



Columbia Surgery  
**PEDIATRICS NEWSLETTER**



## Message from the Chairman

Fall 2017

Dear Colleague,

This September, we are launching a new prenatal surgery program for infants with myelomeningocele, offering the very latest approach to this serious and complex condition.

We also have an update on our advances in pediatric liver surgery that show why we are national leaders, providing the most comprehensive treatment available for children with liver conditions and those need transplant. In addition, we have a report on a new multidisciplinary program that helps teens and young adults who have undergone liver transplant transition to adult care.

I hope you will take advantage of our many useful CME videos from our online Pediatric Lectures, available here: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/5jvgr/18kxto/pf58af>

Best regards,

Craig R. Smith, MD, FACS

Chair, Department of Surgery

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## Prenatal Surgery for Myelomeningocele

Columbia's Carmen and John Thain Center for Prenatal Pediatrics is now offering fetal intervention to repair myelomeningocele, a form of spina bifida associated with a wide range of complications including early death, paralysis, and bowel and bladder dysfunction. Prenatal intervention has been shown to significantly improve myelomeningocele outcomes by decreasing the need for cerebrospinal fluid shunting and improving motor function.

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/12/prenatal-surgery-myelomeningocele>

*To refer a patient to this program, please call 877-THE-BABY.*

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## **Advances in Pediatric Liver Surgery**

The Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation (CLDT) at NYP/Columbia is making noteworthy advances in the care of children with serious liver conditions and is a national leader in this field. Read more about our recent progress with

- Hepatoblastoma
- Fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma
- The Kasai procedure for Biliary Atresia
- The Mesorex Shunt for Portal Vein Thrombosis
- Auxiliary Partial Liver Transplants
- Living Donor Transplantation
- Tumors Affecting Multiple Organs

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/12/advances-pediatric-liver-surgery>

*To refer a patient to the CLDT, please call 212-305-0914, ext 4.*

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## **New Transition Program for Teens and Young Adults after Liver Transplant**

The Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation at NYP/Columbia has created a program to help pediatric liver transplant patients transition to adult care.

“Advances in both surgical and medical management have led to the rising success of pediatric liver transplantation over the last several decades, and with pediatric patients successfully reaching adulthood, we have begun to shift our focus to long-term outcomes,” says Jennifer Vittorio, MD, director of the PLATINUM (Pediatric Liver to Adult Transition) program.

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/12/new-transition-program-teens-and-young-adults-after-liver-transplant>

*To refer a patient, please call 212-305-0914, ext 4.*

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## **Guidelines for Fluid Management of Critically Ill Pediatric Trauma Patients**

NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital has received \$100,000 grant from The Childress Institute for Pediatric Trauma to study fluid management for critically ill pediatric trauma patients.

“Traditionally resuscitation of these patients has involved high volume fluid administration, yet recent studies suggest that restricting fluids may be beneficial,” says Vincent Duron, MD, Principal Investigator of this study. “Our goal is to establish guidelines for this situation.”

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/14/guidelines-fluid-management-critically-ill-pediatric-trauma-patients>

*To refer a patient, please call 1-800-NYP-STAT.*

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## **Patient Story: Six year-old Heart Patient Runs Mini-triathlon**

NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital is the largest referral center in New York for infants with congenital heart disease, with the highest survival rate for pediatric heart surgery in the state and one of the highest in the nation. So that’s where Rob Foley and Lauren Kifer-Foley came when their 20-week pre-natal sonogram and further tests revealed their baby would be born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS).

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/stories/six-year-old-heart-patient-runs-mini-triathlon>

*To refer a patient, please call 212-305-5975.*

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## **Genomic Sequencing Saves Father and Four Children**

Recently Columbia oncologists diagnosed a toddler with acute myelogenous leukemia, and thanks to The Sohn Foundation for Precision Medicine, the entire family underwent genetic testing. Three of his siblings were found to have a gene linked to thyroid cancer. Their father was the carrier. Dr. Kuo found a suspicious thyroid nodule in his neck and with ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration biopsy diagnosed medullary thyroid cancer, a rare and aggressive form of this disease. She operated the following week. "With our early intervention," she says, "there is a very good chance that the father has been completely cured and will remain cancer-free."

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/13/genomic-sequencing-saves-father-and-four-children>

*To refer a patient to at NYP/MSCHONY, please call 212-342-8585.*

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## **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.

Full article: <http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/12/bariatric-surgery-adolescents>

*To refer a patient, please call 212-305-8862.*

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## **New Faculty**

Damien J. LaPar, MD, MSc, has joined the division of Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at the NYP/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York and has been appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center, starting October 3, 2017.

Full article:



<http://columbiasurgery.org/news/2017/09/13/damien-lapar-joins-division-pediatric-cardiac-surgery>

To reach Dr. LaPar, please call 212-305-5975.

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## Papers and Presentations

Pediatric: <http://columbiasurgery.org/healthcare-professionals/pediatric-surgery-presentations-and-research>

## Pediatric CME Videos

Watch here: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/5jvgr/l8kxto/1we9af>

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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: <http://columbiasurgery.org/education-training/cardiovascular-webinars>

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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: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/5jvgr/l8kxto/xhg9af>

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