The Division of Vascular Surgery continues to be productive this spring in national presentations and publications. Dr. Peter L. Faries, Chief of Endovascular Surgery, presented "Carotid angioplasty and stenting allows treatment of higher risk patients while maintaining equal outcomes compared with carotid endarterectomy" at the Society for Clinical Vascular Surgery 33rd Symposium in Coral Gables, Florida in March. Dr. Faries will also present, "Predicting embolic potential during carotid angioplasty and stenting: analysis of captured particulate debris, ultrasound characteristics and prior carotid endarterectomy" at the Society for Vascular Surgery Annual meeting, in Chicago in June. Dr. Stephanie Lin, Vascular Surgery Fellow presented “Analysis of anatomic factors and age in patients undergoing carotid angioplasty and stenting” at the winter meeting of the Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society. This work was accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of Annals of Vascular Surgery. Dr. Susan Trocciola, research resident, who works in Dr. Peter Faries laboratory, will have the work she presented at the Southeastern Surgical meeting published in the June issue of The American Surgeon: Trocciola SM, Chaer R, Dayal R, Lin S, Kumar N, Rhee J, Pierce M, Ryer EJ, McKinsey J, Morrissey NJ, Bush HL, Kent KC, Faries PL. Comparison of Results in Endovascular Interventions for Critical Limb Ischemia Versus Claudication.

The group has also been productive in the laboratory and a number of presentations/publications have resulted. This includes, Dr. Rabih Chaer, Vascular Surgery Fellow, who was selected to present, "The Development of Endotension is Associated with Increased Transmission of Pressure and Serous Components in Porous ePTFE Stent Grafts: Characterization Using a Canine Model."

At the Ascher Vascular meeting, Dr. Evan Ryer, research resident, who works in the laboratory of Dr. K Craig Kent, Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery presented, "PKC Delta Mediates Apoptosis of Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells through the Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase p38" at the Experimental Biology meeting in San Diego, California (April). Dr. Chaer and Dr. Trocciola had poster presentations at the same meeting; Dr. Chaer presented "Haptic computer simulation facilitates catheter based training " while Dr. Trocciola presented, "Differential pressure transmission and thrombus histology within AAA sac after endovascular repair: comparison of ePTFE and Dacron stent grafts in a canine model."

Dr. Trocciola will be presenting, "The development of endotension is associated with increased transmission of pressure and serous components in porous ePTFE stent grafts: characterization using a canine model" at the Society for Vascular Surgery meeting in Chicago. At the Eastern Vascular Society meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Dr. Ryer will be presenting, "Transforming Growth Factor Beta Stimulated Protein C Delta Positively Regulates SMAD3 Activity and is Responsible for Fibronectin Production". Additionally the group, including Dr. Rayeev Dayal, Vascular Surgery Fellow, had their study accepted for publication in the Journal of Vascular Surgery: Rhee JY, Trocciola SM, Dayal R, Lin S, Chaer R, Kumar N, Mousa A, Bernheim, Prince M, Badimon J, Gordon R, Fuster V, Marin ML, Kent KC and Faries PL, "Treatment of Type II Endoleaks Using A Novel Polyurethane Thrombogenic Foam: Induction of Endoleak Thrombosis and Elimination of Intra-aneurysmal Pressure in the Canine Model."

In April, Dr. Michelassi attended the ASA meeting as well as the ACS Spring meeting in his capacity as Advisory Council member. NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital’s Annual Spring Gala was a tremendous success and several of our faculty attended the Gala at the Waldorf-Astoria. On April 27th, Dr. Michelassi was the Visiting Professor and Lumpkin Lecturer at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas.

In May, Dr. Michelassi attended the annual SSAT meeting in his capacity as Board of Trustee and co-moderated a symposium on "Fistulizing Crohn’s Disease". Dr. Michelassi also gave a lecture at Weill Cornell’s Stimson Surgical Society on "Current and Upcoming Changes in Surgical Education".

In June, Dr. Michelassi will present a lecture at New York Hospital of Queens. He will also present two lectures at the IRCAD/EITS Institute in France.
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**It happened in May!**

On May 2nd the annual Wade Lecture was presented by Dr. Andrew Pietzman from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center on "Non-Operative Management of Blunt Abdominal Trauma: have we gone too far?"

On May 5th, the annual Greenberg Gala will took place at the Pierre Hotel honoring Dr. John Savarese

**JUNE**

June 9th - Dept. of Surgery's second retreat, Griffis Faculty Club

June 13th - Orientation Week for Incoming Interns

June 17th - Welcome Intern Dinner, Session 73, back room, 6:00 to 9:00

June 18th - Graduation Dinner for the graduating residents in the Dept. of Surgery, The Water Club, FDR Drive at East 31st Street, New York City

June 20th - Retirement Party for William T. Stubenbord, MD, Griffis Faculty Club, 5:30pm

Plastic Surgery graduation dinner, Boat House

**JULY/AUGUST**

Grand Rounds are cancelled

ERAS Opens for GS Residency applicants

**SEPTEMBER**

Sept 17th - Colon and Rectal Fellow Interviews

Sept 21st - American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery meeting

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

You get no joy out of a job that leads to possession of your spirit.........

**RESIDENT NEWS**

Congratulations to Dr. Josh Bleier, PGY3 and his wife, Sara, on the birth of their son, Joseph (Joey) Zev Bleier on February 27th. Joey joins sister Kayla who is almost 2.

Andrea Barrio MD, PGY4 and Eric Edwards MD, PGY5 were married on May 21, 2005 in Malibu, California. (Yes, they met in the residency program!)

Tara Huston, MD, Research Resident and her husband, Jared Huston, MD, Research Resident are expecting a baby boy at the end of May. Baby Huston will join sister Emma, 15 months old.

Anna Serur, PGY4 and her husband David, welcomed their baby girl Avital on March 28th. Avital joins brother David, 12 and sister Leah, 2. Congratulations!

**SAVE THE DATE**

Department of Surgery's **FOURTH** Annual Golf Tournament And Tennis Tournament

Tuesday September 20, 2005

To Support, Benefit and Enhance Surgical Education/Research

Please mark your calendars and SAVE THE DATE for the Department of Surgery's Fourth Annual Golf Tournament and Tennis Tournament to benefit surgical education and research -- at Pelham Country Club.
For Residents

Work Hours

LOG IN YOUR WORK HOURS DAILY. IT IS MANDATORY.

Please log on to the E*VALUE system
https://www.e-value.net/

LOG ON FROM ANY COMPUTER!

If your rotate off sight, PLEASE indicate this.

ACLS/ BLS

Attention: Residents - CALL NOW
If you attended intern *Orientation in June 2003 - your certification expires June 2005

Please call Abbie, 746-0885 to schedule your recertification SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO EXPIRATION.

Categorical Residents

Please meet with your Mentors
Need more information, call the Education Office

ON LINE

All Residents have the opportunity to anonymously evaluate their rotations and their faculty members utilizing the E*Value System. Evaluations are not viewed until months after completion.

In addition, E*Value, is a successful tool in evaluating our residents’ compliance with several general competencies. Evaluating physicians are notified weekly via e-mail of any outstanding evaluations from the prior month.

Please complete in a timely manner.

EVALUATIONS

ON LINE

EVALUATIONS

Staff News

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW EMPLOYEES

April

Erica Ballesta - Dr. Gagner’s Office

Andrea Jones - Billing Office (welcome back!)

May

Linda Choi - Finance Office

The Fourth Annual
Hassan A. Naama, MB, BCH
Memorial Resident Teaching Award

For embodying the character and spirit of Hassan: Charisma, Compassion and generosity
2004-2005

RECIPIENT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT OUR GRADUATION DINNER.
The department and education office are still going forward into a new and exciting era. Positive and inspiring changes are occurring and will continue to arise in all facets of the department, clinically, educationally and administratively.

Spring is finally here and we are getting ready for our chief residents to complete their training and move on. This year, we are having our banquet on June 17th at The Water Club and it promises to be a grand occasion. I know everybody is looking forward to it. Our sincerest congratulations and best wishes to all the graduating chief residents.

I would like to thank both Dr. Robert Merritt and Dr. Matthew Bacchetta for doing an outstanding job this past year as Chief Administrative Residents and sincerely welcome Dr. Anna Serur and Dr. David Finley into the new role. In June, we welcome our new group of categorical and preliminary residents. Both Dr. Fahey and I are very pleased with the group that we attracted to Weill Cornell this year. It represents an outstanding match for us and includes two Weill Cornell students.

Congratulations to Drs. Eachempati and Tousimis in their new roles as Associate Program Directors.

Our consulting groups BDC Advisors, led by Mr. David G. Anderson are winding down their efforts on behalf of the department with a retreat/presentation on June 9th in Griffis Faculty Club. The Committees: Clinical Program and Development; Operations; Organization; Education; and Research will present their short and long term goals.

On a personal note, both Patti and I want to wish Dr. Stubenbord (Stuby) the best of everything from our hearts. Dr. Stubenbord has been a friend, supporter and teacher to all of us.

Best wishes for a peaceful and safe summer and please stop by and see us in San Francisco at the American College of Surgeons in October.

Congratulations to our new Chief Administrative Residents:

Anna Serur, MD
David Finley, MD

Christina Angeles
Tufts University

Matthew Bott
University of Virginia

Ronald Brooks
Indiana University

Jennifer Davids
Yale University Sch of Med

Vanessa Ho
Northwestern University

Meredith Kato
Cornell University

Tracy Ann Moo
SUNY Stony Brook

Cameron Stock
Univ. of Illinois College of Med

Sophie Bartsich
Cornell University
Plastic Surgery

SPECIAL WELCOME to our NEW Fellows: James Yoo, MD, colon and rectal surgery, Brian DeRubertis, MD, vascular surgery; -- Drs. Ziad Awad and Andrew Gumbs, laparoscopic surgery; and to our .....  

PROMOTIONS: Drs. Peter Korn, Brooke Burkey and Munjal Patel are all advancing into the Plastic Surgery residency; Drs. Stephanie Lin and Rabin Chaer are advancing in Vascular Surgery; Drs. CJ Langevin, Don Kim and Julia Abend are advancing to senior clinical associates in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery --
Resident/ Faculty Presentations, Publications, Awards and Grants

Alan Abrams, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Colorectal) authored a chapter entitled "Medicolegal Aspects of Colon and Rectal Surgery" in the most recent edition (fifth) of Corman's textbook, "Colon & Rectal Surgery," published by Lippincott in 2004.

Gregory Dakin, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Bariatric Surgery) presented at SAGES: Dakin GF, Gagner M, Ueda K Laparoscopic conversion of Roux-en-Y gastric bypass to biliopancreatic diversion. Video presentation at SAGES Annual Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL, April 2005.


Jeffrey W. Milsom, MD, Professor of Surgery (Colorectal) Published
- Published: Laparoscopic Abdominoperineal Resection (APR) for an Advanced Anal Squamous Cancer Refractory to Preoperative Chemoradiotherapy, Authors: Milsom JW, Azimi S, Sonoda T, and Lee SW
Presentation: Educational video work at SSAT Video Breakfast Session in Chicago May 17, 2005 (See more on page 6)

Eleni Tousimis, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Breast Surgery) has published Synchronous Bilateral Invasive Breast Cancer for the Cambridge University Press, Breast Cancer Online (April 2005).

Rache Simmons, MD, FACS. Anne K. and Edwin C. Weiskopf Associate Professor of Surgical Oncology Medical Director of Clinical Research

Recent Interviews:
- Good Morning America and CNN, April 27, 2005
- Herceptin - NSABP and CALGB phase III trial of ACT with and without Herceptin for Her 2 positive breast cancer patients

Recent Presentations:
- Ablation therapy in the treatment for breast cancers Reeves Symposium, Dallas, TX 2005
- Moderator, Breast Cancer Parallel Session, Society of University Surgeons, Nashville TN, 2005
- Moderator, Surgical Sub-specialty Recertification Pro and Con, Society of Surgical Oncology, Atlanta, 2005
- Ablation therapy for benign and malignant breast disease, American Society of Breast Surgeons, Los Angeles, 2005
- Ablation for the treatment of breast cancers,
- Lankanau Annual Surgical Meeting, Philadelphia, 2005
- New surgical treatments for breast cancer, Update Your Medicine Symposium, NYPH New York, NY 2005
- What is new in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, New York Mammographic Society, New York 2005

Recent Publication:

Recent Abstracts:
- T. Huston, D. Martins, M. Fiks, R. Simmons, The presence of bone marrow micrometastases in breast cancer patients does not correlate with histopathologic characteristics Society of Surgical Oncology, Atlanta, 2005
- T. Huston, J. Pilavas, J. Lonier, R. Simmons, Local and distant recurrence rates in skin-sparing mastectomies compared with non-skin sparing mastectomies: Long term follow up Society of Surgical Oncology, Atlanta, 2005

We appreciate the enthusiasm and continuous news from our different divisions/sections, faculty or residents.

ALUMNI
Please tell us where you are and what you are doing
AND SEND US YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS

Myndie Friedman
Msf2002@med.cornell.edu
The Weill Cornell Weight Loss Surgery Program

“The problems of the world cannot be solved by skeptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need men (or women!) who can dream of things that never were.”

John Keats

Visit our new website:
http://www.cornellweightlosssurgery.org/

Alfons Pomp, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery

Presentations

- Invited Visiting Professor, Tripler Army Medical Center and University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI. Feb 22-25, 2005, Complications of Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass Laparoscopic Adrenalectomy/Pancreas
- Improving Woman's Health Today/Iris Cantor Women's Health Center, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, NYC, April 2, 2005, Surgical Treatment of Obesity
- Second Annual American-European Symposium on Diabetes, Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, NYC, April 8, 2005, Surgical Treatment of Obesity and Diabetes
- 1st McMaster Bariatric Conference, McMaster University Health Sciences Continuing Education Program, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, April 27, 2005, Role and types of Bariatric Surgery

Publications

Accepted for publication:

- Laparoscopic Spleenectomy: A selected retrospective review in Surgical Laparoscopy Endoscopy and Percutaneous Techniques
- Pre-donation Assessment of Kidneys by Magnetic Resonance Angiography and Venography: Accuracy and Impact on Outcomes, American Journal of Transplantation
- An Unusual case of Small bowel obstruction caused by a mesodiverticular band in the absence of a Meckel’s diverticulum
- Contemporary Surgery, Common Post Weight Loss Surgery Problems in the Emergency Department Annals of Emergency Medicine

Michel Gagner, MD, Professor of Surgery

Publications:

- Gagner M: Effects of Biliopancreatic diversion with or without duodenal switch. Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases 2005; 1:49-50

Video presentations:


Oral presentations:

- Gagner M: Laparoscopic duodenal switch. 3rd Int Alpine Obesity Sx Expert meeting, Saalfelden, Austria. March 8, 2005.
The Weill Cornell Weight Loss Surgery Program (continued)


Live surgery
- Gagner M, Pomp A: Laparoscopic duodenal switch. Live surgery performed to New Delhi (Surgical congress 2,800 surgeons in attendance), February 19, 2005.

Postgraduate course:

Chapter published:
- Gagner M, Inabnet WI, Pomp A: Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy with second stage Biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch in the super obese. In Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery, Inabnet WB, DeMaria EJ, Ikramuddin S, Lippincott Williams &Wilkins 2005; 143-150

Moderator:
- Gagner M: Highlights of the 2004 Clinical Congress. American College of Surgeons, spring meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL April 17, 2005.

Update from the Division of Plastic Surgery

The RRC for Plastic Surgery notified the Division that its request for an increase in resident complement to incorporate the formally independent residency program in Plastic Surgery at Harlem Hospital was approved! The Plastic Surgery residency program will expand now to four residents in the first year to accommodate the expansion. Harlem Hospital Center has a cosmetic surgery clinic that is very active, and has a busy Trauma Center that deals with facial and extremity trauma. This addition broadens the residents’ experience in these core cases and contributes a city hospital environment to the learning experience. Distinguished Plastic Surgeon, Dr. Ferdinand Ofidile, will serve as the site director and supervisor of the residents during the three-month rotation.

Dr. Josh Hyman won second prize on the Residents’ Night competition held in March at the New York Academy of Medicine. Dr. Hyman’s paper dealt with management of salivary fistulas following head and neck reconstruction. The Division was well represented with four of the 10 papers selected for presentation coming from our Residents. Research fellow Dr. Juliette Lee presented the Division’s research on gene therapy manipulation of wound healing in a diabetic mouse wound model at the Plastic Surgery Research Council held in Toronto in May. Dr. Grant presented the Division’s strategies for improving resident case participation in aesthetic and reconstructive surgery over the recent past despite the introduction of work hour restrictions at the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons meeting in New Orleans also in May.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OUTGOING PLASTIC SURGERY RESIDENTS AND WELCOME TO THE INCOMING

Resident Graduation is scheduled for June 20th, 2005 at the Boat House restaurant in Central Park.

The four graduates include Dr. Alfonso Camberos who is heading to UCSF for a microsurgery fellowship under world-renowned surgeon (and Cornell Plastic Surgery program graduate) Dr. Harry Buncke.

Drs. Josh Hyman and Dimitrios Danikas are opening up individual practices here in New York.

Dr. Navinderdeep Nijher is joining a group practice in central Florida. Our thanks and best wishes go out to them for continued personal and professional success.
FOND FAREWELL and BEST OF LUCK!

William T. Stubenbord, MD, Professor of Surgery, Chief of Transplantation Surgery, will retire as of July 1, 2005 after 43 years of distinguished and meritorious service to the Department of Surgery, Weill Medical College of Cornell University and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. A retirement celebration in Dr. Stubenbord's honor will be held June 20, 2005 from 5:30-7:30 at Griffis Faculty Club. Details to follow.

More Faculty News

New Appointments, May through July....

Michael Goldstein, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Transplantation)

Debra Hauerstock, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery (Dentistry Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)

Tara Plansky, DDS, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Dentistry Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)

The Seventh Annual Symposium on the Latest News about Breast Cancer

This highly successful symposium was held Thursday, May 19, 2005 and featured several surgical faculty members in breast surgery and plastic surgery.

Alexander Swistel, MD, Director, Weill Cornell Breast Center, Associate Professor of Surgery, Featured Speaker and Moderator

Eleni Tousimis, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery, The Latest Techniques in Breast Surgery

Mia Talmor, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery (Plastic Surgery), New Frontiers in Breast Reconstruction

Gladys Strain, PhD, Associate Research Professor of Surgery (pending), Genetics of Breast Cancer

Welcome to our new Associate Program Directors

Soumitra Eachempati, MD
Eleni Tousimis, MD
The Colon and Rectal Surgery Research Team led by Dr. Jeffrey Milsom presents a variety of research works and demonstrates significant presence on Colorectal Conferences during 2005 on local, national and international level.

**Research Team:** Dr. Jeffrey Milsom, Dr. Toyooki Sonoda, Dr. Sang Lee, Nadav Dujovny, MD, James Yoo, MD, Koiana Trencheva, RN, BSN, Zachary Sisko, BA

**Participation in Annual Meeting of the American Society of the Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS), Philadelphia April 30- May 05, 2005**

8 research works accepted as podium, poster and educational video presentations.

**Podium presentation:** Laparoscopic (LAP) vs. Hand-assisted Laparoscopic (HAL) Sigmoidectomy for Diverticulitis Lee, S., Yoo, J., Dujovny, N., Sonoda, T., Milsom, J

**Invited Faculty Participants (ASCRS)**

- Dr. Jeffrey Milsom --Laparoscopic Course at the ASCRS Conference; talk and teach Basic Minimally Invasive Techniques and Approaches to Rectal Cancer.
- Dr. Toyooki Sonoda taught laparoscopic techniques for Hand Assisted Laparoscopic Intestinal Surgery.

**OTHER**

**Poster Presentations**

- Does Intraoperative CO2 Colonoscopy During Colorectal Surgery Impact on Surgical Treatment Yoo, J., Dujovny, N., Lee, S., Sonoda, T., Trencheva, K, Milsom, J., NYC
- Evaluation of Short-term Outcomes of Laparoscopic Surgery for Colorectal Cancer in Patients Older than Age 80 Compared to Younger Patients Sonoda, T., Trencheva, K., Sisko, Z., Dujovny, N., Yoo, J., Lee, S., Milsom, J., NYC

**Video Presentations**

- **Title:** Combined Laparoscopic And Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Colonoscopy To Excise Difficult Right Colon Polyps, Authors: Milsom JW, Pochapin M, Sonoda TA, and Lee SW
- **Title:** Laparoscopic Abdominoperineal Resection (APR) for an Advanced Anal Squamous Cancer Refractory to Preoperative Chemoradiotherapy, Authors: Milsom JW, Azimi S, Sonoda T, and Lee SW
- **Title:** Extending The Limits Of Transanal Excision Using Laparoscopy, Authors: N Dujovny, J Yoo, SW Lee, T Sonoda, and JW Milsom
- **Title:** Colonic Perforation Treated by Combined Laparoscopy and CO2 Colonoscopy, Authors: J Yoo, N Dujovny, SW Lee, TA Sonoda, JW Milsom

The research team presented four of the above research works at the Tripartite Meeting in Dublin, Ireland in July 05-07, 2005.

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**SAVE THE DATES**

**LAPAROSCOPIC AND HAND ASSISTED LAPAROSCOPIC CADAVER COLON SURGERY COURSE**

**DATES:** June 11th, July 30th, November 5th

**Course Director:** Jeffrey W. Milsom, MD, Professor of Surgery, Chief, Colon and Rectal Surgery

This course is a one-day hands-on laparoscopic colon surgery course designed for practicing surgeons, residents, postgraduate fellows, nurses, nurse practitioners, or physician’s assistants who are interested in gaining practical experience. The course consists of brief instructions and discussion followed by a hands-on laboratory session. During the laboratory session, participants will perform fully laparoscopic right colectomy and hand-assisted left colectomy using fresh cadavers under the guidance of the faculty. Contact Nubia Morales, 212-746-5278 for information.

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**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Stephen Grobmyer, MD**, class of 2002 is currently in Gainesville Florida at University of Florida as an Assistant Professor of Surgery, Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery. Their daughter, Elizabeth is 17 months and they send their regards.

**Haideh Hirmand, MD**, class of 1997, presented a paper at The American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Annual Meeting in New Orleans on Saturday April 30th, The Tear Trough Deformity and Hyaluronic Acid- Is it a happy union? Accepted for publication, Aesthetic Surgery Journal (ETA early 2006); presented at the Emerging Technologies and Techniques in Plastic Surgery Meeting, NY, 5/05, Correction of the tear Trough Deformity: Medical expert on natural facial rejuvenation, with Satellite Media Tour.

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**THANK YOU!!**

Thank you to Dr. Alfons Pomp, Dr. Gregory Dakin and their Laparoscopic Fellow Dr. Aku Ude for their help in teaching the Laparoscopic workshop the last weekend in March in Connecticut.
HIPAA

The Security Rule, a component of the Privacy Rule, has gone into effect April 21, 2005. This component of the Privacy Rule specifically addresses and safeguards Electronic Patient Health Information or EPHI. Dr. Steven Erde is WMC’s Security Officer. All employees must complete online Security Rule training that can be located on the intranet at http://intranet/hipaa/.

The salient points of the Security Rule include:

- **System Access**
  - Patient data, such as research data, must be stored in an institutional database. This data cannot be stored on personal laptops and/or hard drives.
  - Access to systems, including divisional systems, must be immediately terminated when an employee leaves.
  - Workstation computers are only to be used for WMC functions. Downloading of music, games, etc. is prohibited.
  - Keep current with anti-virus software updates. Delete any suspicious emails.
  - Do not share your password with anyone. Do not login so someone may use the system, such as a temporary employee.
  - Choose a good password using a combination of letters, upper and lower case, and numbers.

Internal Email Communication

Please remember the following points when communicating to colleagues regarding patient information:

- Do not place patient information, such as name, MRN, etc. in the subject line of the email. This information should be placed in the body of the email.
- Do not use a personal email address, such as hotmail.com, when communicating patient information.
- Do not send an email to anyone using a personal email address. Emails containing Patient Health Information should only be sent to the WMC/NYH/Columbia networks.

Patient Communication via Email

The following processes should be followed when communicating with the patient via email:

Prior to any communication, the patient must sign a disclaimer stating, “I request any communication from the medical practice be delivered via email, including test results, appointments, etc. I understand that any information sent via the Internet may be viewed or intercepted by an unauthorized party; however, I still wish to communicate with the physician via my email address.”

The patient must initiate the email communication. If your supervisor gives you his/her password to check email, please call OAC and inquire about the email forwarding option.

Billing Compliance Tips

- Time may be used to determine the level of inpatient services when coordination of care or counseling dominates the encounter. The documentation must include time of total encounter and a statement that coordination of care/counseling included more that 50% of the encounter. Inpatient service times may be found in the CPT book.
- When supervising bedside procedures performed by the resident, the teaching physician must document and sign in his own handwriting, “I was present for the entire procedure” under the resident’s procedure note.

Please note the date/time.

- Please remember to complete the “Clinical Indications” section of the Surgical Pathology form when submitting specimens.

Mandatory Compliance Training

The Office of Billing Compliance mandates that all employees attend their compliance training session every two years.

The next scheduled sessions are:

- **June 30, 2005** 4:00PM, F539
  - (New Faculty & Staff)
- **August 22, 2005** 11:00AM, W117
  - (Refresher Training)
- **September 20, 2005** 11:00AM, W117
  - (New Faculty & Staff)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO NICOLE EDGAR for passing the Certified Professional Coders (CPC) exam.**
Visit Our Department’s Website http://www.cornellsurgery.org/
Need information on surgical attending physicians, credentialing, GME/residencies/fellowships, CME Credit, courses, fund raising, marketing/events, website/POPS, database management

Contact: Myndie Friedman at 212-746-6591, msf2002@med.cornell.edu

ATTENTION ALL PHYSICIANS
Please remember to bill for all Consults on the Medical or General Surgery Service

JOB OPENINGS
IN THE DEPT. OF SURGERY

An eligible WMC employee who refers an applicant, who is employed on the regular payroll, passes probation and remains on staff for a minimum of six months will have a taxable referral award of $500 paid to them. Currently, the Department of Surgery is in need of filling the following positions:

- Medical Secretaries

Fax resumes directly to Anita Rodriguez 746-8598

The Physician Organization Profile System (POPS)

Are you receiving the referrals you are entitled to from other physicians, patients and consumers who surf our website?

Update your information
Clinical Expertise – the broader the better
Biography
Recent board certifications, titles
Personal Statement
Log on to POPS
http://www.cornellphysicians.com/pops/
Enter your CWID (i.e., msf2002 and your password)--
REMEmber to SAVE your changes
Too busy to update your profile?
Email Myndie Friedman with your information

Update on Oxford Health Plans, a United Healthcare Company

Please Note: At this time the Weill Cornell Physician Organization (PO) will continue to participate through its separate agreements with Oxford Health Plans and United Healthcare.

Oxford Health Plans, a United Healthcare Company, is planning a mailing to approximately 65% of its physician network in the Tri-State region with information about combining contracts. If you, in error, receive correspondence describing the contract and new participation requirements, please disregard and contact Ward Anthony at 212 746-7764 or email him at waa2002@med.cornell.edu who will notify Oxford Health Plans. Thank you.

Need Managed Care Info? Contact: Ingrid Brown 212 746-5684