



Columbia Surgery  
**Cardiovascular and  
Thoracic Newsletter**

 ColumbiaDoctors  **NewYork-Presbyterian**  
Columbia University Irving Medical Center



*Craig R. Smith, MD, FACS*

## Message from the Chief

Fall 2018

Dear Colleague,

In this issue we report on our world-renowned heart transplant team, now performing 75 transplants a year. We'll also update you on innovative procedures at NYP/Columbia's Diaphragm Center, the only one of its kind in the world to restore lung capacity for patients suffering from a damaged phrenic nerve.

In addition, [David Engel, MD](#), discusses the when to operate on aortic aneurysms, and we welcome [Eric Trestman, MD](#), to our Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Interventions.

I hope you will join us for our upcoming CME courses. Please visit us at [columbiasurgeryCME.org](http://columbiasurgeryCME.org). And save the date for our Fifth Annual Cardiovascular Summit 2018: A Multidisciplinary Team Approach, October 18-19, 2018, and Essentials in Pain Management, November 13, 2018.

View our newsletter site [here](#).

Best Regards,

Craig R. Smith, MD, FACS

Chairman, Department of Surgery

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## **Columbia Heart Team Leads Nation – Performing 75 Transplants per Year**

Columbia's Cardiac Surgery Division has a long history of innovation and leadership in heart transplantation. Under the direction of [Yoshifumi Naka, MD, PhD](#), an internationally known heart transplant surgeon and pioneer in mechanical assist therapy for heart failure, Columbia's heart transplant program ranks first in the nation in terms of outcomes and case volume.

The Transplant team now performs an average of 75 adult and pediatric heart transplants annually, with survival rates consistently meeting or exceeding national averages.

[Read more](#)

*For 24-hour referrals, please call 855-CUSURGE (855.287.8743)*

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## **World's Leading Center for Diaphragm Disorders**

The Diaphragm Center, founded in 2017 and directed by [Mark Ginsburg MD](#) and [Keith Brenner, MD](#), is the only center in the world dedicated to disorders of the diaphragm, a major cause of respiratory insufficiency in children and adults.

Phrenic nerve damage may be idiopathic, traumatic, or caused by a virus or a cancer that eats into the nerve, but it does not have to be disabling.

"Few pulmonologists are aware that there is a surgical treatment for this condition," says Dr. Ginsburg. "We've been spreading the word, and in the past year, we have become the premier center for the treatment of diaphragm disorders, drawing patients from across the country and around the globe. We treat a wide range of patients ranging from those with Charcot-Marie-Tooth to those with bilateral phrenic nerve injuries dependent on a respirator."

[Read more](#)

*To refer a patient, please call 212.305.3408*

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## **Managing the Aorta: When to Operate**

Our June 6, 2018 webinar, *Managing the Aorta: From Aneurysm Screening to Acute Dissection*, described the latest surgical and endovascular techniques and featured [Virendra I. Patel, MD, MPH](#), and [Hiroo Takayama, MD, PhD](#), co-directors of the nationally recognized Aortic Center at Columbia. Watch the full webinar [here](#).

A [follow-up discussion](#) on July 23 focused on the challenges of identifying high risk patients and the emerging role of genetic testing. [David Engel, MD](#), Associate Professor of Medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University, taught physicians how to determine whether a patient has true aneurysmal disease or an aorta that's proportionate for his or her body.

[Read more](#)

*To refer a patient, please call 844.792.6782 (844.RX.AORTA)*

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## **New Faculty: Vascular Surgery**

[Eric B. Trestman, MD](#) has joined New York-Presbyterian/Columbia in the [Division of Vascular Surgery and Endovascular Interventions](#).

[Read more](#)

*To arrange a consult with Dr. Trestman, please call (718) 792-8115*

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*We now have multiple locations in Manhattan, Westchester and Rockland County, New York and Bergen County, New Jersey.*

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## **Research**

[Cardiac presentations and publications](#)

[Vascular presentations and publications](#)

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## CME Education



[CME Programs Available Here](#)

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## Webinars

Our vast library of videos and webinars is available 24/7 for your convenience.

Cardiovascular Webinars for physicians are available [here](#).



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## Patient Referral

To refer elective patients, call 212.305.7013 or 212.304.7810.

Email, [info@columbiasurgery.org](mailto:info@columbiasurgery.org).

Urgent and emergency transfers: 1.800.NYP.STAT.

[Physician Referral Form](#).

