2010

Download the full PDF of Jefferson Surgical Solutions Spring 2010, Volume 5, Number 1

Follow this and additional works at: http://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss
Part of the Surgery Commons
Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Recommended Citation
(2010) "Download the full PDF of Jefferson Surgical Solutions Spring 2010, Volume 5, Number 1," Jefferson Surgical Solutions: Vol. 5 : Iss. 1 , Article 11.
Available at: http://jdc.jefferson.edu/jss/vol5/iss1/11

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.
On October 22, 2009, the Jefferson community celebrated the contributions of Herbert E. Cohn, MD, FACS, at the Seventh Annual Jefferson Awards Gala. Dr. Cohn, a Jefferson Medical College alumnus, distinguished member of the Department of Surgery faculty, teacher and administrative leader, received the Achievement Award in Medicine, recognizing his career in thoracic and endocrine surgery.

More than 500 guests attended the event which raised close to $60,000 for Jefferson. Among the many alumni, faculty and friends who generously supported the Gala was Mrs. Irene Pilmes, a longtime patient of Dr. Cohn's. While she and her husband, Alexander Bondentz, over many years and many deep appreciations. When Mrs. Pilmes learned of the Gala, she decided to make a significant contribution to Jefferson in Dr. Cohn's honor. For Mrs. Pilmes, the very best for such a gift was a bequest through her estate. She worked with her attorney to ensure that the best vehicle for such a gift was a bequest through her estate. She worked with her attorney to ensure that the best vehicle for such a gift was a bequest through her estate. She worked with her attorney to ensure that the best vehicle for such a gift was a bequest through her estate.

The most common form of a planned gift is a simple bequest through a will. Requests for cash, securities, real property or other assets to the Vice Chair of Quality, hurry recall, “Mrs. Pilmes was a wonderful person, giving gifts from grateful patients over the years from these kinds of gifts, from these gifts in their will lead me to always think about,” she said. At the same time, he is very appreciative. “It is fitting that Jefferson received this gift,” she said. “This is a way in which i have trained and practiced my entire career. Mrs. Pilmes’ generous gift will help ensure that Jefferson continues to produce the impact in our region that will have a lasting impact on the future.”

For additional information about planned giving, or to make a contribution to the Department of Surgery, please contact Laura Goldstein in the Jefferson Foundation at 215-877-6479 or l.goldstein@jefferson.edu.

Judy Hightower, Jefferson’s Senior Director of Development, presented one of the New Leadership Awards to Dr. Cohn at the Gala, and he was recognized at the event for his tremendous generosity as a Patient Sponsor. Dr. Cohn, who is currently employed in the University System of Maryland, has served as the director of the Jefferson Department of Surgery.

Jefferson Announces a Dedicated Faculty Member

The Jefferson Department of Surgery is proud to announce the promotion of Dr. Robert Neroni, a former faculty member, to the position of Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Neroni will assume his new role effective immediately. His leadership will further enhance the Department’s commitment to excellence in patient care, research, and education.

Philadelphia is a competitive community for kidney transplants, with approximately 85,000 patients nationwide, with a median wait time of 4 years. To facilitate kidney donor exchanges, Jefferson has adopted a paired donation protocol, which will help patients with potential living donors who are incompatible for transplant. By collaborating with the Paired Donation Network, we hope to find a compatible donor-recipient match that will make transplantation possible for more patients.

Jefferson’s Department of Surgery is dedicated to providing the highest quality care for patients with kidney disease. Our team of experts includes nephrologists, surgeons, and other healthcare professionals who work together to ensure that each patient receives the best possible care.

Kidney Transplant Program Offers Many Options and Encourages Living Donors

The Jefferson Transplant Program offers many options for patients and their families, including living donor kidney transplants, deceased donor kidney transplants, and living donation. Our team of experts includes nephrologists, surgeons, and other healthcare professionals who work together to ensure that each patient receives the best possible care.

In this issue

Clinical Integration
New Breast Care Center – Page 2

Changing Lives
Through Research
Dr. Body Recognized – Page 3

On the Job
Kate Ashburn, CRNP, and Shawn Pierce, CRNP – Page 3

Reprinted with permission from the Department of Surgery.

Jefferson’s Department of Surgery is proud to announce the promotion of Dr. Robert Neroni, a former faculty member, to the position of Chairman of the Department of Surgery. Dr. Neroni will assume his new role effective immediately. His leadership will further enhance the Department’s commitment to excellence in patient care, research, and education.

Philadelphia is a competitive community for kidney transplants, with approximately 85,000 patients nationwide, with a median wait time of 4 years. To facilitate kidney donor exchanges, Jefferson has adopted a paired donation protocol, which will help patients with potential living donors who are incompatible for transplant. By collaborating with the Paired Donation Network, we hope to find a compatible donor-recipient match that will make transplantation possible for more patients.

Jefferson’s Department of Surgery is dedicated to providing the highest quality care for patients with kidney disease. Our team of experts includes nephrologists, surgeons, and other healthcare professionals who work together to ensure that each patient receives the best possible care.

In this issue

Clinical Integration
New Breast Care Center – Page 2

Changing Lives
Through Research
Dr. Body Recognized – Page 3

On the Job
Kate Ashburn, CRNP, and Shawn Pierce, CRNP – Page 3

Reprinted with permission from the Department of Surgery.
The New Breast Care Center: Truly “Managed Care” for Women

In a few short months, the Jefferson Breast Care Center has already distinguished itself nationally. Formally launched on October 1, 2009, with the appointment of Gordon Schwartz, MD, MBA, FACS as Center Director, the Center also received a 3-year accreditation from the National Accreditation Program for Breast Care Centers (NABCC) after a rigorous evaluation.

The Center offers a unique approach to care to the many questions related to breast health. “We want to serve people with specific diagnoses, but also strengthen our commitment to those whom we call the ‘worried well,’” says Dr. Schwartz, a Professor of Surgery.

“We want to serve people with specific diagnoses, but also strengthen our commitment to those whom we call the ‘worried well,’” says Dr. Schwartz, a Professor of Surgery.

The Center’s multidisciplinary approach integrates surgery, medicine, oncology, and radiation oncology, as well as interventional and holistic medicine and emotional support for women and their families. The Jefferson model coordinates the care that they need.

To coordinate an office visit and assistance with patient navigation or molecular cancer genetic counseling, contact Joyce 215-448-7007 or jayce.hartmann@jeffersonhospital.org. For more information about the Liver Transplant Program, visit www.jeffersonhospital.org/transplant/liver.

The results have the potential to help us learn how to customize treatments for patients to improve outcomes and survival.

Brody Recognized for Promising Pancreatic Cancer Research

One of three Career Development Awards granted to junior faculty at academic and medical institutions each year, the AACR Career Development Award is given to support investigators who have the potential to help us learn how to customize treatments for patients to improve outcomes and survival.

While the need for scientific and medical breakthroughs in pancreatic cancer research is urgent, there is a medical breakthrough in pancreatic cancer: gemcitabine.

Brody and his team are now seeking a biomarker, which we can use to determine if patients will likely respond to this treatment or not, says Dr. Brody. The findings of his initial studies are moving into expanding our clinical service lines here at Jefferson. These service lines are co-directed by a physician and an administrator, supported by Executive Committees and Working Committees, and focused upon five specific areas of clinical activity:

• Cardiology
• Cardiovascular
• GI/Transplant
• Wound Care/Nursing/Outpatient

Our surgeons touch each of these areas, serve on their committees, and have helped direct initiatives dealing with quality and outcomes, growth of services, recruitment, marketing, etc. These service lines cross the traditional departmental areas, linking physicians, surgeons and administrators who are focused on care in the given clinical areas, and have proven, even in their infancy, to be valuable as we look to grow, expand our impact, and prepare for Jefferson’s role in the future.

Overview

Clinical Integration

Charles J. Yeo, MD

Surgical Service Lines

The Jefferson Department of Surgery has been involved in our institutional efforts initiating four new surgical service lines here at Jefferson.

These service lines are directed by a physician and an administrator, supported by Executive Committees and Working Committees, and focused upon five specific areas of clinical activity:

• Cardiology
• Cardiovascular
• GI/Transplant
• Wound Care/Nursing/Outpatient

Our surgeons touch each of these areas, serve on their committees, and have helped direct initiatives dealing with quality and outcomes, growth of services, recruitment, marketing, etc. These service lines cross the traditional departmental areas, linking physicians, surgeons and administrators who are focused on care in the given clinical areas, and have proven, even in their infancy, to be valuable as we look to grow, expand our impact, and prepare for Jefferson’s role in the future.

These initiatives, in part, have been guided by the ever-increasing need to bring our surgical expertise to the increasingly ill and complex patients that we see here in Philadelphia.

The Center for Pancreatic Cancer Research

This center is an outgrowth of the region’s first hyperbaric treatment center, opened in 1995. In 1997, we received a full, 3-year accreditation from the NABCC.

The advanced radiation and surgery services we provide at the Jefferson Comprehensive Cancer Center can be found within the walls of the Wistar Institute, one of the nation’s oldest and most respected biomedical research centers.

Pancreatic Cancer Research

Facial lace in the form of new discoveries are being treated here. As Thomas Jefferson said in 1810, “As new discoveries are made, so new needs are felt.” The Center for Pancreatic Cancer Research will also maintain an international board of advisors, including the world-renowned Boston cancer surgeon Umberto Veronesi, MD, PhD, and others from Italy, France and the United Kingdom, making Jefferson a site for international collaborations.

The long-term plan for the center is to expand upon the Breast Imaging Center on the 4th floor of the Medical Office Building at 11th and Walnut Streets in Center City by adding a clinical facility one floor below. From its leadership to individual technologists, the Center staff strives to serve as a lifelong family for its patients. “The women we treat will have a special relationship with us,” says Dr. Schwartz. For more information about the Breast Care Center visit www.jeffersonhospital.org/breastcare.

Assisted by Jonathan Brody, PhD, an assistant professor from the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) and the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) for his innovative research in pancreatic cancer genetics.

“By improving our understanding of the biology of pancreatic cancer, the potential to develop new therapies for patients who might also engage this same pathway,” says Dr. Brody. “As a young pancreatic cancer researcher I have always admired these two top-notch organizations,” says Dr. Brody, “and to be recognized by them truly is an honor and validates the direction of our research.” This award allows him to produce a body of high-quality data over the next five years as he expands his funding and work with the aid of such agencies as the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Ultimately, Dr. Brody hopes this funding will help translate the work in his laboratory for the benefit of pancreatic cancer patients in the clinical setting.

“Editor’s note: Dr. Brody, you say this setting has been especially useful in that he has been awarded an American Cancer Society grant in excess of $500,000 over the next 4 years.

Katie Ashburn, CRNP, and Shammie Pierre, CRNP, are Surgical Nurse Practitioners for the outpatients and inpatient practices respectively. They welcomed their positions in late spring of 2009.

What does an average day look like?

Katie: Between the vascular attending physicians and me, we see 40 patients a day in a fast-paced outpatient office. I perform patient history and physicals and develop a plan of care in conjunction with the attending, to improve patient education and communication. I follow vascular care patients and occasionally manage insurance issues. We work closely with the anesthetization clinic and the hyperbaric treatment center.

Shammie: I work with the vascular team and specialize in vascular research. I am a research nurse fellow and Dr. Paul DiBiase and Joshuah Eisenberg have worked with me in the center as well as on the floor. I work closely with our case management on more complicated diagnostic cases. After patients leave, I call to help with questions or concerns.

What are your respective backgrounds?

Katie: I entered as a nurse at Jefferson for 5 years, including the Interdisciplinary Surgical Intensive Care Unit for 15 months and 6 months in the Medical Intensive Care Unit before I went to medical school. I received my master’s degree in Jefferson.

Shammie: I have been a nurse for 25 years and fabric for 10, as many of the nurses here know me as an instructor. I worked as a critical care “float” RN working in the ICU Intensive Care Unit before I went.

For the do you two work together?

Shammie: We share an expansive case load with each other to improve continuity in patient care. Patients appreciate how well we know them.

Changing Lives Through Research

For an appointment with a Jefferson Surgeon, call 1-800-JEFF-NOW

Katie Ashburn, CRNP, and Shammie Pierre, CRNP, are Surgical Nurse Practitioners for the outpatients and inpatient practices respectively. They welcomed their positions in late spring of 2009.

What does an average day look like?

Katie: Between the vascular attending physicians and me, we see 40 patients a day in a fast-paced outpatient office. I perform patient history and physicals and develop a plan of care in conjunction with the attending, to improve patient education and communication. I follow vascular care patients and occasionally manage insurance issues. We work closely with the anesthetization clinic and the hyperbaric treatment center.

Shammie: I work with the vascular team and specialize in vascular research. I am a research nurse fellow and Dr. Paul DiBiase and Joshuah Eisenberg have worked with me in the center as well as on the floor. I work closely with our case management on more complicated diagnostic cases. After patients leave, I call to help with questions or concerns.

What are your respective backgrounds?

Katie: I entered as a nurse at Jefferson for 5 years, including the Interdisciplinary Surgical Intensive Care Unit for 15 months and 6 months in the Medical Intensive Care Unit before I went.

For the do you two work together?

Shammie: We share an expansive case load with each other to improve continuity in patient care. Patients appreciate how well we know them.

Changing Lives Through Research

For an appointment with a Jefferson Surgeon, call 1-800-JEFF-NOW

Katie Ashburn, CRNP, and Shammie Pierre, CRNP, are Surgical Nurse Practitioners for the outpatients and inpatient practices respectively. They welcomed their positions in late spring of 2009.

What does an average day look like?

Katie: Between the vascular attending physicians and me, we see 40 patients a day in a fast-paced outpatient office. I perform patient history and physicals and develop a plan of care in conjunction with the attending, to improve patient education and communication. I follow vascular care patients and occasionally manage insurance issues. We work closely with the anesthetization clinic and the hyperbaric treatment center.

Shammie: I work with the vascular team and specialize in vascular research. I am a research nurse fellow and Dr. Paul DiBiase and Joshuah Eisenberg have worked with me in the center as well as on the floor. I work closely with our case management on more complicated diagnostic cases. After patients leave, I call to help with questions or concerns.

What are your respective backgrounds?

Katie: I entered as a nurse at Jefferson for 5 years, including the Interdisciplinary Surgical Intensive Care Unit for 15 months and 6 months in the Medical Intensive Care Unit before I went.

For the do you two work together?

Shammie: We share an expansive case load with each other to improve continuity in patient care. Patients appreciate how well we know them.

Changing Lives Through Research

For an appointment with a Jefferson Surgeon, call 1-800-JEFF-NOW

Katie Ashburn, CRNP, and Shammie Pierre, CRNP, are Surgical Nurse Practitioners for the outpatients and inpatient practices respectively. They welcomed their positions in late spring of 2009.

What does an average day look like?

Katie: Between the vascular attending physicians and me, we see 40 patients a day in a fast-paced outpatient office. I perform patient history and physicals and develop a plan of care in conjunction with the attending, to improve patient education and communication. I follow vascular care patients and occasionally manage insurance issues. We work closely with the anesthetization clinic and the hyperbaric treatment center.

Shammie: I work with the vascular team and specialize in vascular research. I am a research nurse fellow and Dr. Paul DiBiase and Joshuah Eisenberg have worked with me in the center as well as on the floor. I work closely with our case management on more complicated diagnostic cases. After patients leave, I call to help with questions or concerns.

What are your respective backgrounds?

Katie: I entered as a nurse at Jefferson for 5 years, including the Interdisciplinary Surgical Intensive Care Unit for 15 months and 6 months in the Medical Intensive Care Unit before I went.

For the do you two work together?

Shammie: We share an expansive case load with each other to improve continuity in patient care. Patients appreciate how well we know them.
The New Breast Care Center: Truly “Managed Care” for Women

In a few short months, the Jefferson Breast Care Center has already distinguished itself nationally. Formally launched on October 1, 2009, with the appointment of Gordon Schwartz, MD, MBA, FACS as Center Director, the Center also received a 3-year accreditation from the National Accreditation Program for Breast Care Centers (NABC) after a rigorous evaluation.

The Center offers a unique approach to the care of any woman with questions related to breast health. “We want to serve people with specific diagnoses, but also strengthen our commitment to those whom we call the ‘worried well’,” says Dr. Schwartz, a Professor of Surgery.

“We want to serve people with specific diagnoses, but also strengthen our commitment to those whom we call the ‘worried well’.”

Joyce Hartmann, Physician Liaison for Liver Transplant Program

The last marked the 25th anniversary of the region’s first liver transplant – performed at Jefferson – and since then, Joyce Hartmann has had the opportunity to represent Jefferson’s Liver Transplant Program to referring physicians throughout the Delaware Valley.

With 25 years of healthcare marketing analysis and patient experience, Joyce was attracted to the position because of the center’s reputation and the strength of physicians and surgeons, transplant coordinators, social workers and support staff. Jefferson’s Liver Transplant Program consistently achieves regional averages for transplantation survival rates.

“Survivors are the most important patients in the region and our program has the lowest mortality rate among patients on the recipient waiting list. It’s a privilege to represent the team, to surgeons fellowship at Jefferson, Pratima Anns, MD, Associate Professor of Radiation Oncology; Naomi Sienkiewicz, MD, Chair of Medical Oncology, and Barbara Cavagnaro, MD, Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology, in Breast Imaging. Other critical team members are administrative and support staff, RNs, MCRN and coordinators Ruta Rutagali, BSN, BSN, who helps patients navigate the complex insurance system.

Dr. Schwartz is committed to making the most of what scientists are doing across campuses, “by integrating basic science research into our practice as soon as possible.” The Center will also serve as an international board of advisors, including the institution’s renowned breast cancer surgeons Umberto Vermamo, MD, and others from India, France and the United Kingdom, making Jefferson a site for international collaboration.

The long-term plan for the center is to expand upon the Breast Imaging Center on the 4th floor of the Medical Office Building at 11th and Walnut Streets in Center City to add a clinical facility one floor below. From its leadership to individual technicians, the Center staff strive to serve as a leadership family for its patients. “The women we treat will have a voice with us,” says Dr. Schwartz. For more information about the Breast Care Center visit: www.jeffersonhospital/breast.
Philadelphia is a competitive community for kidney donation with 7,999 potential donors and 338 kidney transplant procedures completed in 2009. Jefferson’s Department of Surgery and the Jefferson Kidney Transplant Program were recently recognized by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) for going above and beyond the scope of normal duties of serving as a liaison between the Hospital’s cancer treatment programs and the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC).

Though the heart in the universal symbol for love, for Berch and Vallerie Harris, the kidney might be a more fitting representation of their shared sacrifice, perseverance, and faith.