2007

Overview from the Chairman

Charles J. Yeo

Thomas Jefferson University

Follow this and additional works at: https://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss
Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Recommended Citation
Yeo, Charles J. (2007) "Overview from the Chairman," Jefferson Surgical Solutions: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 3.
Available at: https://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss/vol1/iss1/3

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in Jefferson Surgical Solutions by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.
Building a Better Bypass Graft

Jefferson vascular surgeon obtains three research grants.

Vascular surgeon Paul DiMuzio, MD, FACS, Assistant Professor of Surgery and Radiology, Jefferson Medical College (JMC) of Thomas Jefferson University, has been awarded grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), American Vascular Association and American Heart Association totaling $975,000. These funds will further his team’s research to use tissue engineering and stem cell technology to develop a novel bypass graft for patients who lack autogenous tissues for vascular bypass and hemodialysis access. “Today, the gold standard for creating a bypass conduit,” Dr. DiMuzio explains, “is to use the patient’s own cells to form the new graft. Dr. DiMuzio and his team are now conducting in vitro and in vivo studies – the latter using animals – to develop methods of using the patient’s own stem cells for this purpose.” Ultimately, over the next several years, our work is designed to translate into clinical use, primarily as a hemodialysis conduit,” Dr. DiMuzio explains. “With success in this area, we hope to expand our work to cardiac, peripheral and microsurgical reconstructions.”

“Our goal is to create a new, readily available graft starting with saphenous vein taken from tissue transplantation.”

Dr. DiMuzio’s collaborators include his JMC mentors, Thomas N. Tulenko, PhD, Professor, Department of Surgery, Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, and Director, Division of Surgical Research, and Irving Shapiro, PhD, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery. In turn, he is mentoring several Jefferson residents and students assisting him. Dr. DiMuzio received a mentored five-year/$500,000 grant from the NIH’s National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, a five-year/$375,000 grant from the American Vascular Association, and a two-year/ $100,000 grant from the American Heart Association, all beginning this year, concurrent with the final year of a three-year/ $150,000 grant from Pacific Vascular Research Foundation.

Please welcome CHARLES J. YEO, MD

Samuel D. Gross Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery

I’m energized to be leading Jefferson’s outstanding Department of Surgery. Moving forward, my vision includes:

• Nurturing a culture of continuous clinical excellence through team building, selected recruitment and Centers of Excellence for various clinical programs
• Increasing scholarly output, facilitated by the electronic medical records system, implementation of critical pathways and our department Web master
• Organizing a clinical research center to improve our clinical database capabilities, beginning with implementation of the American College of Surgeons’ National Surgical Quality Improvement Program
• Fostering improved basic science and translational research by taking advantage of Jefferson’s Center for Translational Medicine and the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson, facilitated by Tom Tulenko, PhD, being named Director of our new Division of Surgical Research
• Enhancing residents’ education and learning environment
• Maintaining high-quality medical student teaching and mentoring, with additional support for a surgical skills laboratory
• Creating a regional and national network to improve patient outreach, education and fundraising through collaboration with the Jefferson Foundation and regular publication of this newsletter.

Dr. DiMuzio and residents Lauren Fischer, MD, and Negar Golesekaraki, MD, prepare the detergent that removes foreign cells from blood vessels donated for grafting.