Message from the Chairman
Summer 2018

Dear Colleague,

In this issue of our Pediatric Newsletter we report on several recent achievements: Our surgeons performed a spina bifida repair in utero at NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital. We have also introduced the Ozaki procedure at NYP/MSCH as an alternative to the Ross Procedure. In addition, Columbia launched its first annual Pediatric Heart Valve Symposium focusing on the medical and surgical management of congenital heart disease. And on July 22, 2018, we will hold our first annual Cleft Lip and Palate Team Day, an outreach program featuring guest speakers and patient testimonials, where parents and children can share their experiences.

Read more about these advance below.

I hope you will take advantage of our many useful CME videos from our online Pediatric Lectures, available here.

Best regards,
Craig R. Smith, MD, FACS
Chairman, Department of Surgery
NEW: Spina Bifida Surgery in Utero

At NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, Vincent Duron, MD (Pediatric Surgery), Russell Miller, MD (Maternal Fetal Medicine), and Neil Feldstein (Pediatric Neurosurgery) are now intervening in utero to repair myelomeningocele, the most severe 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.

Read more

Please call 1.877.THE.BABY to reach one of our clinical care coordinators.

When needed, you can arrange transport from an outside hospital for your patient. To do this, please call 1.800.NYP.STAT (1.800.697.7828).

Columbia’s First Pediatric Heart Valve Symposium

NYP/Columbia held its first annual Pediatric Heart Valve Symposium, focusing on the medical and surgical management of congenital heart valve disease, on May 30-31, 2018. Internationally recognized experts reviewed standard and emerging treatments for this condition and this course had over 170 participants.

“Bench to bedside collaboration will ultimately improve care for both children and adults with congenital heart valve malformations,” says David Kalfa, MD, PhD, Director of the Columbia Pediatric Heart Valve Center. In addition to his practice as a pediatric surgeon at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, Dr. Kalfa is conducting pioneering research into heart valves that will grow with the patient.

Read more

To refer a patient, please call 212.305.5975.
NYP/Morgan Stanley Introduces Ozaki Technique, an Alternative to the Ross Procedure

NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, a national leader in neonatal cardiac surgery, is known for the treatment of hypoplastic left heart syndrome, transposition of the great arteries, interrupted aortic arch and tetralogy of Fallot. In May 2018, Damien LaPar, MD and Emile Bacha, MD expanded the options for children needing aortic valve reconstruction by performing that repair with the Ozaki technique.

“This is an operation for children few centers can do,” says Dr. LaPar, a pediatric cardiac surgeon who trained at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children’s Hospital where the Ozaki method has been increasingly performed over the past few years. “We are now offering this as an alternative to the Ross procedure or prosthetic valve replacement. For certain patients, this may be a better option.”

Read more

To refer a patient, please contact Dr. LaPar’s office at 212.305.5975.

Expanding Services for Multidisciplinary Cleft Lip and Craniofacial Surgery

For twenty years, the Cleft and Craniofacial Center at NYP/Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital has been a national leader in pediatric reconstructive surgery. Accredited by the American Cleft Palate Association, the Center offers the most comprehensive treatment and deals with the most challenging conditions.

“In our family-centered practice, we emphasize communication, sending our initial assessments to parents as well as to referring pediatricians,” says Thomas Imahiyerobo, MD, co-director of the Center with Jeffrey Ascherman, MD. “Our multidisciplinary care is unsurpassed. In a single location, we collaborate with specialists in plastic surgery, pediatric otolaryngology, dentistry and orthodontics, oral surgery, speech therapy, general pediatrics and child psychiatry.”

Read more
To refer a patient, please call 212.305.4346.

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