the UNC Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, stars in an ad for the new UNC Heart & Vascular Network.

Specialists from Wake Heart & Vascular Associates, Rex Heart & Vascular Specialists, and the UNC Center for Heart and Vascular Care have joined to create the UNC Heart & Vascular Network.

The network brings heart and vascular specialists closer to patients so they don't have to travel as far to receive collaborative care.

To learn more about the services, visit:

www.anewkindofteam.org

Welcome to our new staff members!

Stephen Gazda is study coordinator for Dr. Egan's lung transplant research. **Kevan Haas** is a physician assistant for Adult Cardiac Surgery.

Erin McClorey is a physician assistant for Thoracic Surgery.

Neal Murty is manager for the Cardiothoracic Surgery simulation lab.

Bernice Newsome is nurse educator/navigator for Thoracic Surgery.

Megan Randall is a nurse practitioner for Adult Cardiac Surgery.

Congratulations!

Thomas Egan, MD, and **Michael Mill, MD**, are both listed in the 2014 "Best Doctors in America" database; 251 doctors at UNC are listed this year.

Michael Mill, MD, received a joint appointment as Professor of Pediatrics on Dec. 20, 2013. He will teach and do research in Pediatrics, focusing on congenital cardiac surgery.

Richard Feins, MD, was appointed Medical Director for Perioperative Services at UNC Hospitals in July 2013. He works with staff to improve efficiency and quality of care in operating rooms.

Benjamin Haithcock, MD, was appointed Residency Program Director for the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery in May 2013.

Research News

Dr. Nelson organizes Children's Heart Collaborative

Jennifer Nelson, MD, a congenital cardiac surgeon, has led the organization of the

North Carolina Children's Heart Collaborative, a team of about 25 UNC medical researchers who have a common interest in the diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart disease. **Michael Mill, MD**, **Ruben Bo-canegra, PA**, and **Karla Brown, PNP**, are part of the team. The group will foster research across specialties to determine the best treatment for patients with congenital heart disease.

Look for a new web site soon! The web address for



the collaborative will be: www.med.unc.edu/childheart

Dr. Egan's lung project draws media attention

Thomas Egan, MD, has begun a three-year, \$4 million clinical trial funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to assess and transplant lungs from non-heart-beating donors, people who have died outside the hospital or in the emergency room and have not been on mechanical ventilation.

Dr. Egan's work was featured in a widely-published Associated Press article in November; he received coverage in news media including the web

sites of The Wall Street Journal, NBC News, ABC News, NPR, Fox News, and Yahoo.com and on the BBC.

Read the AP article here: <http://nbcnews.to/1gFH00j>

Watch an AP video about Dr. Egan's research here: <http://bit.ly/1hmte5f>

Dr. Kiser's a-fib work featured in Endeavors

Andy Kiser, MD, and his research and training on minimally invasive treatment of atrial fibrillation and heart failure were featured in an article in *Endeavors*, UNC's online research magazine in August 2013. Read the article here: http://endeavors.unc.edu/convergent_care

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UPDATE from the UNC DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Research News (continued)

Dr. Egan is co-PI on a project, *Metabolomics to increase and improve lungs for transplant*, funded by a grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

With Jeffrey Macdonald, PhD, of the UNC Department of Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Egan will use metabolomics technology to help determine if lungs retrieved after death are suitable for transplant and investigate ways to treat lungs to improve suitability for transplant.

Richard Feins, MD, is an investigator with Ron Alterovitz, PhD, of the Department of Computer Science, on a two-year project funded by NIH/National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, *Multi-lumen steerable needles for transoral access to lung nodules*. They aim to develop a robotic set of concentric nested titanium tubes that can be deployed from a bronchoscope to allow physicians to accurately reach areas of the lung. Read about their research here, in an article from UNC Health Care: <http://bit.ly/1iLseHs>

Womack Society

The Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society will meet May 1-3, 2014, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. For more information, contact Mary Margaret Carroll at mary_carroll@med.unc.edu or Andy Kiser at andy_kiser@med.unc.edu

Presentations, abstracts and publications from the division

Presentations

Thomas Egan, MD, presented results of his lab's research on ex-vivo lung perfusion of lungs from non-heart-beating donors in a poster presentation at the CHEST World Congress in Madrid, Spain, on March 21, 2014.

Other presentations by Dr. Egan:

"Downsizing of lungs and use of living donors: Are these strategies still important in the lung allocation score era?" at CHEST 2013, American College of Chest Physicians, Chicago, Oct. 27, 2013.

"Ethical considerations in lung recovery for transplant after sudden death" at Research Ethics Grand Rounds, North Carolina Translational & Clinical Sciences Institute (TraCS), in Chapel Hill, Sept. 19, 2013.

"Ex-vivo lung perfusion: Current status and future directions" at Transplant Education Conference, UNC Division of Abdominal Transplant Surgery, Sept. 11, 2013.

Richard H. Feins, MD, spoke at an American College of Surgeons (ACS) Surgical Health Care Quality Forum at UNC on Feb. 19, 2014. He was among health care leaders who discussed core requirements for surgical quality improvement, including ongoing training, transparency, and exchange of expertise and resources.

Dr. Feins also spoke on "Simulation in cardiothoracic surgery" to the North Carolina Society of Perfusionists, 2013 Educational Seminar, in Chapel Hill on Oct. 5, 2013.

Andy Kiser, MD, and James Zidar, MD, appeared on "Rex on Call" on WRAL TV on Feb. 17, 2014, to talk about heart health. <http://tinyurl.com/lnhbjr6>

Dr. Kiser spoke on "Understanding atrial

fibrillation" and "The best MAZE lesion set" at the ECHI-ISMICS Minimally Invasive Cardiovascular Summit 2013, East Carolina Heart Institute, Greenville, NC, Oct. 4, 2013.

Brett Sheridan, MD, spoke on "LVADs and destination therapy: Where is it going?" to the North Carolina Society of Perfusionists in Chapel Hill on Oct. 5, 2013.

Dr. Sheridan also spoke on "ECMO from a surgical and heart failure/critical care perspective" at a Cardiovascular Symposium at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, Sept. 27, 2013.

William Stansfield, MD, spoke on "Transitioning from fellow to attending" at the UNC Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery's Tricks of the Trade conference on Oct. 3, 2013.

Abstracts

Macfie R, Kiser A. A hybrid approach to intravenous lead management: The UNC experience. *Heart Rhythm* 2013 Nov; 10 (11): 1751.

Bohling S, Willis TS, **Mill MR**, Buck S. Project TICKER: Caring for kids' hearts. 2013 ANCC (American Nurses Credentialing Center) National Magnet Conference, Orlando, FL, Oct. 2-4, 2013.

Articles

Egan TM, Sweet SC. Rationing lung transplants (Letter). *N Engl J Med* 21:2064-5, 2013.

Macfie RCL, Weibel AD, Nesbitt JC, Fann JI, Hicks GL, **Feins RH**. "Boot camp" simulator training in open hilar dissection in early cardiothoracic surgical residency. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2014 (Jan);97(1):161-6.

Joseph M, Jones T, Lutterbie Y, Maygarden

SJ, Feins RH, Haithcock BE, Veeramachaneni NK. Rapid on-site pathologic evaluation does not increase the efficacy of endobronchial ultrasonographic biopsy for mediastinal staging. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2013 Aug; 96(2):403-10.

Kiser AC, Pappas HR, Garner KC, Pursell I, Mounsey JP, Gehi AK. Evaluation of an integrated bipolar and unipolar ablation device. *Innovations* 2014;9:33-37.

Baker M, Mounsey JP, **Kiser AC**, Chung EH. Collaborative experience using the LARIAT system for left atrial appendage closure. *EP Lab Digest* 2013; 30-33.

Nelson JS. A bright future: Cardiothoracic surgery training in transition. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2013; 96(5):1535-8.

Alhosaini H, Jensen BC, Chang PP, **Sheridan BC**, Katz J. A novel link between G6PD deficiency and hemolysis in patients with continuous-flow left ventricular assist devices. *J Heart Lung Transplant* 2014;33:116-7.

Bradford WT, Arora H, **Sheridan BC**, Sileshi B, Kumar PA. A left atrial mass in a middle-aged woman: Just another myxoma? *J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth*. 2013 (Aug);27(4):816-8. PMID: 22560066

Chapters

Haithcock BE, Feins RH. Pneumonectomy after Induction Therapy for Non Small Cell Lung Cancer. In: Ferguson M, ed., *Difficult Decisions in Thoracic Surgery: An Evidence-Based Approach*, 3d ed. Springer+Business Media, New York, 2014 (in press).

Suggestions? News to share?

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