



Ellis and Stitzenberg study featured in Diseases of the Colon and Rectum podcast



Dr. Karyn Stitzenberg (Surgical Oncology) and Dr. Tyler Ellis (PGY4)

After documenting in prior work that use of local excision (LE) for the treatment of rectal cancer is on the rise, despite data to showing poorer oncologic outcomes, we set out to investigate how patients were making decisions regarding surgical care. Using a nationally representative sample of patients from the Cancer Care Outcomes Research and Surveillance Consortium (CanCORS), they found that patient preference did not explain the rise in rates of LE. However, patients that underwent LE did seem to understand that LE had less potential for cure than transmesorectal excision. Interestingly, they also found that patients' preferred roles in surgical decision-making did not always match their actual roles. **Stitzenberg (Surgical Oncology)** and Ellis believe that "Matching these roles will become more important as reimbursement moves to value-based care." Their study was published in the October issue of the journal, *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum* (DCR), and featured as DCR's monthly podcast.

Dr. Stitzenberg is a former National Research Service Award (NRSA) Health Services Research Fellow at the Cecil G. Sheps Center. She has served as a mentor for multiple fellows from the Sheps Center, and most recently was the primary mentor for **Tyler Ellis, PGY4** General Surgery Resident. Drs. Stitzenberg and Ellis have teamed up to study various patterns of care in rectal cancer that have been published in the following journals: *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *Disease of the Colon and Rectum*, and *JAMA Oncology*. They are currently working on a project investigating surveillance patterns after non-operative management of rectal cancer in the SEER-Medicare population, which is funded by a \$50k NC TraCS grant.

SAVE THE DATE!

2nd Annual Surgery Research and Womack Alumni Day

June 17, 2017

This year we are going to partner with the Womack Society and get our Alumni involved! Continuing with our showcase of your great work last year, we will be working on didactic and informational sessions, “meet the professor” sessions, and oral and poster presentations with best presentation awards. The **Colin G. Thomas Jr. Lecturer** will be **Dr. Adil Haider**.



Dr. Adil Haider

Adil Haider, MD, MPH, FACS is an active trauma and critical care surgeon, prolific researcher, and the Kessler Director for the Center for Surgery and Public Health (CSPH), a joint initiative of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is also the Deputy Editor of JAMA Surgery and holds numerous leadership positions. Dr. Haider is credited with uncovering racial disparities after traumatic injury and establishing the field of trauma disparities research. He is regarded as one of the foremost experts on healthcare inequities in the United States.

Resident attendance and abstract submission mandatory. Fellows and medical students encouraged and welcome!

Faculty attendance mandatory.

We still need judges. Contact jjych@med.unc.edu.

Awards

Dr. Melina Kibbe (Chair) has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine <http://news.unchealthcare.org/news/2016/october/unc2019s-kibbe-sancar-elected-to-national-academy-of-medicine>

Dr. Jen Jen Yeh (Surgical Oncology) received a \$1.9 million NIH grant with Dr. Benjamin Raphael at Princeton for the pathway and network integration of cancer genomics and clinical data. U24 grants are awarded to support research projects contributing to improvement of the capability of resources to serve biomedical research.

Ashish Pulikal, M.D., (PGY3) in Cardiothoracic Surgery, won the Best Thoracic Poster award for his poster entitled “Intralobar pulmonary sequestration in adults over 50. A case report and review” at the Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society meeting in St. Pete Beach, FL. Former resident Staci Beamer and Dr. Benjamin Haithcock (Cardiothoracic Surgery) were co-authors of his abstract.

Residents! Want to know what projects faculty are working on? Check out the Mentors and Descriptions page <http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/education/resident-research-opportunities/mentors-and-descriptions> or contact Dr. Yeh

New Arrival!



Dr. Corey Kalbaugh joins the faculty as Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, jointly in the Division of Vascular Surgery and the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Dr. Kalbaugh is an epidemiologist with strong methodologic expertise in using administrative claims data for research and analyses related to longitudinal data sources. He has published

in leading journals on topics related to cardiovascular disease, peripheral artery disease, end-stage renal disease, cancer, and outcomes research.

Dr. Kalbaugh holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina and a Master of Science degree in Bioengineering from Clemson University and a Master of Arts degree in Medicine, Health, and Society from Vanderbilt University. Dr. Kalbaugh previously worked in the Department of Surgery at Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center in Greenville, SC, as a research bioengineer and project manager.

Awards

Dr. Jared Gallaher PGY6 received one of the American College of Surgeons Owen H Wangenstein Scientific Forum Excellence in Research Awards for his abstract “Multi-Drug Resistance Colonization Is Associated with Increased Mortality after Burn Injury in Sub-Saharan Africa” in the category Global Surgery/Global Surgery/Humanitarian Outreach.

The American College of Surgeons’ Owen H Wangenstein Scientific Forum Committee presents the Excellence in Research Awards. The major objectives of this program are to recognize excellence in research performed by surgical residents and fellows (and scientific investigators in training), increase the visibility of the Scientific Forum as a setting for resident research presentations, facilitate and encourage attendance of surgical residents and fellows at the Forum sessions, encourage residents and fellows to participate in research during their training, and, finally, contribute to the overall quality of the annual Clinical



Dr. Jared Gallaher (second from left)

Dr. Gallaher also won the Resident Paper Competition for the Best Clinical Paper titled “The Independent Effect of a New Surgical Residency Program on Trauma Mortality at a Sub-Saharan Africa Tertiary Center” at the 2016 Region IV American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma Meeting.

Highlights

Joellen Buckio, MHA (Administration) presented her poster “Making a World Class Burn Center” at the Association of Academic Surgical Administrators annual meeting in Washington DC. The poster highlighted how quality After Care programs, especially for children, are the differentiator in Burn Center prominence and success. (**Dr. Bruce Cairns (Burn Center)** & **Lori Chrisco**, contributors)

Dr. Cindy Wu (PRS) is first author on the article “What Do Our Patients Truly Want? Conjoint Analysis of an Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Practice Using Internet Crowdsourcing.” Other UNC authors include **Drs. Diegidio, Hermiz, and Hultman**. Their article will be featured in the January issue of the Aesthetic Surgery Journal as the Editor’s Pick, with an accompanying video, and will be featured in Cosmetic Surgery Times and Healio Aesthetics.

Dr. Anna Pavlov (PRS) presented her work with **Dr. Michelle Roughton (PRS)** on “Letters of Recommendation for Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency Highlight Unconscious Gender Bias” at the North Carolina Society of Plastic Surgeons in Charleston, SC. and at the ASPN (American Society for Peripheral Nerve) meeting in January in Hawaii. She’ll be presenting her abstract as a 6 min and 4 min podium presentation at the Charleston and Hawaii conferences, respectively.

Dr. Thomas Egan (Cardiothoracic Surgery) was an invited speaker at the Physician Grand Rounds Session of the 30th annual North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference in Orlando, FL on Oct. 27 where he spoke about “The Role of Lung Resection in Management of Cystic Fibrosis”. He was also an invited speaker at a CME event at the University of Toronto “Medicine 40 Years Later” on Sept 17 where he spoke about “The Future of Organ Transplant”. Dr. Egan served on the NIH study section ZRG1 SBIB-Q (02) Member Conflict: BTSS and SAT Member Conflict in October.

Several faculty (**Drs. Kibbe, Kashefsky, Marston, McGinige, Caranasos, and Crouner**) spoke at the Aortic Disease Management at the Endovascular Therapies conference directed by **Dr. Mark Farber** at Pinehurst, N.C., on Oct. 29, 2016.

Dr. Yeh (Surgical Oncology) was an invited speaker at the David Rubenstein Center for Pancreatic Cancer Research (CPCR) at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City where she spoke about “Deconstructing pancreatic cancer to learn about tumor-specific signals”.

Upcoming Meetings

Dr. Kate McGinagle (Vascular Surgery) will be giving a plenary presentation on “Increased stroke rate in medically managed carotid stenosis patients” at the **Southern Assoc for Vascular Surgery** in Naples, FL on January 20, 2017. Other authors are Mary Hunter Benton, Daniel J. Lockett (**Biostats**), Jason P. Fine (**Biostats**), and **William A. Marston (Vascular Surgery)**.

Southeastern Surgical Congress Feb 25-28, 2017

- **Rebecca Brown (PGY2)** will be presenting a poster of her work with **Dr. Kim Erickson (Pediatric Surgery)** on “Large Gap Congenital Pyloric Atresia with Meconium Peritonitis: When Gastrojejunostomy Is the Best Option”.
- **Jonathan Black PGY4** will be giving an oral presentation of his work with **Dr. Jen Jen Yeh (Surgical Oncology)** on “Outpatient total thyroidectomies”.

Dr. Stephen Mahoney (PGY2) will be giving a quickshot presentation of his work with **Dr. Meredith Duke (Gastrointestinal Surgery)** on the “Effects of Education and Health Literacy on Post-Operative Outcomes in Bariatric Surgery” at the **12th Annual Academic Surgical Congress to be held February 7-9, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV.**

Malawi Surgical Initiative is presenting at the 19th Congress of Surgeons of East, Central, and South Africa (COSECSA), December 7-9th in Mombasa, Kenya.

- Melhado C, Grudziak J, **Cairns B (Burn Center), Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery)**. The epidemiology and outcomes of thoracic trauma among patients in a sub-Saharan Africa tertiary center. (Oral)
- Grudziak J, Snock C, Gallaher J, **Cairns B (Burn Center), Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery)**. The effect of pre-existing malnutrition on pediatric mortality following acute burn injury. (Oral)
- Eaton J, Grudziak J, Chisenga C, **Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery)**. Head and neck injury and risk of mortality in sub-Saharan Africa (Oral)
- Grudziak J, **Gallaher J (PGY4), Cairns B (Burn Center), Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery)**. The Effect of a Surgery Residency Program on Trauma Mortality in sub-Saharan Africa (Poster)

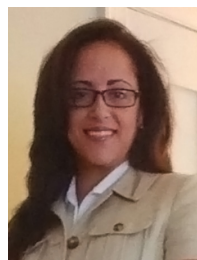
Dr. Anna Pavlov (PRS) will be giving an oral presentation on her work with **Dr. Michelle Roughton (Plastic Surgery)** on “Letters of Recommendation for Integrated Plastic Surgery Residency Highlight Unconscious Gender Bias” at the American Society for Peripheral Nerve meeting in Hawaii, January 2017.

Apply For Grants

Elsa U. Pardee Foundation (Feb 1, 2017)
Research directed toward identifying new treatments or cures for cancer <http://www.pardeefoundation.org/grants.aspx>.

NIH Loan Repayment Programs (December 1) – great way to repay your student loans if you are committed to paying up to NIH repays up to \$35,000 annually of a researcher’s qualified educational debt in return for a commitment to engage in NIH mission-relevant research (Clinical, Pediatric, Health Disparities, Contraception and Infertility, and Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds). <https://www.lrp.nih.gov/eligibility-programs>

- **UNC Lineberger Developmental Program (March 15, September 15)** <https://unclineberger.org/research/developmental-funding-opportunities>
- **TraCS \$2K Grants** (These are great grants for your projects – brief one page write up) October 18, November 15, December 20. <https://tracs.unc.edu/index.php/services/pilot-program/tracs-2k-grants>
- **TraCS \$5K-\$50K Grants** (October 18, June 21). <https://tracs.unc.edu/index.php/services/pilot-program/tracs-5k-50k-grants>



Debbie Sanabria

Applying for external grants?

Contact Debbie Sanabria in Pre-Award services **as soon as you think you are applying for a grant** for help with your budget and grant submission and routing. External grants **must** be routed and submitted **one week** ahead of the due date!

New Publications

- **Wu C (PRS), Hultman S (PRS), Diegidio P (PGY4), Hermiz S, Garimella R, Crutchfield TM, Lee CN.** What Do Our Patients Truly Want? Conjoint Analysis of an Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Practice Using Internet Crowdsourcing. *Aesthet Surg J.* 2016 Sep 20. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Kaminsky P (PGY4), Preiss J (PGY2), Sasatomi E, Gerber DA (Abdominal Transplant Surgery).** Biliary Adenofibroma: A Rare Hepatic Lesion with Malignant Features. *Hepatology.* 2016 [Epub ahead of print]
- **Norona LM, Nguyen DG, Gerber DA (Abdominal Transplant Surgery), Presnell SC, LeCluyse EL.** Modeling Compound-Induced Fibrogenesis In Vitro Using Three-Dimensional Bioprinted Human Liver Tissues. *Toxicol Sci.* 2016 Sep 7. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Strassle PD (Database), Williams FN (Burn Center), Napravnik S, van Duin D, Weber DJ, Charles A (General and Acute Care Surgery), Cairns BA (Burn Center), Jones SW (Burn Center).** Improved Survival of Patients With Extensive Burns: Trends in Patient Characteristics and Mortality Among Burn Patients in a Tertiary Care Burn Facility, 2004-2013. *J Burn Care Res.* 2016 Oct 17. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Gallaher JR (PGY4), Haac BE, Geyer AJ, Mabedi C, Cairns BA (Burn Center), Charles AG (General and Acute Care Surgery).** Injury Characteristics and Outcomes in Elderly Trauma Patients in Sub-Saharan Africa. *World J Surg.* 2016 40(11):2650-2657.
- **Barnett BS, Mulenga M, Kiser MM (Alumni), Charles AG (General and Acute Care Surgery).** Qualitative analysis of a psychological supportive counseling group for burn survivors and families in Malawi. *Burns.* 2016 Oct 12. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Knowlin L (Burn Center), Stanford L, Cairns BA (Burn Center), Charles AG (General and Acute Care Surgery).** The effect of smoking status on burn inhalation injury mortality. *Burns.* 2016 Oct 1. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Knowlin L (Burn Center), Stanford L, Moore D, Cairns BA (Burn Center), Charles AG (General and Acute Care Surgery)** The measured effect magnitude of co-morbidities on burn injury mortality. *Burns.* 2016 42(7):1433-1438.
- **Young S, Banza L, Munthali BS, Manda KG, Gallaher JR (PGY4), Charles AG (General and Acute Care Surgery).** The impact of the increasing burden of trauma in Malawi on orthopedic trauma service priorities at Kamuzu Central Hospital. *Acta Orthop.* 2016 Sep 2:1-5.
- **Herbella FA, Armijo PR, Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery).** A pictorial presentation of 3.0 Chicago classification for esophageal motility disorders. *Einstein* 14:439-442, 2016.
- **Menez MA, Herbella FA, Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery).** Laparoscopic antireflux surgery in patients with connective tissue diseases. *JLAST* 26:296-298, 2016.
- **Allaix ME, Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery).** Towards a tailored treatment of achalasia. An evidence based approach. *JLAST* 26:256-263, 2016.
- **Herbella FA, Colleoni R, Bot L, Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery).** High resolution manometry findings in patients after sclerotherapy for esophageal varices. *J Neurogastroenterol Motil* 22:226-230, 2016.
- **Phillips N, Tannan S, Kalliainen LK (Plastic Surgery).** Understanding and overcoming implicit gender bias in surgery. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 2016;138(5):1111-1116.
- **Furnas HJ, Johnson DJ, Bajaj AK, Kalliainen LK (Plastic Surgery), Rohrich RJ.** Women and men in plastic surgery: how they differ and why it matters. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 2016;138(3):743-745.
- **Kibbe MR (Chair), Pellegrini CA, Townsend CM Jr, Helenowski IB, Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery).** Characterization of Mentorship Programs in Departments of Surgery in the United States. *JAMA Surg.* 2016 Oct 1;151(10):900-906
- **White SH, McDermott MM, Sufit RL, Kosmac K, Bugg AW, Gonzalez-Freire M, Ferrucci L, Tian L, Zhao L, Gao Y, Kibbe MR (Chair), Criqui MH, Leeuwenburgh C, Peterson CA.** Walking performance is positively correlated to calf muscle fiber size in peripheral artery disease subjects, but fibers show aberrant mitophagy: an observational study. *J Transl Med.* 2016 Sep 29;14(1):284.

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New Publications

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- **Bahnson ES (Research)**, Havelka GE, Koo NC, Jiang Q, **Kibbe MR (Chair)**. Periadventitial adipose tissue modulates the effect of PROLI/NO on neointimal hyperplasia. J Surg Res. 2016 Oct;205(2):440-5.
- Mansukhani NA, Yoon DY, Teter KA, Stubbs VC, Helenowski IB, Woodruff TK, **Kibbe MR (Chair)**. Determining If Sex Bias Exists in Human Surgical Clinical Research. JAMA Surg. 2016 Aug 17 [Epub ahead of print]
- **Feins RH (Cardiothoracic Surgery)**, Burkhardt HM, Conte JV, Coore DN, Fann JI, Hicks GL Jr, Nesbitt JC, Ramphal PS, **Schiro SE (General and Acute Care Surgery)**, Shen KR, Sridhar A, Stewart PW, Walker JD, Mokadam NA. Simulation-based training in cardiac surgery. Ann Thorac Surg 2016. (Epub ahead of print)
- Mokadam NA, Fann JI, Hicks GL, Nesbitt JC, Burkhardt HM, Conte JV, Coore DN, Ramphal PS, Shen KR, Walker JD, **Feins RH (Cardiothoracic Surgery)**. Experience with the cardiac surgery simulation curriculum: Results of the resident and faculty survey. Ann Thorac Surg 2016 (Epub ahead of print)
- Allaix ME, **Long JM (Cardiothoracic Surgery)**, **Patti MG (Gastrointestinal Surgery)**. Hybrid Ivor Lewis esophagectomy for esophageal cancer. J Laparoendosc Adv Surg Tech 2016 (Oct.); 26(10):763-767.

Research Resources

Database Manager



Contact **Paula Strassle, MPH** our database manager BEFORE you start a project involving data collection or setting up a database, e.g. chart reviews. She will help you organize and think about things so that you will be able to analyze it when you are ready. Paula is also in charge of NIS, NSQUIP, SEER databases (<http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/education/resident-research-opportunities/available-databases>) if you would like to use them or have questions about them. She may also point you to other databases that may help you.

Request Paula's help using <http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/database-manager-request-form>. Paula should be the point of entry for most of you and will communicate with the Biostats Team to distribute expertise/personnel needs.

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Biostats Team

Jason Fine, PhD, Professor of Biostatistics will lead the biostatistics team with the help of his graduate research assistant Daniel Luckett. Request their help using <http://www.med.unc.edu/surgery/contact-forms>.

Suggestions?

Have you been doing research that you think should be included in this newsletter? Do you have any news from your research team, received any awards, published papers? Any other announcements? Let Jen Jen know at the email below!

Happy Holidays!

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