

UNC SURGERY

WINTER 2020



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WINTER NEWSLETTER DATES: November
2019, December 2019, & January 2020

UNC DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Chair

Melina Kibbe, MD

Vice Chairs

David A. Gerber, MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD
Jin Ra, MD
Jen Jen Yeh, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD

Clinical Affairs
Education
Quality and Safety
Research
Strategy & Outreach

Division Chiefs

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Booker King, MD
John S. Ikonomidis, MD, PhD
Jen Jen Yeh, MD (interim)
Anthony G. Charles, MD, MPH
Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD
Lynn A. Damitz, MD
Hong Jin Kim, MD
Mark Farber, MD

Abdominal Transplant Surgery
NC Jaycee Burn Center Surgery
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Gastrointestinal Surgery
General & Acute Care Surgery
Pediatric Surgery
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Surgical Oncology
Vascular Surgery

Directors

Luigi Pascarella, MD
David W. Ollila, MD

Medical Student Clerkship
Mentorship Program

Residency Program Directors

Jason Crowner, MD
Benjamin E. Haithcock, MD
Michael O. Meyers, MD
Jeyhan S. Wood, MD

Vascular Surgery
Cardiothoracic Surgery
General Surgery
Plastic Surgery

Fellowship Program Directors

David A. Gerber, MD
Timothy M. Farrell, MD

Felicia Williams, MD
Jin Ra, MD
David W. Ollila, MD
Mark Farber, MD

Abdominal Transplant Surgery
*Adv. Minimally Invasive
and Bariatric Surgery*
Burn Surgery
Critical Care Surgery
Complex General Surgical Oncology
Vascular Surgery

Associate Chair for Administration

Joellen Buckio, MHA

Public Communications Specialist

Sheerah Coe

On the cover: Dr. David Ollila during surgery.
Photo credit: Sheerah Coe

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by the numbers

**Research + Publication data is for calendar year 2019*



73

FACULTY

51

APPS



85

TRAINEES

224

PUBLICATIONS

77

STAFF

\$1,285,771

CLINICAL TRIAL DOLLARS

\$4,208,433

FEDERAL GRANT DOLLARS

53

RESEARCHERS



77

GRANT SUBMISSIONS

\$4,454,787

TOTAL RESEARCH GRANT DOLLARS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The UNC Department of Surgery recently completed resident interviews and I was sincerely impressed and humbled by the quality of the applicants who applied to our programs. It heartens me to know that our efforts to advance our national reputation of excellence in our clinical, education and research missions is attracting the best and brightest nationwide.

In fact, many of us had the great fortune to be able to attend some of the presentations of these resident applicants as part of the 2020 Academic Surgical Congress (ASC) in Orlando. UNC had a great showing at the meeting with over 30 invited talks, oral and quick shot presentations. We also had many faculty serve as panelists or moderators. We are extremely proud of Dr. Alexandra Mercel's work on the *Development of a Targeted Nanofiber to Treat Smoke Inhalation Injury*, as this work was among the top 10% of all submitted abstracts. UNC covered an impressive range of topics including global surgery, breast research, health care disparities, surgical oncology, pediatric surgery, and vascular surgery, among others. Dr. Andrea Hayes-Jordan was invited to speak at the TimesUpHealthcare session on *Raising Awareness and Knowledge About Harassment and Inequity in Surgery*. Though Dr. Hayes-Jordan was unable to participate due to significant flight delays – the TimesUpHealthcare session was truly insightful and impactful. Topics such as these are important to raise national visibility on issues of discrimination in the workplace to assure a safe, equitable, and dignified environment. Lastly, quite a few of our faculty and trainees attended the AAS-SUS Surgical Investigators Course. This course remains highly recommended for anyone who is in the position of writing grant applications, as many pearls and strategies are shared that can help with your own grantsmanship experience.

With regard to patient care, I am happy to report that we are experiencing a period of clinical growth under the ONE UNC Health initiative. Our new direction strategically and structurally keeps the patient at the center of everything we do, and creates a more responsive, integrated system that will allow us to improve the health and well-being of North Carolinians and others we serve. To that end, the Division of General and Acute Care Surgery opened a same-day surgery referral clinic at the UNC Medical Center. In January, we expanded our surgical services to the UNC Health Care Panther Creek Campus in northwest Cary and to UNC Children's Raleigh on Blue Ridge Road. These developments, in addition to our ongoing collaboration with UNC Rex, will improve public access to quality care. You can imagine that this tremendous increase in clinical activity means that we are actively recruiting additional faculty to provide these services.

In terms of research, I am delighted to report that UNC

Department of Surgery is now ranked 32nd in NIH funding, up from 44th place last year! We are delighted that all of our hard work is starting to pay off. Most recently, Dr. Tom Egan received a \$500,000 award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for his lung perfusion studies along with UNC Co-PIs Scott Randell and Jude Samulski. In addition, our research administrators just completed Operational Excellence in Research, a pilot program sponsored by the Vice Chancellor for Research Office and the Office of Sponsored Research. Without a doubt, this training has improved our team's capacity to execute in terms of the speed and efficiency necessary to keep pace with our growing submission volume. We also continue to advocate on behalf of our faculty and trainees to compete for institutional awards and development opportunities whenever possible.

I am very pleased to welcome Dr. Booker King as our new Chief of the Division of Burn Surgery and Director of the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, effective March 2, 2020. Dr. King comes to UNC from the Womack Army Medical Center, having served as the Trauma Medical Director and Co-Director of Critical Care Services. Prior to that, he was the Director of the US Army Burn Center at the Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas. He is a decorated Colonel having served more than 20 years in the Army, earning two Legion of Merit Awards, two Bronze Star Medals, and four Meritorious Service Medals, among multiple other military honors and awards.

Finally, we are excited to report that renovations are underway to create our new educational center to be completed this summer. With this final phase, we will create a conference space large enough to hold our weekly Grand Rounds and also have several smaller conference rooms and a break room. This new space is designed to maximize new technologies with state-of-the-art audio and visual tools and have full connectivity to the Surgical Tower when that opens. These advances will allow us to maximize the learning experience for individuals both within and outside of the Department of Surgery.

Sincerely,



Melina R. Kibbe, MD, FACS, FAHA

Colin G. Thomas Jr. Distinguished Professor and Chair

Department of Surgery
Professor, Department of
Biomedical Engineering
The University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill



Jessica Rouan, Nick Tsihlis, Kathleen Marulanda, Melina Kibbe, Emily Newton and Alexandra Mercel

QUICK SHOT

Kenisha Atwell, Former Post-Doctoral Research Burn Fellow
The Measured Effect of Burn Depth as a Predictor of Increased Burn Mortality

Staci Aubry, MD, General Surgery Resident
Disparities of Management of the Axilla in Women with Clinically Node Negative Breast Cancer

Mary Kate Bryant, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Decreasing the Use of Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactams for Pediatric Appendicitis and Post-operative Emergency Department Utilization in Incarcerated Patients and Patient-reported Outcomes after Implementing Standard Opioid Prescribing for Pediatric Appendectomy

Kevin Chen, General Surgery Resident
Socioeconomic Factors in Delays to Esophagectomy and Association with Outcomes and Computer Vision Analysis of Total Mesorectal Excision Specimens

Stephanie Lumpkin, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Opioid prescribing in the emergency department after discharge following colorectal surgery

Kathleen Marulanda, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
ACE-targeted Peptide Amphiphile Nanofibers for Localized Treatment of Pulmonary Hypertension and Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Pathways Improve Outcomes in Pediatric Colorectal Surgery

Alexandra Mercel, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Development of a Targeted Nanofiber to Treat Smoke Inhalation Injury

Apoorve Nayyar, MBBS, Former Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Bullying and Discrimination among Surgeons: Report from a National Survey and Variations in the Utilization of Autologous Breast Reconstruction

Emily Newton, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Targeted Nitric Oxide Delivery to Prevent Restenosis in the Atherosclerotic Environment

Laura Purcell, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
ERAS Pathways Decrease Time to Feeding and Opioid Use in Pediatric Colorectal Surgery and Survival and Functional Outcomes following TBI in Children vs Adults in a Resource-poor Setting

Anastasiya Shchatsko, MD, Former Preliminary General Surgery Resident
The Effect of Organ System Surgery on ICU Mortality in a Cohort of Critically Ill Surgical Patients

Avital Yohann, MD, General Surgery Resident
The Relationship between Hospital Capacity and Mortality in Patients with Acute Abdomen in Malawi

ORAL

Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD, Division of Pediatric Surgery
Raising Awareness and Knowledge about Harassment and Inequity in Surgery

Melina Kibbe, MD, Chair UNC Surgery
Status of Simulation-Based Training in Departments of Surgery in the United States

Alexandra Mercel, MD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Development of a Targeted Nanofiber to Treat Smoke Inhalation Injury

Jaclyn Portelli Tremont, MD, General Surgery Resident
Hypertension in the Young Adult Trauma Population: Rethinking the Traditional 'Incidentaloma'

Brittney Williams, MD, General Surgery Resident
Injury Characteristics and Mortality Outcomes of Patients with Chest Trauma in Malawi

UNC Surgery Dinner



Dr. Alexandra Mercel



Orlando, FL



Dr. Kevin Chen



Drs. Melina Kibbe, Kathleen Marulanda, Emily Newton & Alexandra Mercel



Dr. Kathleen Marulanda during her quickshot presentation.

UNC Surgery at the 2020 Academic Surgical Congress

February 4 - 6, 2020 Orlando, FL

On February 4, 2020 the Academic Surgical Congress kicked off its 15th year. The combination of cutting-edge science, dynamic speakers, and rich mentoring programs for students, residents and junior faculty provided a week full of learning and numerous opportunities to connect with colleagues!

UNC Surgery faculty gave major talks at the event including Melina Kibbe, MD, presented on "Status of Simulation-Based Training in Departments of Surgery in the United States."

Former resident Teddy Puzio, MD, raised \$1000 as a player in the ASC 2020 Poker Tournament.



Dr. Mary Kate Bryant during her quickshot presentation

PANTHER CREEK OPEN

UNC Health Care expanded its expert, compassionate care in Panther Creek on January 21. The campus is conveniently located at the corner of Highway 55 and McCrimmon Parkway and provides a multitude of healthcare services to meet your family's needs, in one convenient location for the growing population of western Wake County.

The medical building is the first

partnering of UNC REX Surgical and UNC Surgery to care for surgical patients in the triangle. This is a joint venture between the two entities with input ranging from equipment, clinical collaboration and building design.

UNC Surgery clinics located at Panther Creek include CT, General, Gastrointestinal, Plastic and Reconstructive, Surgical Oncology, and Vascular.

The building itself is also a first for UNC. At approximately 99K square feet, the new design will include a two door system. Patients will enter through a door at the front of the room while medical staff will enter through a door on the opposite wall. It's designed to minimize patient wait times and to allow for a centralized office space for healthcare teams.



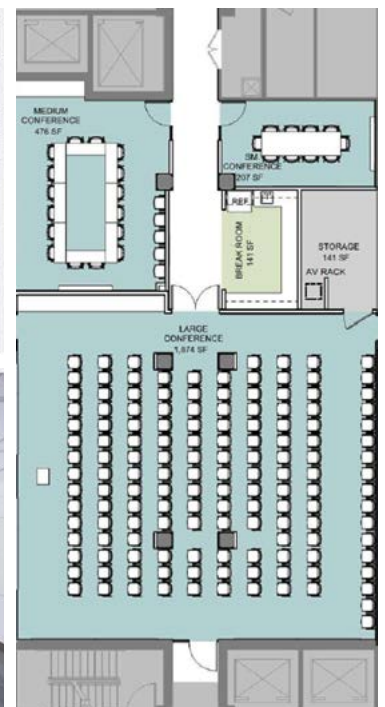
UNC SURGERY CONSTRUCTION

The final phase of the 4th floor renovation is underway. Construction began on Monday, January 27th with the closing off of the 4th floor central hallway. When completed, the department will have brand new, state-of-the-art conference rooms and education center.

The new space will include an approximately 1900 square foot conference room, another 500 square foot medium conference room and a 200 square foot small conference room. The space will also include a new break room and storage space.

Construction is anticipated to be wrapped up by June. With the new space, the department is planning on moving Wednesday morning Grand Rounds and M&M meetings to the large conference room. It will be equipped with a full length wall screen as well as additional screens that hang from the ceiling. It will eventually interface with the new surgery tower to create educational opportunities for student and resident teaching.

The renovation will ultimately help the department stay up-to-date on surgical trends and enhance educational offerings.





EXPANDS SERVICES IN WAKE COUNTY



UNC Children's is expanding their services in Wake County! The new location, UNC Children's Raleigh, was designed with the goal of having everything a child and their families need in one place.

At UNC Children's our vision is transforming care and inspiring hope for all children. Our mission is to promote the health of all children through compassionate family-centered care, tireless advocacy, scientific discovery, and education of future leaders. We are proud to be bringing brighter futures to Wake County.

Bright colors adorn the floors to help guide you and your child to correct room and feature soft closed doors that won't squish little fingers - we tested it!

Each floor reflects a different region of North Carolina. The ground floor reflects our Coastal region with bright blues and teals. The first floor focuses on the Piedmont with a grassy mural, and oranges, greens, and yellows. The second floor is our Mountain area with blues,

purples, and greens and great views of the area.

Located on the ground floor is a shared space for Cardiology/ Allergy/ Immunology during the day that is also the pediatric-dedicated Urgent Care in the evening. This space includes our behavioral health, imaging, and lab services which are a part of our UNC Hospitals Children's Specialty Services at Raleigh. There is also a clinical trials research area.

The first and second floor is home to our cutting-edge subspecialty care for a wide a spectrum of chronic diseases of childhood including diabetes, difficult-to-treat asthma, chronic lung diseases, seizure disorders, and many others.



Clinics and Services offered:

- UNC Children's Urgent Care
- UNC Children's Cardiology
- UNC Children's Allergy and Immunology
- UNC Children's Research Institute
- UNC Hospitals Children's Specialty Services
- Behavioral Health
- Imaging
- Lab
- Endocrinology
- Neurology
- Surgical Services
- Pulmonology
- GI/Feeding
- Oncology
- Infusion/Oncology
- Genetics
- Pharmacy
- Neurosurgery
- Orthopaedics
- Special Infant Care
- Maxillofacial Surgery
- Urology
- Rheumatology
- Diagnostics
- Nutrition
- Speech
- Pulmonary Function Test



HIGHLIGHTS & HONORS FACULTY

David Gerber, MD

Professor and Chief of Surgery, Division Abdominal Transplant, appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to be a commissioner on the NC License to Give Trust Fund Commission. It is a one year appointment.



Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD

Professor and Chief, Division of Pediatric Surgery, appointed to the Ad hoc committee for the National Academy of Sciences Engineering and Medicine for Childhood Cancer Disabilities. She also received the Triangle Business Journal 2020 Health Care Hero Award.



Mahesh Sharma, MD

Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, received the Triangle Business Journal 2020 Health Care Hero Award.



Jeyhan Wood MD

Assistant Professor, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, received the 2020 Junior Faculty Award from UNC.



GRANTS & AWARDS FACULTY & RESEARCH

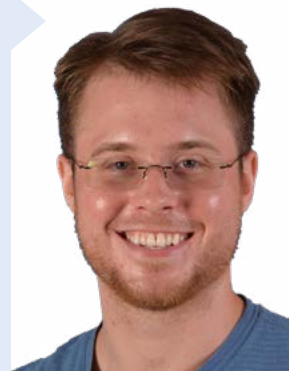
Edward Bahnson, PhD

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular Surgery, for receiving a NIH K01 award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for the project entitled, "Cell-Mediated Targeted Redox Intervention for the Treatment and Prevention of Atherosclerosis," in the amount of \$527,588.



Nicholas Buglak, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Bahnson Lab, received the 2020 AHA Predoctoral Fellowship from the American Heart Association (AHA) for his project titled "Cinnamic aldehyde inhibition of neointimal hyperplasia is dependent on Nrf2 signaling" in the amount of 62,032.



Tom Egan, MD

Professor of Surgery, Division Cardiothoracic received a Cystic Fibrosis Foundation award for his project entitled, "Ex-vivo lung perfusion to deliver nucleic acids to cells in human lungs." He will receive \$500,000 from 2/1/2020 to 1/31/2022.



Karyn Stitzenberg, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, was awarded Collaborative Innovation Award as Co-I for her project entitled, "Harnessing the Power of Data Networks: Improving Predictive Modeling in Surgical Patients Using Social Determinants of Health, Frailty and Functional Status" in the amount of \$2,495,978.

DIVISION AWARDS



Burn Surgery

Guilford-Randolph County Fire Department donated \$2200 to the Burn Center for Camp Celebrate. The funds were raised through a spooky woods haunted attraction fundraising event.

Left to Right: Scott Ford, Brian Causey, Felicia Williams, MD, Michele Barr, and Luke Richardson.

NEW HEALTH CARE & ACADEMIC STAFF



Sonia Castaneda
Administrative Specialist
Gastrointestinal Surgery

Sonia has been with UNC Health Care since 2014, most recently as an administrative specialist at the UNC Pain Management Center in Chapel Hill. She also served as a Patient Care coordinator for Piedmont Health Services. Sonia has joined the Bariatric team under Julie Crimmins. Sonia is also a North Carolina Notary Public.



Michelle Curtis, MS, MSPA, PA-C
Physicians Assistant
Burn Center

Michelle received her undergraduate degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a BS in Exercise Science. She went on to get her Masters of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition in 2015 from the University of Kansas Medical Center as well as a Masters in Science in Physician Assistant in 2018 from South University. Most recently she was a PA at Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Associates of Kansas City.



Jessica Nowadly
Social Worker
Burn Center

Jessica received her Bachelor of Social Work at Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, NY in 2009. After taking a couple years off she went back to RWC and completed her Master of Social Work in 2013. She has been in healthcare for her entire career and has worked with adolescent patients with eating disorders, cardio-vascular surgery & cardio-neuro intensive care patients. She loves to sing, be creative, and bargain shop.



Courtney Wright
Nurse Educator
Burn Center

Courtney received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at State University of New York College at Brockport. Most recently she was in the Vascular Surgery clinic at Meadowmont for eight years. Her previous burn experience is with UNC for three years and Johns Hopkins hospital for five years. She will be graduating in May 2020 with MSN in Nursing Education and will begin pursuing her PhD in the fall.



NEW UNC HEALTH

by Wesley Burks, MD

Last fall, we introduced a new strategy centered on our transformation into ONE UNC Health. Today, as a part of that strategy, I am excited to announce a new name and logo for our health system – we are UNC Health.

We are re-imagining what it means to transform and lead in health and wellness. We are connecting 33,000 co-workers across our state. We are working to exceed the changing expectations of the patients we serve, and helping them to achieve the goals they have for their personal health. Our ambition requires us to chart a new path and to evolve our look and feel.

Our updated name and logo align with our evolution into a statewide health system with a focus of serving all North Carolinians with empathy and expertise. Our new name also reinforces that we are proactively focused on healthy-based,



personalized care. This change reflects that we are bigger than healthcare; we change the course of people's lives.

Our new logo and wordmark has been well received by consumers during extensive testing and research conducted over the past several months. You can learn more by watching this video and reviewing the Frequently Asked Questions below. A press release announcing these changes will also be distributed later today.

In the coming days and weeks, you will begin to see the new UNC Health logo on electronic resources and consumer-facing

materials that previously featured the "old" UNC Health Care logo. Some changes, such as signage, will begin to rollout over a multi-year execution. Later this year, we will begin to extend the new UNC Health branding with updated logos for our hospitals across the state.

In addition to our updated name and logo, we will be sharing many more details about ONE UNC Health in the coming weeks and months, including a new set of UNC Health Values and more details about our unified strategy, unified operating model, and unified workplace culture. I look forward to your involvement in this conversation and to hearing your ideas to improve the service and care we provide across North Carolina.

I'm honored by the opportunity to lead UNC Health and proud to work alongside each of you.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are we changing?

UNC Health Care has developed a transformation strategy to ensure our success well into the future. Like many health systems across the country, we're facing an urgency to change and make a significant shift due to the rise of consumerism, digital technologies, price transparency, and competition from high-tech companies such as Amazon, Google and Microsoft. The market is changing, and we need to change along with it to ensure we can continue to provide the best care and services into the future.

Today's customers have higher-than-ever expectations related to technology, convenience, quality and value, and their options are many. We need to go where they are, offer what they want, and deliver what they need.

What is changing?

We are implementing a new transformation strategy that boldly defines our roadmap over the next five to 10 years.

A key change that will position us well to achieve the strategic plan is a new operating model, which is our first major change in system structure in decades, and provides us with a modernized and integrated approach to meeting our customers' needs.

- The new strategy maps out what we need to do to today and in the future.
- The operating model is a blueprint of how we will operate to meet our strategic goals.
- The leadership and committee structures for how we're organized to lead and make decisions will be modernized, too, to make us more nimble and focus our decision-making.
- UNC Health Care will focus on culture as well. We will capitalize on elements of our existing culture that are strong and sustainable, and develop new elements that will provide us with the foundation of how we will do our work.

What is not changing?

We'll continue to nourish what has always made us an attractive employer and service provider, including:

- Our mission to improve the health and well-being of the people of North Carolina and others we serve
- Our academic excellence, rooted in research, teaching, discovery, and innovation
- Our commitment to clinical and service excellence
- A focus on our people and supporting, developing and recognizing them

How will these changes help us achieve our mission?

To be the trusted partner in health, leading the nation in care and value, we must chart a new course for ourselves – one that reflects our aspirations, values and the high expectations customers have in today's healthcare marketplace. These changes will help us adopt business and medical practices that will move us away from a siloed structure that is creating friction for customers, physicians and other team members, and move toward a more responsive, customer-focused, integrated system that will allow us to grow as an organization and as individuals.

IN THE LOOP

EDUCATION

The LCME site visit is coming March 22-25, 2020. Many individuals across the SOM and in the Department have been actively involved in the Self-Study and other preparations.

Our MS-4 students Boot Camp will again occur in March 23-27, 2020 under Dr. Pascarella's leadership. Please look for his requests for resident and faculty involvement.

For the General Surgery residents, the next Mock Orals will occur March 16, 2020 for PGY 4 and PGY 5s. Thank you to all the members of the faculty who have agreed to serve as examiners.

Our educational Grand Rounds series continues. Dr. Susan Martinelli presented at the December 11, 2019 Career Corner ("Teaching in the Generation"), and Dr. Greg Dale gave Grand Rounds on January 15, 2020 on "Achieving Excellence in Performance."

Dr. Amy Shaheen is scheduled for June 3, 2020 ("Getting Learners Involved in Quality Improvement").

Dr. Roy Phitayakorn from Harvard will join us for Resident as Teacher conference ("Adult Learning Theories") on 9/29/20. He will also give Grand Rounds ("Emotional Intelligence and Teamwork in Surgery") on 9/30/20.

We have arranged a wellness course for our interns this spring called Resilience Training for the Healthcare Community." Thanks for Dr. Karen Bluth and Laura Prochnow Phillips for serving as the instructors.

Please mark your calendars:

Departmental Graduation Event - June 12, 2020

Awards Grand Rounds - June 17, 2020

Faculty Retreat - August 29, 2020



**Timothy
Farrell, MD**

Vice Chair of Education

ERAS

The Enhanced Recovery Program has continued to grow and standardize the support structure it is able to provide for all surgical services. Now that the content of each pathway is updated and a reporting system is in use, we want to shift our focus to targeted QI projects that will help each of you enhance your patients' care. Each month, the ERAS directors will meet with one of the ERAS teams to discuss these areas:

1. Identify an area of concern based on the data & explain some barriers towards achieving compliance.
2. Identify something that is working really well in your pathway.
3. Do you have any other insights into this data?
4. Over the next year, what QI project do you want to accomplish?

Of course, there is no need to wait if you want to review any goals and barriers now, but at a minimum, in 2020 we aim to foster consistent engagement with each team, help you set and verify progress towards goals, and advocate for resources from the healthcare system to be used across all surgical divisions and departments.

Over the last months, we have fostered significantly more involvement from the post-operative surgical nurses. One of their first goals is to improve the rates of post-operative ambulation, and we'd specifically like to highlight the leadership of the staff on 5 West and the Transplant ERAS program for getting close to 100% of their patients up and into the halls on post-op day 1.

For those of you with ERAS interests and ongoing projects, we'd also encourage you to submit an abstract to the ERAS Society World Congress, which is in New Orleans this year. The abstract deadline is April 30 and more information can be found here <https://erassociety.org/8th-eras-society-world-congress/>

Thanks for your continued involvement and support,



**Kate
McGinagle, MD**

Surgical Director, Enhanced Recovery Program



Tommy Caranasos, MD, doing a demonstration during the 2019 Doctor for a Day event in the Sim Lab.

IN THE LOOP - HEALTHCARE UPDATES

Deadline for Annual LMS Required Modules

The annual LMS training courses are important for ensuring the safety of our patients and our workplace, and are required by many regulatory organizations. Visit your "To Do" list in LMS to get started. The deadline to complete these trainings is June 30, 2020.

Reopening of the Ground Floor Neurosciences West Corridor Delayed until March 18

The Ground Floor Neurosciences west corridor, which is currently closed as part of the EDTU project, was scheduled to reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 18 but has been delayed due to unforeseen existing conditions that need to be addressed during the corridor closure. The corridor is scheduled to reopen on Monday, March 18.

Employees on 80/20 Plan: Steps to Receive your 25% Reimbursement when Seeing a UNC Health Care Provider

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, a 25% reimbursement is available to UNC Health Care state employees on State Health Plan's 80/20 plan and their dependents when they visit UNC Health Care or UNC Health Alliance providers.

Upcoming Education on APP Shared Visit Billing Workflows

A recent audit revealed compliance issues with APP shared visit billing workflows. The Epic Embedded Team is partnering with Professional Compliance to provide training for UNC Medical Center APPs and their supervising physicians regarding Epic inpatient APP charging workflows.

Info

There are multiple scenarios which APPs are required to complete to ensure accurate charging within Epic@UNC, so training will be department specific, on-site, and applicable to your specific APP charging workflow (e.g. independent, shared visit).

The specific date and time of the training for your unit/area of work will be communicated individually within each department. These trainings are mandatory. Please look for further communications.

Professional Compliance Webinars

UNC Health Care Professional Compliance is excited to announce a new webinar series to address common questions providers and practice managers have about best practices for staying compliant. A list of upcoming webinars is below; please click the link to register. Please remember that Compliance is here to answer your questions. They can be reached at ProComplianceUNCHC@unchealth.unc.edu or on their intranet page.

- [CPT Changes](#) - March 24, 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.
- [Diagnosis Coding Linking and Unlinking](#) - April 28, 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.
- [HCC Risk Adjustments](#) - May 26, 7:15 - 7:45 a.m.

PUBLICATIONS | ABDOMINAL TRANSPLANT

Desai CS, Gerber DA. Concise review of machine perfusion in liver transplantation. *World J Hepatol.* 2020 Jan 27;12(1):6-9. Review. PubMed PMID: 31984116; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6946625.

Cools KS, Moon AM, Burke LMB, McGinty KA, Strassle PD, Gerber DA. Validation of the Liver Imaging Reporting and Data System Treatment Response Criteria After Thermal Ablation for Hepatocellular Carcinoma. *Liver Transpl.* 2020 Feb;26(2):203-

214. Epub 2019 Dec 20. PubMed PMID: 31677319; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6980979.

Shao W, Pei X, Cui C, Askew C, Dobbins A, Chen X, Abajas YL, **Gerber DA**, Samulski RJ, Nichols TC, Li C. Superior human hepatocyte transduction with adeno-associated virus vector serotype 7. *Gene Ther.* 2019 Dec;26(12):504-514. Epub 2019 Sep 30. PubMed PMID: 31570819; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6923567.

PUBLICATIONS | BURN

Williams FN, Strassle PD, Knowlin L, Napravnik S, van Duin D, Charles A, Nizamani R, Jones SW, Cairns BA. Sex-Based Differences in Inpatient Burn Mortality. *World J Surg.* 2019 Dec;43(12):3035-3043. PubMed PMID: 31511940; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6871510.

PUBLICATIONS | CARDIOTHORACIC

Maul TM, Aspenleiter M, Palmer D, **Sharma MS**, Viegas ML, Wearden PD. Impact of Circuit Size on Coagulation and Hemolysis Complications in Pediatric Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation. *ASAIO J.* 2020 Jan 22. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31977350.

Egan TM. Commentary: Fishing for organs in a small fishing hole: What should we throw back and who should decide? *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg.* 2019 Dec 17. pii: S0022-5223(19)37172-7. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31973893.

Ikonomidis JS. Solutions for surgeon-scientists. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg.* 2019 Dec 11. pii: S0022-5223(19)33098-3. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31837767.

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RESEARCH

RESEARCH RESOURCES

Carolina Data Warehouse for Health (CDW-H) is a central data repository containing clinical, research, and administrative data sourced from the UNC Health Care System. The CDW-H team hosts office hours twice per month (the first Wednesday and third Thursday). This is a chance for anyone with questions about datasets, i2b2, or additional CDW “stuff” to speak with an analyst; no appointment necessary.

Next Date: 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of every month
Time: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Location: Brinkhous-Bullitt Building, Room 218

SPIN Plus is a comprehensive funding opportunities database that gives UNC researchers access to over 40,000 funding opportunities from more than 10,000 federal and non-federal sponsors. Additional information about SPIN is available here: <https://research.unc.edu/research-development/funding-funding/spin-plus-funding-database/>

RESEARCH TRAININGS AND EVENTS

Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) Training

REDCap, is a secure web application that can be used to build and manage case report forms, surveys and other data capture mechanisms for clinical research. NC TraCS offers training classes to assist researchers in getting started with building REDCap data collection forms for their research projects. For more information about REDCap or to sign-up for future trainings, please visit the <https://tracs.unc.edu/index.php/services/biomedical-informatics/redcap>.

Introduction to EMERSE

EMERSE (Electronic Medical Record Search Engine) allows users to search free text (unstructured) clinical notes from the electronic health record. This training will cover what EMERSE is, how it works, and how to use it appropriately. For more information about EMERSE or to sign-up for future trainings, please visit the <https://tracs.unc.edu/index.php/services/biomedical-informatics/emerse>.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

Grace Chen, BA, our Research Administrator, and **Annie Skilton, MSLS, CRA**, our Research Program Coordinator, provide support for all areas of proposal development including clinical trials and will be your main contacts (see below for group assignments) for all things relating to pre-award research. They will help you with developing your budget, compiling the appropriate documentation for your proposal, routing your grant for submission and coordinating with the Office of Clinical Trials, the sponsor, and administration. Please notify Grace or Annie as early as possible, but at least 6 weeks before the due date, as external grants must be routed and submitted to the university 7-days before the due date!

| Groups assigned to Grace | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Burn | Vascular |
| Pediatric Surgery | Plastics and Reconstructive |
| Gastrointestinal Surgery | Chair |
| Groups assigned to Annie | |
| Abdominal Transplant | Cardiothoracic |
| General and Acute Care | Surgical Oncology |
| Resident Trainees | |

To request grant submission assistance or clinical trial contract submission, please complete the [online service request form](#) found under *Research* on the UNC Surgery website. To request clinical trial contract submission, please complete the [online service request form](#).

BIOSTATISTICS

The Department of Surgery is collaborating with the **North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute (NC TraCS)** to provide biostatistical consultations and support to our faculty members

and residents. Biostatistics support can be requested through the [NC TraCS website](#). If you are using a database, creating a database or have questions as to whether you need a biostatistician, please continue to contact Paula Strassle and Charley Gaber through the [online service request form](#) found under *Research* on the UNC Surgery website.

DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Paula Strassle, PhD, MSPH, Assistant Professor is our Database Manager. Her team will provide assistance for data collection, database set-up, and chart reviews. They will help you organize and think about your data so that you will be able to analyze it when you are ready. Still have questions? Check out the [FAQs](#). They are in charge of the NIS, NSQIP, and SEER [databases](#) and can also point you to other databases that may be of assistance. Please contact them BEFORE you start any project involving data. To request their assistance, please complete the [online service request form](#) found under *Research* on the UNC Surgery website.

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

Clinical librarian and liaison from the Health Sciences Library. Provides support for evidence-based practice and research, including

- Focused or comprehensive literature searching
- Critically appraising evidence
- Collaborating on systematic reviews
- Advice on presenting/publishing results
- Education on research tools and resources, including searching PubMed and other literature databases, SPIN for finding funding sources, Covidence for systematic reviews, and citation management software.

To request systematic review assistance, please complete the [online request form](#). For any other requests, contact Rebecca at carlson@unc.edu.

ABSTRACT DEADLINES

2020 American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST)
Meeting Date: September 9-12, 2020
Location: Waikoloa, HI
Abstract Deadline: March 1, 2020
More information [available here](#)

American College of Surgeons (ACS) Clinical Congress 2020
Meeting Date: October 4-8, 2020
Location: Chicago, IL
Abstract Deadline: March 2, 2020
More information [available here](#)

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FACULTY

Office of Research Development Publication Grants
Application Deadline: April 6, 2020
More information available [here](#).

NC TraCS Pilot Awards for Translational Research
Application Deadline: March 24, 2020 is the next deadline for three NC TraCS Pilot award programs:

- [\\$5-50K Translational Research Matched Pilot Grants](#)
- [FastTraCS Funding: Special emphasis on drugs, devices and diagnostics development](#)
- [Translational Science Methods and Process Awards \(TSMAPA\)](#)

For more information about these pilot grant mechanisms please contact [Paul Kerr](#) or nctracs@unc.edu.

BOTH

NC TraCS \$2K Grant Awards
Application Deadline(s) 2020: March 17; April 21; May 19
Award Amount: \$2,000
More information available [here](#).

Pilot Grants for Gastrointestinal Biology Research
Letter of Intent Deadline: March 16, 2020
Application Deadline: April 27, 2020
Award Amount: Up to \$30,000
More information available [here](#).



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CENTER FOR GASTROINTESTINAL
BIOLOGY AND DISEASE



2020 Pilot/Feasibility Grants

Apply for up to \$30,000 of funding for a pilot project related to digestive disease research.

[Here are the important due dates:](#)

Letter of Intent: March 16th

Full Application: April 27th

Finalists will be asked to make an oral presentation at the
CGIBD Annual Scientific Research Symposium

June 16, 2020

Go here for more information:

<http://www.med.unc.edu/cgibd/pilot-feasibility>

CGIBD is funded by a grant from the NIH
NIH # P30 DK034987

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GRAND ROUNDS

Wednesdays 7:15 am - 8:15 am at the 4th floor Clinic Auditorium

3/4/2020



Colin G Thomas Jr.
Distinguished Visiting Professor
Nat Soper, MD, *Loyal and Edith Davis Professor of Surgery, Chair Emeritus Department of Surgery, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University*

3/11/2020

Quality Quarterly
Career Corner

3/18/2020

Faculty Meeting

3/25/2019

Faculty Talk

Felicia Williams, MD, *Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Burn Surgery*

4/1/2020

Faculty Talk

Kate McGinagle, MD, *Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Vascular Surgery*

4/8/2020

Chief Residents
Sara Scarlet, MD
and **Kim Jones, MD**

4/15/2020



Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Visiting Professor **Sherry Wren, MD**, *Professor Of Surgery (General Surgery), Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Health Care System*

4/22/2020

Faculty Talk

Munee Kapadia, MD, *Associate Professor, Division of GI Surgery and Associate Vice Chair of Education*

4/29/2020



UNC Visiting Speaker
Nathan Thomas, PhD, *Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, UNC School of Medicine*

5/6/2020



James F. Newsome, MD
Distinguished Visiting Professor
Sandra Wong, MD, MD, *Chair and William N. and Bessie Allyn Professor of Surgery, Geisel School of Medicine and Dartmouth-Hitchcock*

5/13/2020

Chief Resident
Rafi Fredman, MD

5/20/2020

Quality Quarterly
Career Corner

5/27/2020

Interdisciplinary M&M

VISITING PROFESSORS: INSIGHTS FROM EXPERTS



Visiting Professor
Arthur Matas, MD,
Professor Department of Surgery University of Minnesota

Controversies in
Increasing Living
Kidney Donation

- Regulations and oversight processes must be clearly defined and available for outside review, whether national or international.

c. Oversight, and d. Regulations

- There must be clearly defined policies for follow-up, outcome determination, and for detection and correction of irregularities.
- There should be defined consequences for entities within the system that do not adhere to policies.

Essential Elements

1. Protection of donor and recipient.
2. Allocation by pre-defined algorithm similar to UNOS (everyone on the list has an opportunity to be transplanted; not the rich buying from the poor)
3. Incentive provided by government;
4. Fixed "package" to the donor;
5. No other living kidney donor commercialization legal;
6. Limited to citizens & legal residents to allow for long-term follow-up
7. A Plan for supervision and correction of irregularities.

Incentives could include a choice of options

- Life insurance

- Health insurance
- Tax deductions/credit
- College tuition
- Direct payment
- Others

Opponents to incentives often confuse a "regulated system" from an "unregulated free market", and note that unregulated markets have failed elsewhere

Of note - because a transplant is cost-effective vs. dialysis, a regulated system of incentives can be cost-neutral (or cost-saving) to the health care system.

SUMMARY - OPINION (RE-INCENTIVES)

- Unless major changes are made there will continue to be a shortage of organs;
- This will lead to unnecessary death and suffering;
- Every effort should be made to increase both living and deceased donation;
- Legalizing incentives has the potential to solve this problem;
- The public supports incentives;
- We should advocate for a change in the law so that trials can be initiated.

PROPOSAL

Removal of disincentives (financial neutrality)
A Regulated system of incentives

Key Principles

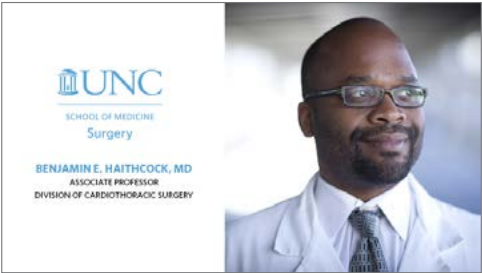
a. Protection of donor and recipient

- Risk to the donor should be similar to our accepted standards to our current living donors.
- The donor must be fully informed, understand the risks, understand the nature of the incentive and how it will be distributed, and receive the benefit.
- There must be follow-up and an opportunity to redress any wrongdoing.

b. Transparency

COMMUNICATIONS

FACULTY VIDEOS



The Power of Your Faculty Video

“I saw a patient today in clinic who was billed as a second opinion from Duke. We did our usual breast cancer evaluation and teaching, and at the end of the visit, the patient made it very clear that she is staying at UNC. I thanked her but she continued.....she stated she and her husband had been looking for a new provider on YouTube. Your video is how they chose to come to see me at UNC. Specifically, it was the footage of me with Anna C. in the exam room. The patient today stated she felt like she got just what she was expecting based upon your video. THANK YOU! Anna C. was so happy and so is the patient today!!” - David Ollila, MD

TOP 5 VIDEOS

- Pediatric Surgery - A Guide to Day Surgery
- UNC Department of Surgery Video
- UNC Surgery Profile: Melina Kibbe, MD
- UNC Surgery Profile: Andrea Hayes-Jordan, MD
- UNC Surgery Profile: Mahesh Sharma, MD

UNC Surgery
February 18 at 9:50 AM

Don't miss our very own Emily Newton, General Surgery Resident, who will be on Wheel of Fortune this Thursday at 7:30pm on ABC. Be sure to watch her alongside Pauline Filippou, UNC Urology chief resident. Watch to support and cheer them on. Wheel of Fortune | UNC School of Medicine | UNC Health Care

PATIENT STORY

[A Wild Story: Adult Congenital Patient Receives Modified Ross Procedure](#)



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| Bahnson, PhD NIH K01 Award | | |
| | 73k Impressions 9k Views | YOUTUBE |
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The Department of Surgery's mission is to provide the highest quality patient care to all people through innovation, world-class research, and training the next generation of surgical health care professionals and scientists.

VISION

To be the nation's leading public academic Department of Surgery.



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