Message from the Chairman
Fall 2017

Dear Colleague,

I’m pleased to announce that NYP/Columbia has been named a center of excellence in clinical care for Gastroenterology and GI Surgery by U.S. News and World Report.

In this issue we feature our Center for Motility and Neurogastroenterology and our multidisciplinary team’s success in helping even the most complex patients. We also have an update from our national leadership in treating all forms of adult liver cancer.

In other news: NYP/Columbia is now a major referral center for thyroid biopsy. We are the leaders in ablation therapies for breast cancer. Finally, we are learning how bariatric surgery can help adolescents who are morbidly obese and suffering from severe depression.

I encourage you to join us at one of our CME programs listed here: http://columbiasurgery.org/events/continuing-medical-education

View our newsletter homepage here: http://columbiasurgery.org/newsletters

Best regards,
Craig R. Smith, MD, FACS
Chair, Department of Surgery
Top Honors from *U.S. News & World Report*

The Department of Surgery at NYP/Columbia has been honored by *U.S. News & World Report* for excellence in clinical care in Cardiology/Heart Surgery and Gastroenterology/GI Surgery for 2017-2018.

NYP/Columbia’s Center for Motility and Neurogastroenterology

General thoracic surgeon Frank D’Ovidio, MD, PhD, is collaborating with gastroenterologists David Markowitz, MD and Daniela Jodorkovsky, MD, to help patients with complex esophago-gastro-intestinal motility disorders at NYP/Columbia. A wide range of services is now offered by a panel of experts at the Center for Motility and Neurogastroenterology, one of a few such programs in the nation.


To refer a patient, please call 855.CU.SURGE (855.287.8743).

The Nation’s Most Comprehensive Treatment for Adult Liver Cancer

The Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation at NYP/Columbia is making noteworthy progress in the treatment of hepatocellular cancer (HCC) and cholangiocarcinoma (CCA), cancer of the bile duct, and is the national leader in this field.

“Although surgery is the only way to achieve a cure, we can also control the tumor without it,” says Tomoaki Kato, MD, Surgical Director of the Center’s Liver Transplantation program. “We are spearheading new non-surgical therapies that can sometimes extend patient survival beyond five years and are in the forefront of clinical trials and research.”

Advanced Detection and Treatment of Thyroid Cancer

The Columbia Thyroid Biopsy Program is a leader in addressing multi-nodular thyroid disease and thyroid cancer. It offers same-day onsite evaluations, with surgeons coordinating with cytopathologists to minimize the number of biopsies required to get definitive results.

“Patients at other hospitals may get up to eight or ten passes per nodule,” says, Jennifer Kuo, MD, Director of the program. “We can often get enough cells with three or less. We also offer the latest molecular testing and have developed our own panel to refine the estimate of malignancy in thyroid nodules.”


To refer a patient, please call 212.305.0442.

New Technologies for Treating Breast Cancer

NYP/Columbia is a national leader in surgical techniques and innovative treatments for all forms of breast cancer offering the most comprehensive multidisciplinary care available for this disease.

Surgical advances include a “GPS for the breast” that helps to locate tumors and new markers for radiation therapy and breast repair. Columbia is also the only center in the world to offer three new ablation therapies for breast cancer.


To refer a patient, please call 212.304.7810.

Bariatric Surgery for Adolescents

May address depression, prevent major health problems

“We know that obesity and depression are often intertwined,” says Jeffrey Zitsman, MD, founder and director of the Center for Adolescent Bariatric Surgery at NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital in New York. “In our own patient population we found that almost one out of every six candidates for
weight loss surgery had contemplated or attempted suicide. Early treatment of each problem is important.” There is growing evidence, too, that bariatric surgery for obese teens may help avert serious problems with cardiovascular disease and diabetes later on.


To refer a patient, please call 212.305.8862.

Islet Cell Transplant Relieves Chronic Pancreatitis

Cody Artist, 24, went through years of escalating pain before he met Beth Schrope, MD, PhD. Director of NYP/Columbia’s Autologous Islet Cell Transplantation program, and the first to perform this operation in the New York area. This procedure finally ended his attacks and gave him back his life.

Full Article: http://columbiasurgery.org/stories/islet-cell-transplant-ends-chronic-pain

New Faculty

Roshni Rao, MD has been appointed Chief, Clinical Breast Surgery program at NYP/Columbia University Medical Center and Associate Professor of Surgery. Her clinical interests include early stage breast cancer, ethnic disparities in breast cancer, innovative localization techniques, patient engagement with healthcare technology, and tumescent mastectomy.


James Mark Kiely, MD, has joined the Division of Colorectal Surgery at NYP/Columbia, as Assistant Professor of Surgery. Dr. Kiely was previously with an academic Colon and Rectal Surgery practice in Baystate Medical Center, Massachusetts. His clinical interests include benign and malignant conditions, along with abdominal, pelvic, as anorectal procedures. He has special expertise in robotic rectal
cancer surgery, the management of Crohn’s/inflammatory bowel disease, and sphincter sparing anal fistula surgery (LIFT).


John-Paul Bellistri, MD has joined the faculty at NYP/Columbia University Medical Center as a specialist in General Surgery, Laparoscopic Surgery, Bariatric Surgery. Dr. Bellistri will be practicing at the NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, NY in the Center for Advanced Surgery.

Read more:


Research Papers and Presentations

For a full list of our recent papers and presentations, please see our Quarterly Research Report: http://columbiasurgery.org/healthcare-professionals/quarterly-reports

CME Programs
Program Directors

Leena Mathew, MD
Anis Dizdarevic, MD

Essentials in Pain Management: Update 2017 will improve your understanding of the advances in pain management including innovative interventional techniques, the use of medical marijuana and the use of strategies pertinent to controlled substance prescription.

Webinars

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

Cardiovascular Webinars for physicians are available here: http://columbiasurgery.org/education-training/cardiovascular-webinars

Patient Referral

To refer elective patients, call 212.305.7013 or 212.304.7810.
Email, mailto:info@columbiasurgery.org?subject=.

Urgent and emergency transfers: 1.800.NYP.STAT.

Physician Referral
Form: https://secure.cumc.columbia.edu/surgery/form/physician_referrals.html