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## MISSION

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.

On the cover: UNC Surgery’s Drs. Chirag Desai and Sorabh Kapoor lead a collaborative team to perform UNC’s first live liver donor transplant.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is hard to believe that this month marks my one-year anniversary with the Department.

Reflecting on the past year, I feel so fortunate to have found my way to UNC and most importantly, to have the opportunity to work with the remarkable individuals that make up UNC Surgery. The kindness, generosity, and energy with which I have been welcomed into the department have been amazing.

This department has an incredible legacy and history. Just looking outside the window of Burnett-Womack to the new Surgical Hospital taking shape shows how exciting our future is. We have made tremendous progress and our shared vision for the department's next era is taking shape. This has been an important year of transitions, and there is still much to do. Yet while change can be challenging, there is nowhere that I would rather be and no one that I would rather be doing it with than the UNC Department of Surgery.

Some notable successes from this past year include:

- Engagement throughout the department in our strategic planning process. We have held 16 brainstorming sessions with people throughout the department. All of these ideas will culminate in a faculty retreat and departmental town hall this fall where we will launch our 5-year strategic plan.

  **The key pillars of our strategic plan are:**
  1. Clinical Programs of Distinction that are Highly Coordinated and Efficient
  2. National Leaders in Surgeon Performance and Educational Innovation
  3. State Leader in Surgical Quality Measurement and Improvement
  4. Our People Know Where They Fit and Feel Valued

- Increased effort on faculty development and promotion and tenure. Dr. David Ollila and Samantha Cooperstein have made tremendous progress in meeting with our faculty to ensure that we have advisory committees and clear paths to promotion in place. We plan a similar focus on development and advancement for staff and advanced practice providers.

- Development of a Research Task Force. Led by Dr. Jen Jen Yeh, this group is looking at opportunities to coordinate and consolidate our research infrastructure at the departmental level.

- Revision of departmental conferences. Dr. Muneera Kapadia has helped streamline conferences to be more efficient while building our strong sense of community and commitment to our tripartite mission.

- Bringing our team together to increase cohesion. We celebrated at the Holiday Party at the Chapel Hill Country Club last December, had a strong team presence at the Tar Heel 10 in April, and enjoyed banquet, baseball, and fireworks at the Durham Bulls in June.

- A concerted focus on increasing collaboration and communication with our partners in the hospital and other departments to optimize the coordination and quality of care that we provide.

As we head into this next year, I invite each member of our community to think about how we can continue to increase the joy and satisfaction that we get from our professions and impact we have on our patients, learners, and the world around us. I am committed to creating a culture and an infrastructure that supports each member of the department in advancing their individual goals and priorities.

Thank you for all you do for our patients, our students, our department, and our institution.

Caprice C. Greenberg, MD, MPH, FACS
Colin G. Thomas Jr. Distinguished Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY by the numbers

*Data as of December 31, 2022*

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<tr>
<th>70 FACULTY</th>
<th>87 TRAINEES</th>
<th>57 ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS</th>
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<th>55 RESEARCHERS</th>
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CELEBRATING OUR 2023

Message from Dr. Meyers:
Every year we have the pleasure and pride of seeing another group of graduates finish their residency. It’s so rewarding to see how much this group has accomplished and to look forward to what comes next for each of them. We wish them well as they move to the next steps in their lives and careers.

Favorite memory: Procuring thoracic organs, implanting them in a patient and seeing that patient leave the hospital with improved quality of life.
Pearl of wisdom: Try and care. Don’t do sucker dissection with a metal tip sucker.
After graduation plans: Working at UNC as a Cardiac Surgery Attending.

Favorite memory: The first time I did a case from beginning to end without the attending scrubbed in. Felt like I had finally made it!
Pearl of wisdom: Work hard and be nice to people. The left hand does the operation and the right hand takes the credit.
After graduation plans: Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Favorite memory: Having transferred from another program, the way my co-residents, attendings and program director supported, trusted, and helped me succeed is something I will always be grateful for.
Pearl of wisdom: Treat your patients like you’d like a loved one to be treated and always do the best you can.
After graduation plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship at the University of Utah.

Favorite memory: Operating with my co-residents and the camaradire of the chief room.
Pearl of wisdom: You will be remembered as a leader for how you treat members of your team. Hold each other accountable, but support each other in all we do.
After graduation plans: Vascular Surgery Fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis.

Favorite memory: My elective on SRH/SICU! 
Pearl of wisdom: Do not put off tasks, take care of your to do list and see consults asap. You never know when there will be an emergency that will derail your plans. Go to the OR whenever you can, cover cases even on a busy call. Exposure especially when you can double scrub will be valuable.
After graduation plans: Staying at UNC to complete a fellowship in surgical critical care!

Favorite memory: A red trauma with extensive facial fractures and ED was unsuccessful intubating... I was able to secure his airway. It was a huge adrenaline rush and made me feel great to have truly helped the patient.
Pearl of wisdom: No one is invincible... be kinder to yourself through tough times.
After graduation plans: Surgery Critical Care Fellowship at the University of Michigan.

Favorite memory: Completing my first laparoscopic cholecystectomy from incision to closure without an attending in the room.
Pearl of wisdom: Don’t miss the forst for the trees. Always be vigilant in tiger country. There’s no such thing as losing, only learning.
After graduation plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship at the University of Kentucky.

Favorite memory: The intern work room, the OG RDI, personal Proseccos, weddings, when hospital police overhead paged me to move my car.
Pearl of wisdom: Never stop caring about your patients, your people, and yourself.
After graduation plans: Cardiothoracic Surgery Fellowship (thoracic track) at Emory University.
FELLOWS

SEUL CHAUDHARY, MD
Critical Care
Favorite memory: Spending time/working with the residents and my co-fellow in the SICU bubble! And adopting my puppy this year.
Pearl of wisdom: Residency/Fellowship is hard work. Make sure you take time outside of work to do things you love and spend time with family.
After graduation plans: Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Attending at East Carolina University.

JUSTIN HSU, MD
Minimally Invasive Surgery
Favorite memory: Eating lunch with Dr. Farrell.
Pearl of wisdom: Be kind.
After graduation plans: MIS/Bariatric Surgeon at the University of Toledo.

ALEX FISHER, MD
Surgical Oncology
Favorite memory: Working with great people for the day to day rounds, cases and clinics.
Pearl of wisdom: Be wary of Friday afternoon phone calls.
After graduation plans: Joining a surgical oncology practice at Northern Light Health in Bangor, Maine.

SOOFYON KIM, MD
Vascular Surgery
Favorite memory: All the jokes and laughs shared together with my co-fellows/residents, APPs, and all the vascular staff -- because we are a family!
Pearl of wisdom: Training can be long but enjoy the process -- and stop and smell the roses.

DHAVAL PATEL, MD
Critical Care
Favorite memory: Working with my critical care co-fellow, all the residents, and the opportunity to learn from the surgical critical care attendings.
Pearl of wisdom: Half the battle is showing up. Show up and work hard, and learn from everyone around you as you care for your patients. But don’t forget to care for yourself as well.
After graduation plans: Trauma/acute care/ surgical critical care attending at Corewell Health/MSU in Grand Rapids, MI.

FERNANDO MOTTA, MD
Vascular Surgery
Favorite memory: After leaving the hospital late at night, my daughter was still awake waiting for me. She asked what I was doing. After I explained to her, she cried, hugged me, and said “I am very proud of you daddy.”
Pearl of wisdom: Come to the hospital as if it is your last opportunity to learn. You will be out soon. Make time for yourself and your family. They are working hard for you too.
After graduation plans: Assistant Professor of Vascular Surgery at the University of Oklahoma.

Critical Care
Favorite memory: Leaving the hospital late with co-residents/friends after finishing an operation (plastic surgery is the closing team!) and laughing on our way to Craig deck.
Pearl of wisdom: Every year really does get better! Always take the high road.
After graduation plans: Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Vascular Surgery
Favorite memory: How well all my co-residents performed on the in-service exam after we completed an overhaul of the curriculum.
Pearl of wisdom: Introspection is the most powerful tool for improvement in residency and in life. You can’t work on your weaknesses if you are unaware.
After graduation plans: Moving to San Antonio, starting private cosmetic surgery practice.

SURGEON GRADUATES

MEREDITH KUGAR, MD
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Favorite memory: Leaving the hospital late with co-residents/friends after finishing an operation (plastic surgery is the closing team!) and laughing on our way to Craig deck.
Pearl of wisdom: Every year really does get better! Always take the high road.
After graduation plans: Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship in Shreveport, Louisiana.

MARCOS LOPEZ, MD
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Favorite memory: How well all my co-residents performed on the in-service exam after we completed an overhaul of the curriculum.
Pearl of wisdom: Introspection is the most powerful tool for improvement in residency and in life. You can’t work on your weaknesses if you are unaware.
After graduation plans: Moving to San Antonio, starting private cosmetic surgery practice.

Critical Care
Favorite memory: Working with my critical care co-fellow, all the residents, and the opportunity to learn from the surgical critical care attendings.
Pearl of wisdom: Half the battle is showing up. Show up and work hard, and learn from everyone around you as you care for your patients. But don’t forget to care for yourself as well.
After graduation plans: Trauma/acute care/ surgical critical care attending at Corewell Health/MSU in Grand Rapids, MI.

Justina Hsu, MD
Minimally Invasive Surgery
Favorite memory: Eating lunch with Dr. Farrell.
Pearl of wisdom: Be kind.
After graduation plans: MIS/Bariatric Surgeon at the University of Toledo.

Alex Fisher, MD
Surgical Oncology
Favorite memory: Working with great people for the day to day rounds, cases and clinics.
Pearl of wisdom: Be wary of Friday afternoon phone calls.
After graduation plans: Joining a surgical oncology practice at Northern Light Health in Bangor, Maine.

Soofyoon Kim, MD
Vascular Surgery
Favorite memory: All the jokes and laughs shared together with my co-fellows/residents, APPs, and all the vascular staff -- because we are a family!
Pearl of wisdom: Training can be long but enjoy the process-- and stop and smell the roses.
WELCOMING NEW RESIDENTS

Szu-in Lim, MD
Northwestern University School of Medicine
General Surgery Residency

Sean McCarthy, MD
Wayne State University School of Medicine
General Surgery Residency

Patrick Brown, MD
Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine
General Surgery Residency

Rasha Kakati, MD
American University of Beirut
General Surgery Residency

Rebecca Heidenberg, MD
Florida State University School of Medicine
General Surgery Residency

Panagiotis Tasoudis, MD
University of Thessalia Faculty of Medicine - Greece
Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency

Molly Nyren, MD
University of Florida College of Medicine
General Surgery Residency
MEET THE NEWEST FACULTY MEMBERS

Jeremiah “Jig” Deneve, DO, FACS
Associate Professor, Surgical Oncology

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? “The opportunity to work at UNC and the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of the premier NCI designated cancer centers in the country, working with similarly minded individuals to diagnose, perform research and treat cancer patients is my privilege and absolutely an honor.”

Jessica Schumacher, PhD, MS
Research Assoc. Professor, Surgical Oncology

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? "I am a health services researcher who is passionate about ensuring the research we do can be translated to improving patient outcomes and reducing disparities in care. I was drawn to UNC because of the opportunity to work with the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and a range of practitioners and researchers in the Department of Surgery and across the Schools of Medicine, Global Public Health, Pharmacy and Nursing. I am honored to have the chance to work with a world-class multidisciplinary team of clinicians and colleagues across the UNC campus to do innovative research with real-world implications.”

Elizabeth Gleeson, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? “I was drawn to the robust cancer and epidemiologic research that is conducted at UNC. The Lineberger Cancer Center has excellent resources to help people across the state of North Carolina, and I was very impressed with the people who work here. I find that everyone is devoted to the mission of the Cancer Center and helping the institution achieve its goals of reducing morbidity and mortality of cancer and cancer-related illness in North Carolina.”

Melissa Chen, MD
Assistant Professor, Abdominal Transplant

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? “I was drawn to the mission of the University of North Carolina to serve all patients in the state, and to increase access to care for those who otherwise face barriers to getting treatment. I am excited to work with a team of dedicated medical doctors, surgeons, coordinators, pharmacists, and so many others. Further, it was important to me to be in an academic setting that would allow me to be involved with medical student and resident education.”

Maggie Hodges, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor, GI Surgery

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? “UNC has a world-renowned reputation as a leader in medicine, global health, clinical research, public health research, and clinical excellence, while also taking seriously the University’s responsibility to the people of North Carolina. This culture of leadership, excellence, and service to others, in a Department dedicated to improving surgical care on the individual and group level, made me thrilled to join the Department of Surgery at UNC.”

Julia Selfridge, MD
Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology

Why did you choose UNC Surgery? “I always wanted to practice as an academic surgeon in an environment that would allow me to provide excellent clinical care, contribute to research, and educate trainees at all levels from medical school to fellowship. Throughout my surgical training, I had mentors who were trained or had worked at UNC, and I held its surgery program in high esteem. When a position became available within the department, I knew I wanted to join the team at UNC and jumped at the opportunity.”
**TEAM NEWS and UPDATES**

Fortune Recognizes UNC Health as One of America’s Most Innovative Companies

Congratulations on this accomplishment!

UNC Health Named One of the Top Places to Work in Healthcare (Becker’s Top 150 Places to Work in Healthcare 2023.)

UNC Women Surgeons Wine & Cheese Night smiles convened faculty, trainees, and students. Co-lead by Estafania Gonzales, Avani Desai, Hannah Pollock and Advisor Arielle Perez, MD, the event was hosted by Chair Caprice Greenberg, MD. The event was full of wonderful networking and discussion.

**WELCOMING NEW TEAM MEMBERS**

Wendy Basinger
Research Coordinator
Vascular Surgery

Chris Burgess
Clinical Research Specialist
Vascular Surgery

Lori Chrisco
Burn Program Manager
Burn Surgery

Samantha Cooperstein,
Department of Surgery
Strategic Initiatives Director

Carla Dawson
Administrative Coordinator
General Surgery Hillsborough

Jaquelyn Eron
RN Coordinator
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Nikki Freeman
Post-Doc Research Associate
Vascular Surgery

Callie Gudeman
Department of Surgery
Director of Operations

Beth Hubbard
School of Medicine
Human Resources

Jessica Irven
Department of Surgery
Communications Coordinator

Jordan Jacobs
Social/Clinical Research Assistant
Burn Surgery

Payton Leonhardt
Physician Associate
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Kaylin Mancari
Physician Associate
Cardiothoracic Surgery

Jennifer Schatz
RN

Molly Stein
Acute Care & Trauma Surgery

Maria Surico-Leary
Administrative Coordinator
Burn Surgery

Kari Walls
Soc/Clin Research Specialist
Vascular Surgery
UNC Firsts: Live Liver Donor

Dr. Chirag Desai and Dr. Sorabh Kapoor led a collaborative care team to perform the first liver transplant from a living donor at Carolina in almost twenty years. In this case, the donor daughter shared a portion of her liver with her (recipient) mother to treat life-threatening liver disease.

“It is extremely satisfying to offer this treatment to our patient, who didn’t have to undergo prolonged suffering while waiting for a deceased donor liver,” said Desai, who is also the surgical director of the Liver Transplant Program at Carolina. “A living donor transplant enabled her to get this surgery done in optimal time and she has had a great outcome.”

Now that the precedent has been set, UNC Health has announced it has expanded its transplant services to include living donors – making it the second program in North Carolina capable of performing the procedure. Read more about this milestone case here.

Meredith Stiehl (left) received the transplant and daughter Kenan Stiehl (right) donated part of her liver. Photo credit: Kenan Stiehl via UNC Health.

National Pancreas Foundation CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

UNC’s Chronic Pancreatitis and Autologous Islet Cell Transplant Program was named a National Pancreas Foundation Center of Excellence. “We are honored that the UNC Medical Center - Chronic Pancreatitis and Autologous Islet Cell Transplant has been designated as NPF Center for treatment of pancreatitis,” said Dr. Chirag S. Desai, director of the program. “Having the NPF Center designation will help distinguish our program. This is very significant since it validates our specialty program and will enhance the program’s access to patients through their portal as well as partnership with ours.”

“We are thrilled to expand our NPF Centers of Excellence Program to better serve the needs of patients suffering from pancreas disease,” said David Bakelman, CEO of the National Pancreas Foundation. “The NPF Centers of Excellence Program is one of the pillars of NPF, and we are looking forward to working with our current and new Centers.”

An approved NPF Center has to meet the criteria that were developed by a task force made up of invited subject matter experts and patient advocates. The criteria includes having the required expert physician specialties such as pancreas surgeons, gastroenterologists and interventional radiologists, along with more patient focused programs such as a pain management service, psychosocial support and more.

Founded in 1997, the National Pancreas Foundation provides hope for those suffering from pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer through funding cutting-edge research, advocating for new and better therapies and providing support and education for patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals. The NPF is the only foundation dedicated to patients suffering from all forms of pancreas disease.

For more information visit: pancreasfoundation.org

Read more about the Chronic Pancreatitis and Autologous Islet Cell Transplant Program.
UNC Firsts: Heart in a Box

Pictured: “This heart is connected to a TransMedics Organ Care System (OCS), commonly known as the “heart in a box.” This device allows us to transport and keep the donor heart in a metabolically active state. One of the main advantages is a reduction in the ischemia time (traditionally ~4 hours for hearts). This allows the UNC heart transplant team to procure from farther distances, thereby increasing the donor pool for our patient population”. Source: UNC Cardiothoracic Surgery Program

Surgeon Thomas Caranasos, MD describes this UNC First: “On March 8, we performed our first Transmedics Heart Transplant or “Heart in a Box” procurement in our institutions history. This is a landmark day for UNC Heart Failure and the entire team is responsible for making this happen and bringing this advanced technology to our institution. The patient who received the heart underwent salvage ECMO at UNC and was an extremely complex case with a hole in her aorta requiring the need for a longer ischemic time for the Heart graft. This is a wonderful collaborative multidisciplinary effort with Heart Failure Cardiology, Cardiac Surgery, Cardiac Anesthesia, ICU, OR team and Perfusionists”.

UNC Firsts: Lungs Transported with Portable Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion

Only 1 in 5 donated lungs are used for transplantation. Strategies such as normothermic perfusion can be employed to optimize evaluation of extended criteria lung donors (e.g. donations after cardiac death or edematous lungs). Portable ex vivo lung perfusion (EVLP) systems such as the TransMedics OCS™ (Organ Care System) allow programs without in house EVLP to access this technology and increase the reach of lung transplantation.

Gita Mody, MD MPH: “In July we performed the first two case using lungs transported on this system at UNC. These cases represent a tremendous effort from transplant leadership and the clinical teams (Perfusion, Cardiothoracic Anesthesia, Critical Care team members, Transplant Pulmonary medicine, Thoracic Surgery, the Lung transplant team staff, OR nurses, and many others) in setting up the processes needed to use the device and completing the surgeries. The patients who received these lungs were on significant amounts of oxygen and deteriorating while waiting. The impact of this work will be for our patients to have earlier lung transplants.”

We have also had several multi-disciplinary teams that have collaborated for important advancements with several firsts at UNC including the first Pascal Mitral Edge to Edge leaflet repair in the state of North Carolina by the structural heart team, including Drs. Thomas Caranasos from Cardiac Surgery, and Drs. Matt Cavender and Sipa Yankey from Cardiology and the first ThoraFlex aortic arch repair by a joint cardiac and vascular surgery team including Drs. Caranasos and Aurelie Merlo (Cardiac Surgery), Dr. Ezequiel Parodi (Vascular Surgery), and Mark Henry (from Anesthesiology) on May 11.

These firsts could not happen without the tremendous collaboration of the clinical, administrative, nursing and operating room teams that partner with our physicians to take care of these complex cases.
Vascular + Podiatry = Innovative Excellence

Division of Vascular Surgery Chief William Marston had a vision. Recruiting Podiatrists with specialized training in peripheral vascular disease and limb salvage to the team began in 1999 (starting with Dr. Kashefsky part-time), then excelled on to full-time faculty members 13 years ago. This vision propelled UNC to be a regional and a national leader in limb salvage. By working closely with the vascular surgery team, Podiatrists have performed over 300 operations every year focusing on lower limb salvage by preventing major amputations, diabetic charcot foot and ankle reconstruction with application of lizarov external fixation and plastic surgical reconstruction of diabetic foot and ankle.

Clinical Innovation at Work: Limb Salvage Surgery by Dr. Shrunjay Patel

Mr. James January Jr. survived 3rd degree burns to 85% of his body in 1992. His treatment included xenograft applications, many months in the hospital, and numerous follow-up surgeries of many types. Mr. January lived with peripheral neuropathy and underwent left foot partial foot (trans-metatarsal) amputation in 2018 due to non-healing wound to the plantar lateral aspect of left foot. He had multiple soft tissue and bone debridement as well as advanced wound care and offloading braces to attempt to heal the wound.

Due to multiple complex factors, his wounds would not heal, and he dealt with recurring infections in his foot near the scarred skin from his burn injury. He also lived with neuropathy and deformity of his hindfoot and ankle. Clinically, these factors caused him to overload outer (lateral plantar) part of his left foot while walking leading to a chronic non-healing wound. He also developed bone infection multiple times and was treated with bone debridements and long term IV antibiotics.

A below the knee amputation option was offered. However, this would be a difficult amputation to heal from due to previous burn injury and scar tissue formation circumferentially around the leg. Additionally, he would not be a good candidate for prosthesis due to circumferential scar tissue in the leg and not being able to bear weight on his fragile scarred skin.

For these reasons he was referred to the limb salvage clinic for reconstruction and deformity correction and wound closure as an attempt for limb salvage. The team cared for this patient with a multidisciplinary team approach towards limb salvage. Through working closely with the Infectious Disease team at UNC and with team effort, we the Podiatry Team (led by Dr. Patel) was successfully able to eradicate the bone infection in the foot.

Next the team utilizing a staged approach: First Dr. Patel performed realignment surgery and performed hindfoot and ankle fusion and application of Ilizarov circular multiplanar external fixation system. He also performed local rotational skin flap to close the wound. After approximately 2 months of healing from initial surgery, Mr. January was taken back to the operating room for removal of all hardware from his foot and leg. His wounds healed completely and his deformity was completely corrected. He was transitioned to a supportive custom shoe with weight bearing as tolerated. He has remained healed without recurrence of deformity or infection and has been able to ambulate without any complications for over a year now. He is very happy to have his life back without wounds and he is extremely grateful and delighted with his outcome of limb salvage surgery at UNC.

(Read more about Mr. January’s healing at right)
NC JAYCEE BURN CENTER: A UNC LEGACY

Burn Center Aftercare: Support for Survivors and Loved Ones Across Life Stages

The emotional work of healing after burn injury occurs largely after discharge. Aftercare programming meets emotional and psychosocial needs of survivors and their families. It educates them about what to expect along the extensive road of recovery after traumatic injury. Most importantly, Aftercare offers opportunities and tools necessary to heal and to make the most positive transition from burn victim to burn survivor.

Survivors of burn trauma need to know there is hope; they are not alone. The North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center provides professional Aftercare programs run by trained trauma-informed care experts. Programs offer spiritual and emotional support for patients, families, friends and community members throughout the recovery process. Through information, individual peer support for survivors and loved ones, camps, reunions, retreats, regional events, or conferences, the Burn Team continues to offer new ways to provide Aftercare to everyone.

**UNC is home to the oldest burn aftercare program in the United States.** Camp Celebrate is a weekend camp for children ages 7-15 who have survived burn injuries. Created in 1982 in response to an inability to find traditional camping opportunities for a group of young burn patients at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, Camp Celebrate was the first camping experience of its kind. Most campers have been treated at the Burn Center, but Camp Celebrate is open to any pediatric burn survivor in North Carolina.

Activities at camp are plentiful, as are the opportunities to meet and share courage with other kids who share the experience of having been burned. Teen burn survivors, ages 16-18, can serve as Counselors-in-Training. The program began in 2006 and is designed to contribute to the teen’s personal growth and responsibility. **Many campers return year after year. Especially poignant are the stories of survivors who return as adults to serve as counselors and share their experiences and knowledge with the children.**

Volunteers from across the state, including firefighters and Jaycees, join the Burn Center staff in providing campers a fun and enriching experience by serving as counselors, program staff, logistics assistants, and more. Aftercare programs are so impactful because they provide a sense of connection with fellow survivors and the center staff, a trajectory of healing and hope.

**On Survivorship, Surgeries, and Giving Back**

James January, a burn survivor since 1992, exemplifies the impact of UNC’s care and its inspiration for him to give back to the burn community. With Burn Center staff, he lectures on his own treatment and healing, including from initial burn care and more recent limb surgeries (see previous page). January brings his own children to Family Camp to benefit from the connects and supportive environment, and volunteers as a Camp Celebrate Counselor, and continues in service to other survivors.

He shares: “The irony of my condition (85-90% burn) is that my feet were not burned, yet they caused the majority of physical (& motivational) issues from date of burn up until the partial amputation & Ilizarov apparatus work Dr. Patel did”” Near the end of his inpatient stay in 1992, his physical therapist invited him to speak on the patient perspective, things that one needs to consider, approaches one needs to make, etc.

“As time progressed I got better doing what I do and started doing more than just lectures…all while enduring the ups & downs when things related to burn injury, many times being my feet, would not allow regularity of life. Being involved with prevention & post burn programs, along with educational work has become a way to make use of what the military taught me prior to being burned & it has made a life course correction doable. The work I do is in part therapeutic (to self & to others) & the work Dr. Patel did keeps me from having to spend time on the sidelines”. **A circle of healing for sure.**
GRAND ROUNDS | M&M

Wednesdays 7:00am - 8:00 am in the Surgery Education Center, 4050 Burnett-Womack and via WebEx

Upcoming M&M Conferences  8/30/2023 | 9/13/2023 | 9/27/2023 | 10/18/2023

Upcoming Grand Rounds

8/16/2023
Faculty Lecture
Jig Deneve, DO, FACS
Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology
and
Matthew Eckert, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery
Lieutenant Colonel (P), US Army Medical Corps

8/23/2023
James F. Newsome, MD
Distinguished Visiting Professor
Callisia Clarke, MD, MS, FACS, FSSO Assistant Professor, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

9/6/2023
Oliver R. Rowe Distinguished Professorship
Jacob Greenberg, MD, Associate Professor, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC

9/20/2023
OR Teamwork Event

IN THE LOOP

EDUCATION

The PGY 4 and PGY 5 General Surgery residents had their second Mock Orals in May. Thanks to all the faculty, examinees, and administrative staff who helped ensure a successful event. We are in the process of setting dates for the next UNC Mock Orals this Fall, and we hope you will be able to participate.

2023 Career Development Grand Rounds included Geeta Lal, MD, MSc, FRCS(C), FACS, Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics, Division of Surgical Oncology and Endocrine Surgery from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine speaking about “Surgical Ergonomics: An Overlooked Component of Surgeon Wellness Finally Comes of Age”. We also welcomed Sunil Geervarghese, MD, MSc, FACS, Associate Professor, Vice Chair for Education, Section of Surgical Sciences at Vanderbilt University Medical Center who spoke on “Caveat Chirurgus”. These were excellent lectures, discussions, and visits from these distinguished guests.

A pilot grant through UNC Academy of Educators to Muneera Kapadia, MD, MME and Co-PI Priyanka Rao, MD (Pediatrics), will allow us to develop a communication bootcamp for 4th year medical students focusing on advanced patient-related communication skills (bad news telling, error disclosure, dealing with the angry patient, etc). We look forward to this coming to fruition!

12/14/2022
Peter Starek Distinguished Visiting Professor Leonard Girardi, MD, Professor, Chair and Surgeon-in-Chief at NY Presbyterian and Weill Cornell Medical Center.

1/11/2023
Career Corner Visiting Professor Geeta Lal, MD.
“Great grand rounds by Dr. Geeta Lal on surgical ergonomics. A large proportion of surgeons experience work related pain and injuries - we need to start intervening early with education during training” - Comment by and photo credit to Arielle Perez, MD, MPH via Twitter

UNC Academy of Educators 2023 Alan W. Cross Evening of Scholarship took place on June 1, 2023. Congratulations to the Department of Surgery AOE Award Recipients!

Academy of Educators Award Recipients

Arielle Perez, MD, MPH
Innovation in Teaching Award

Muneera Kapadia, MD, MME
Educational Mentor/Advisor Award

Jeyhan Wood, MD
Application/Individualization Phase Clinical Preceptor Excellence in Teaching Award

We express gratitude for the past year of educational excellence and look for to more to come.

Sincerely,

Timothy Farrell, MD
Vice Chair of Education

Muneera Kapadia, MD, MME
Associate Vice Chair of Education
The 2023 Surgery Bootcamp: Over 2 days, UNC Medical Students, matching in surgical specialties, refined their skillsets on some basic procedures that they will likely encounter during the first year of residency.

In order to stimulate interprofessional collaboration, some sessions were combined with the Anesthesia Bootcamp.

Kudos and thanks to all involved!

Practice makes perfect! Our simulation OR and simulation labs at UNC allow our residents to learn and/or improve their surgical skills in a safe environment. This cardiac model is able to replicate cardiopulmonary bypass and various situations in the OR such as arrhythmias or changes in blood pressure. We are also able to practice a variety of cardiac procedures such as valve replacements or coronary artery bypass. A huge thank you to our surgical PAs and OR staff who were also present for this learning experience. Photo credit: UNC CT Surgery Residency Program

NEW RESIDENT ORIENTATION 2023
The Nathan A. Womack Surgical Society Research Day

We were pleased to welcome a return visit to UNC by...

ANDREA HAYES DIXON, MD, FACS, FAAP
Dean, Howard University College of Medicine
Vice President of Clinical Affairs
Chair of Surgery, Howard University Hospital

Dr. Hayes Dixon is a pediatric surgeon and a leading scientist with focus on the treatment of desmoplastic small round cell tumors (DSRCT), a rare sarcoma, which spreads throughout the abdominal and chest cavity. She was the first surgeon to perform cytoreductive surgery and Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) in a pediatric patient, improving the survival from 30% to 60% based on complete removal of 100s of intra-abdominal tumor implants and HIPEC. Ever since, Dr. Hayes Dixon has treated patients from across the globe and traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad, teaching the operation to other surgeons.

Dr. Hayes Dixon is the first African American female pediatric surgeon board-certified in the United States, the first female Dean of the College of Medicine at Howard University and the first female Chief of Surgery for Howard University Department of Surgery.

Dr. Hayes Dixon has had a basic science research lab since the beginning of her career. In her lab she has developed novel orthotopic xenograft models. The most current one is of Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor. It is within this model that she has been able to show using single cells, sequencing, and other methods that androgen receptor is the primary driver of the growth and metastasis of desmoplastic small round cell tumor.

Currently Dr. Hayes Dixon is the Dean of Howard University College of Medicine, where she also served as the Chair of the Department of Surgery. Prior to joining Howard University, Dr. Hayes Dixon served as the Surgeon-in-Chief and Division Chief of Pediatric Surgery at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Children’s Hospital, where she also served as a Faculty Member here at UNC Surgery with roles of Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Surgical Oncology. Before UNC she was the Section Chief of Pediatric Surgery at the University of Texas (UT) MD Anderson Cancer Center.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AWARD WINNERS

Best Basic Science Poster Presentation: Hannah Trembath, MD

Best Clinical Science Poster Presentation: Ursula Adams, MD

Best Medical Student Poster Presentation: Supradeep Madduri

George F. Sheldon, MD Surgical Research Award for Best Oral Presentation: Kevin Chen, MD and Joseph Kearney, MD
COLLABORATION AND EXCELLENCE

ANDREA HAYES DIXON, MD, FACS, FAAP
Dean, Howard University College of Medicine
Vice President of Clinical Affairs
Chair of Surgery, Howard University Hospital

Congratulations

2023 Award Winners

Patricia Long, NP
Arielle Perez, MD
Karyn Stitzenberg, MD
Jen Jen Yeh, MD
Tara Zychowicz, NP

White Owl 2023 Recipients
Dr. Anoosh Bahraini
Dr. Xavier Baldwin
Dr. Kamran Khan
Dr. Ian Kratzke
Dr. Megan Lombardi
Dr. Idorenyin Ndem
Dr. Colby Ruiz
Dr. Jaclyn Portelli Tremont
Dr. Sarah Weiner
Dr. Avital Yohann

UNC Surgery partnered with Gillings School of Public Health on a Capstone MPH project.

Named “Exceptional Women in Medicine” 2023

Dr. Lynn Damitz
Dr. Karyn Stitzenberg
Dr. Jeyhan Wood
Dr. Kristalyn Gallagher

2023 Advanced Practice Providers of the Year

Jamie Hollowell, MSN, ACNP
Division of Burn Surgery
Lauren Hill, DNP, NP
Division Cardiothoracic Surgery

UNC Surgery partnered with Gillings School of Public Health on a Capstone MPH project.
2023 HIGHLIGHTS/HONORS/GRANTS

FACULTY, RESIDENTS, STAFF & STUDENTS

Ursula Adams, MD
*General Surgery Research Resident*, was accepted into UNC’s Institute of Health Care Quality Improvement Scholars. Her work will focus on the project: “Bivalirudin in Pediatric Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) Patients” in collaboration with PICU Fellow Lauren Brown, MD.

Adam Akerman, PhD
*Research Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery*
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has awarded, an R01 grant and a 4-year funding period for his study entitled: “Enhanced Biochemical Monitoring for Aortic Aneurysm Disease.”

Adesola Akinkuotu, MD, MPH
*Assistant Professor, Pediatric Surgery*
has been elected to participate in the inaugural cohort of the Junior Underrepresented Mentorship and Promotion (JUMP) Start program, sponsored by the Association of Academic Surgery (AAS) and the Society of University Surgeons (SUS). Also named UNC Simmons Scholar; she will be eligible to receive support for up to five years.

Laura Burkauer, MD
*General Surgery PGY-3*, was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Taylor Carter, MD
*General Surgery Research Resident*
Recipient of the 2023 AAS/AASF Trainee Research Award for Education. Her research focus: structure of clinical competency committees in vascular surgery & understanding the role gender bias plays in assessment of vascular surgery trainees.

Jesse Clement
*Administrative Coordinator*
Recognized as an outstanding team member and leader in our department. She is attending 2023 Emerging Leaders Academy.

Lynn Damitz, MD
*Chief, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery*
As Board Vice President of Health Policy & Advocacy for the American Society of Plastic Surgery, Dr. Damitz, ASPS and HHS staff advocated for private payor coverage and patient access to all microsurgical breast reconstruction options on Capitol Hill, personally attending 21 meetings during the last week of February.

Muneera Kapadia, MD
*Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery*
recieved a Faculty Research Fellowship from the American College of Surgeons for her project titled, “Improving Thoracic Surgery Using Electronic Patient-Reported Outcomes.”

HJ Kim, MD
*Professor and Chair, Division of Surgical Oncology,* was elected to serve on the School of Medicine Committee to Review Promotions to Professor (Tenure Track).

Larry Kim, MD
*Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology,* was elected to American Surgical Association, elected Vice Chair of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee for the American Board of Surgery, appointed Chair of the EPA (Entrustable Professional Activities Writing Group for Surgical Oncology for the American Board of Surgery.

Suprdeep Madduri
*School of Medicine student and former Division of Abdominal Transplant Research Coordinator,* received an National Institute of Health STRT grant and took time to work extensively on chronic pancreatitis and islet cell autotransplantation Redcap database.

Sean McLean, MD
*Associate Professor, Division of Pediatric Surgery,* was accepted to participate in the 2023-2024 Leading Transformation in Academic Medicine (LTAM) program
Gita Mody, MD
Associate Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, has been elected to the Society of University Surgeons.

David Ollila, MD
Associate Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology, appointed Chair of the Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure committee for tenure track assistant to associate professors for the academic year, and to two American Society of Clinical Oncology Committees: Health Equity and the Annual Meeting Scientific Program.

Arielle Perez, MD
Associate Professor, Division of General Surgery, was accepted to participate in the 2023-2024 Leading Transformation in Academic Medicine (LTAM) program.

Lauren Raff, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery, was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Phillip Spanheimer
Assistant Professor, Division of Surgical Oncology, Soc Surgical Oncology, was awarded the Society of Surgical Oncology Young Investigator Award. The project “RET Reprograms ER Activity in Endocrine Resistant Breast Cancer”

Felicia Williams, MD
Associate Professor, Division of Burn Surgery, has been selected as a Scholar in the Southern Surgical Association’s Leadership Development Program’s Class of 2023.
George F. Sheldon Leadership Award
This award in his name is given to a graduating medical student who shows the most promise as a future surgical leader.

Robert E. Cefalo House Staff Award
This award in his name is given to a graduating medical student who shows the most promise as a future surgical leader.

Herbert J. Proctor Award
This award in his name is given to a graduating medical student who shows the most promise as a future surgical leader.

Eskelund Awards for Pediatric Surgery
The award is given to the surgical residents who best characterize the qualities of:

- teamwork
- compassion
- professional conduct
- atraumatic pediatric surgical care

NC Jaycee Burn Center Intern Award
Selection: Burn physicians, nurses, staff, therapists (ICU, 5 East, Burn clinic, office)
Eligibility: Interns rotating on the Burn service during the academic year
Criteria: Best performance by an intern

NC Jaycee Burn Center John Stackhouse Award
Selection: Burn physicians, nurses, staff, therapists (ICU, 5 East, Burn clinic, office)
Eligibility: Residents rotating on the Burn service during the academic year
Criteria: Best performance by a Burn “chief”

H. Max Schiebel Award
The H. Max Schiebel, MD, Award recognizes surgical skill and proficiency and is selected by the surgical faculty of the Department of Surgery.

Nathan A. Womack Scholar Award
The award recognizes a house officer who best demonstrates those qualities of general academic excellence epitomized by Dr. Womack, including excellence in teaching, investigation, and patient care, as well as contribution to their residency program and the Department.

Marcos Lopez, MD
Aurelie Merlo, MD
Nate Diehl, MD
Fernando Motta, MD
Xavier Baldwin, MD

Hersh Trivedi, MD
Murphy Mostellar, MD
Outstanding Medical Student Teaching
by Residents
Khoury, Audrey
Williams, Britney
Burkbauer, Laura
McEwan, Sasha
Salamah, Hanaan
Abid, Mustafa
Buckeridge, Steven
Patetta, Matthew
Stone, Lucas
Haase, Conner
Mostellar, Murphy
Yohann, Avital
Portelli-Tremont, Jaclyn
Bahrain, Anoosh

Criteria: residents who were judged objectively, by medical students, as the best teachers. Top 15% (with at least 5 evals)

Outstanding Medical Student Teaching
by Faculty
Hodges, Maggie
Williford, Michael
Farrell, Timothy
Georgoff, Patrick
Gerber, David
Gallaher, Jared
Pascarella, Luigi
Mody, Gita
Wood, Jacob
Spanheimer, Phillip
Kim, HJ
Kapadia, Muneera
Reid, Trista
King, Booker

Criteria: faculty who were judged objectively, by medical students, as the best teachers. Top 15% (with at least 5 evals)

Outstanding Resident Teaching
by Faculty
Wood, Jeyhan
Caranosos, Thomas,
Carr, Jennifer
Motameni, Amir
Ikonomodis, John
Reid, Trista
Williford, Michael
Long, Jason
Dreesen, Elizabeth

Criteria: faculty who were judged objectively, by residents, as the best teachers. Top 15% (with at least 5 evals)

In-Service Awards/ABSITE
Highest score for a Junior Level Resident
Druv Patel, MD (98%) and Laura Burkbauer, MD (98%)

In-Service Awards/PSITE: highest score for a Plastic Surgery Resident: Christina Kapsalis, MD
In-Service Awards/TSDA: highest score for a CT Surgery Resident: Aurelie Merlo, MD
In-Service Awards/VSITE: highest score for a Vascular Surgery Resident: Fernando Motta

In-Service Awards/TSDA: highest score for a Plastic Surgery Resident: Christina Kapsalis, MD
In-Service Awards/TSDA: highest score for a CT Surgery Resident: Aurelie Merlo, MD
In-Service Awards/VSITE: highest score for a Vascular Surgery Resident: Fernando Motta

Highest score for a Senior level resident: Joshua Herb, MD (98%)
Runners up with >90th percentile: Christopher McCauley, MD (93%)
Most improved from the last exam: Gui DeOliveria, MD

Joe Messick Award
Selection group: Trauma / Critical Care
Eligibility: PGY-2 residents
Criteria: excellence during critical care rotation and demonstration of qualities of the award namesake

Laura Burkbauer, MD

Katherine A. Iles Award
Selection: Residents and fellows
Criteria: This award is given to a junior resident (PGY 1 or 2) who has demonstrated excellence in clinical care

Noah DeAngelo, MD

Outstanding Teaching Service for Interns
Division of Surgical Oncology
Selection: Intern Class
Eligibility: All surgical services
Criteria: Best teaching of interns

Adam Awe, MD

Keith Amos Award
Selection: Faculty of the Division of Surgical Oncology
Eligibility: Second year residents rotating on Surgical Oncology services
Criteria: Clinical Excellence, based on work on the breast cancer service

Laura Burkbauer, MD

Joe Messick Award
Selection group: Trauma / Critical Care
Eligibility: PGY-2 residents
Criteria: excellence during critical care rotation and demonstration of qualities of the award namesake

Adam Awe, MD

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Division of Surgical Oncology
Selection: Intern Class
Eligibility: All surgical services
Criteria: Best teaching of interns

Laura Burkbauer, MD
BUILDING CONNECTIONS

Take me out to the BALL GAME

UNC Surgery night at the Durham Bulls 6/20/23

Fireworks with the best view in the stadium!

The Department of Surgery PLAYS BALL!

UNC vs Duke CHAMPIONS!
Roper Hall is a 176,000 sf medical education facility which will allow for expanded class size, facilitate interactive case-based learning, and co-locate UNC School of Medicine and UNC Health Care leadership administration. It is located on the historic Berryhill Hall site.

**Medical Education Highlights:**
- **FOURTH FLOOR:** six simulation labs
- **FIFTH FLOOR** has twenty-four clinical exam rooms
- **SIXTH FLOOR** experimental learning space, including 30 tables and a cold room in this area for education requiring cadavers.

**Projected Opening Date:** Summer 2024

**Featuring:**
- 7 story tower, including basement
- 26 operating rooms, including 2 hybrid rooms
- 59 pre- and post-operative spaces
- up to 80 ICU beds
- 15 observation beds
- 357,000 square feet of space

“This project is much more than construction of a building. It will be transformative in providing a space where our students can learn in new and innovative ways. It will also promote student and faculty well-being and will serve as a crossroads for medical student education in an interprofessional setting.” - Cam Enarson, Vice Dean for Strategic Initiatives for the UNC School of Medicine
Melainie Bolick

Melainie impacted so many through her role as a Program Coordinator. Her warm smile and positive attitude were a welcome sight and helped teammates navigate the challenges of running the complex educational training programs of the Department of Surgery. Always responsive and ready to help, Melainie was a teammate and friend who approached each day with grace and positivity.

The Program Coordinator of the Year Award honors those who embody Melainie’s dedication, demeanor, teamwork, and spirit of positivity in all aspects of their role. Even as she battled illness, her demeanor and forward-facing outlook helped each of us be the best of ourselves.

Katie Iles, MD

Katie Iles joined us as a resident in 2018. She has been called “An amazing resident and a better person”. We grieve her loss and she will be deeply missed, but we will remember her and the contributions she made to our department.

The Katherine A. Iles Award is given to a junior resident (PGY 1 or 2) who has demonstrated excellence in clinical care as selected by the surgery residents and fellows.

SAVE THE DATE

JEFFREY SCOTT BRODY ENDOWED LECTURE

Thursday, November 9th • 4pm
Surgery Education Center or via WebEx

Presented by
W. Stephen Eubanks, MD
Chair of Academic Surgery
AdventHealth Hospital
Orlando, FL
Postgraduate Surgical Training: A Southern Perspective

Mr. Jeffrey Scott Brody grew up in Baltimore, MD, and was a proud graduate of the University of North Carolina in 1984. Those who knew Jeff describe him as a dedicated person who worked hard, played hard, loved his family, lived each day to the fullest, and enjoyed regaling others with stories, humor, and practical jokes. This Lecture honors Jeffrey Scott Brody and his love and commitment to UNC. His family established the lectureship through the Department in his memory.
Impact of kidney transplant on post-operative morbidity and mortality in patients with pre-operative cardiac dysfunction. 

Indocyanine Green as a Navigational Adjunct for Laparoscopic Ablation of Liver Tumors. 

Risk of intra-abdominal seeding after laparoscopic-assisted thermal ablation of exophytic hepatocellular carcinoma tumors. 

Microbiological cultures and antimicrobial prophylaxis in patients undergoing total pancreatectomy with islet cell autotransplantation. 

Treatment of type B lactic acidosis with N-acetylcysteine and levocarnitine. 

The role of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in adult kidney transplant patients: A qualitative systematic review of literature. 

Operative Treatment of Acute Unstable Chest Wall Injuries-Let Us All Take a Deep Breath. 

Adenosquamous Carcinoma of Extrahepatic Bile Duct in Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis. 


Surgical palliative care: filling the gaps. 
Trends and Outcomes in Management of Thoracic Aortic Injury in Children, Adolescent, and Mature Pediatric Patients Using Data from the National Trauma Data Bank.

Blood Utilization and Thresholds for Mortality Following Major Trauma.

Impact of COVID-related policies on gunshot wound assault hospitalizations in the United States: a statewide time series analysis.

Estimated Cost-Effectiveness of Implementing a Statewide Tranexamic Acid Protocol for the Management of Suspected Hemorrhage in the Prehospital Setting.

Military Burn Care and Burn Disasters.


NUCLEAR FACTOR-ERYTHROID-2-RELATED FACTOR REGULATES SYSTEMIC AND PULMONARY BARRIER FUNCTION AND IMMUNE PROGRAMMING AFTER BURN AND INHALATION INJURY.

Early expression of IL-10, IL-12, ARG1, and NOS2 genes in peripheral blood mononuclear cells synergistically correlate with patient outcome after burn injury.

Does A History of Malignancy Lead to Worse Outcomes in a Single-center Burn Unit?

Outcomes of COPD Patients with Flame Burn and Inhalation Injuries at a Single Institution.


COVID-induced toxic epidermal necrolysis in a 4-year-old female: a case report and literature review.

Pooled safety analysis of STRATA2011 and STRATA2016 clinical trials evaluating the use of StrataGraft® in patients with deep partial-thickness thermal burns.
PUBLICATIONS | GASTROINTESTINAL


Commentary: Axillary versus innominate artery cannulation for proximal aortic arch surgery.

Paravalvular Leak Immediately Following Repeat Mitral Valve Replacement: Considerations for Repair in a High-Risk Patient.

Successful aortic valve replacement by overexpanding a SAPIEN transcatheater heart valve for a large aortic annulus (>900 mm²): a case report.

Supraaortal transcatheter aortic valve replacement: Modified trocar-free technique.

Trends in Percutaneous Balloon Mitral Valvuloplasty Complications for Mitral Stenosis in the United States (the National Inpatient Sample [2008 to 2018]).

Robotic applications for intracardiac and endovascular procedures.

PUBLICATIONS | CARDIOTHORACIC

Are Martin Holm, Savitri Fedson, Andrew Courtwright, Anne Olland, Kelly Bryce, Manreet Kanwar, Stuart Sweet, Thomas Egan, Jacob Lavee, PMID: 35871113 DOI: 10.1016/j.healun.2022.05.012

Barriers and facilitators to early-stage lung cancer care in the USA: a qualitative study.

Bilateral Thoracoscopic Sympathectomy After Sternotomy for Left Ventricular Assist Device Insertion.

Microvascular cutaneous flap for treatment of complications of black esophagus and complex esophageal reconstruction.

Transthoracic fundoplication using the Belsey Mark IV technique versus Nissen fundoplication: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Disparities in thoracic surgical oncology.

A standardized method for plasma extracellular vesicle isolation and size distribution analysis
J Nathaniel Diehl, Amelia Ray, Lauren B Collins, Andrew Peterson, Kyle C Alexander, Jacob G Boutros, John S Ikonomidis, Adam W Akerman, PMID: 37115777 PMCID: PMC10146456 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0284875, Free PMC article


Delphi Initiative for Early-Onset Colorectal Cancer (DIRECT) International Management Guidelines.


Improved Prediction of Surgical-Site Infection After Colorectal Surgery Using Machine Learning.

Virtual Communication Across Differences: Development of a Workshop on Managing Patient Bias.

Comparison of post-operative outcomes of large direct inguinal hernia repairs based on operative approach (open vs. laparoscopic vs. robotic) using the ACHQC (Abdominal Core Health Quality Collaborative) database.

Cost of Pediatric Trauma: A Comparison of Non-Accidental and Accidental Trauma in Pediatric Patients.

Outcomes in Pediatric Burn Patients With Additional Trauma-Related Injuries.


Costs and recurrence of inguinal hernia repair in premature infants during neonatal admission.

Race, area deprivation index, and access to surgical burn care in a pediatric population in North Carolina.

Appendectomy by Pediatric Surgeons in North Carolina is Associated With Higher Charge Than General Surgeons.

Cholecystectomies performed in children by pediatric surgeons compared to general surgeons in North Carolina are associated with higher institutional charges.

Failure to thrive, oral intake, and inpatient status prior to gastrostomy tube placement in the first year of life is associated with persistent use 1-year later.

Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease for General Surgeons.

Resident Assessment-What Is Our Mission?
**PUBLICATIONS | PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE**

Burden of lymphedema in long-term breast cancer survivors by race and age.

Genital Gender Affirming Surgery.

**PUBLICATIONS | SURGICAL ONCOLOGY**

Computer Vision Analysis of Specimen Mammmography to Predict Margin Status.
Chen KA, Kirchoff KE, Butler LR, Holloway AD, Kapadia MR, Gallagher KK, Gomez SM. medRxiv. 2023 Mar 8;2023.03.06.23286864. doi: 10.1101/2023.03.06.23286864. Preprint. PMID: 36945565 Free PMC article.

Racial-ethnic variations in phyllodes tumors among a multicenter United States cohort.

Molecular classification and biomarkers of clinical outcome in breast ductal carcinoma in situ: Analysis of TBCRC 038 and RAHTB cohorts.

Practical Guide to Quality Control in Surgical Trials
Lawrence T Kim, Amy H Kaji, Paulina Salminen, PMID: 36287542 DOI: 10.1001/jamasurg.2022.4898

Self-compassion training to improve well-being for surgical residents.

Methylation of nonessential genes in cutaneous melanoma - Rule Out hypothesis.

Increased tryptophan, but not increased glucose metabolism, predict resistance of pembrolizumab in stage III/IV melanoma.

InterMEL: An international biorepository and clinical database to uncover predictors of survival in early-stage melanoma.

Landscapes of mutations in early stage primary cutaneous melanoma: An InterMEL study.


Results of the North American Complex Abdominal Aortic Debranching (NACAAD) Registry.


Depression in Patients with Peripheral Artery Disease: An Underdiagnosis with Increased Mortality.

Iliac vein recanalisation and stenting accelerate healing of venous leg ulcers associated with severe venous outflow obstruction.

Incidence of venous thromboembolism in patients with peripheral arterial disease after endovascular intervention.

Analysis of wound healing time and wound-free period in patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia treated with and without revascularization.

Surgical site infection after open lower extremity revascularization associated with doubled rate of major limb amputation.

Gender Disparities in Aortoiliac Revascularization in Patients with Aortoiliac Occlusive Disease.

The State of the LGBTQ+ Community in Surgery.

Surgical Implications of LGBTQ+ Health Disparities: A Review.
MAKE A GIFT

Philanthropy inspires innovation and paves the way for healthier futures for our patients. Gifts to the Department of Surgery advance surgical care in the operating room and the clinic, enable us to pursue bold ideas in the research arena, and provide a rigorous training experience for tomorrow's surgical leaders.

For information about ways to support the UNC Department of Surgery or to make a gift, please contact Matt Cain, Senior Executive Director of Development with the UNC Health Foundation, at matt_cain@med.unc.edu, or visit go.unc.edu/uncsurgery.