Dassow (J) and Zineb Trip to Haiti

Zineb Mashak, MD and I [Jeanie Dassow, MD] just returned from a week in the rural Haitian village of Potino. We were joined by three physicians associated with UTFP. It was the third clinic in that same village. It took us 3.5 hours standing in the back of a rugged 4 wheel pick-up truck with high “fence” sides rising above the truck bed to hold us and our equipment to get to the isolated and marginal community. We saw 368 patients in four busy clinic days. Zineb and I were lent a modest two room house, next to the clinic to see GYN patients. We called our place “Camp Gyno”!

Zineb did a great job! She did two “see and treat” LEEPs and followed an established global practice of reducing PPH by giving pregnant women 200 mcg of Cytotec to place under their tongues after the delivery of the placenta. Only a small number of the women deliver in a clinical setting of any type. From the many reproductive histories that we took, the under 5 all-cause mortality is about 40% for this area!! We learned a bit about intravaginal leaf therapy for pain and discharge...

With the FP doctors, Zineb took out some large subdural lesions and drained some cysts. And she was witness to the immediate life-saving procedure of removing a plastic disc from an infant’s throat which had been inadvertently swallowed was causing respiratory embarrassment.

My husband used the electricity provided by our 3 hours of generator use each evening to rig a projector in front of white sheets hung over the gates of the local Catholic church to have two movie nights showing Madagascar and Nemo. The village kids loved it.

Zineb demonstrated cultural flexibility and an adventurous spirit! Hat’s off to her and here’s to more international OBGYN experiences for our department! Haiti is a gorgeous place described as “Mountains Beyond Mountains”, very beautiful with overwhelming needs.

Jeanie Dassow, MD
Holiday Concert

Several UTCOMC faculty, staff & medical students contributed to this year’s Holiday Concert on December 15, 2015 in the Medical Mall at Erlanger.

Jonathan Miller, MD (TY Resident) coordinated the event and was the emcee, and would like to give a special thanks to the following for their help with this year’s concert:

- The rest of the Transitional Year (TY) residents: Kathleen Ellison, Vicky Ren, and Kiran Busireddy
- Our TY Program Director, Dr. Mukta Panda, who helped found the annual concert over a decade ago and has consistently kept it going
- Dr. Philip Rayers, Hospitalist, who was instrumental in organizing the event and coordinating the sound system.
- Jennifer Homa, Public Relations Specialist with Erlanger, and Julie Taylor, Erlanger Chief Development Officer, for helping behind-the-scenes organization and publicizing of the event
- Kevin Spiegel (Erlanger President & CEO) and Don Mueller (CEO of Children’s Hospital) for endorsing the event
- Finally, and most importantly, a heartfelt thank you to the 18 UTCOM faculty/staff, medical students, and Erlanger staff who volunteered their talents and time to perform in the concert and make it a special occasion! The event would not have been possible without them. UTCOMC’s Phillip Rayers MD (Jack N’Stripes), Pam Scott, Mack Worthington MD, Michael Shepherd MD, Niraj Niraula MD, Marla Sammer MD and Jemison Bowers MD as well as medical students Caleb Davis and Rebecca Teague.

Photo Credits: Kiran Busireddy
Dr. Mohling receives the IRCAD Award

Shanti Mohling, MD, FACOG, resident fellow in the minimally invasive gynecologic surgery fellowship program at the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga, is the 2015 recipient of the AAGL IRCAD (Research Institute against Digestive Cancer) Award for exceptional research endeavors.

Dr. Mohling received the award for a video presentation that describes a technique for performing Transversus Abdominis Plane (TAP) block under laparoscopic guidance. TAP block is a regional anesthetic technique providing analgesia to the skin and muscles of the anterior abdominal wall. In multiple published clinical research studies, TAP blocks have shown to provide superior analgesia compared to routine IV/PO narcotic pain regimens for postoperative pain.

Over the past decade, TAP blocks have traditionally been performed by an anesthesia team as part of a multimodal approach to postoperative pain control. Recent research has suggested that TAP blocks may be safely performed under laparoscopic guidance. The technique was developed as preparation for a randomized controlled trial comparing laparoscopic-assisted TAP blocks using liposomal bupivacaine versus pre-incisional injection of bupivacaine in patients undergoing laparoscopic and robotic hysterectomy. The trial is approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB), registered with clinicaltrials.gov, and is an ongoing clinical trial at Erlanger Health System.

Dr. Mohling is the third fellow from the Chattanooga fellowship to receive this prestigious award, giving UTCOMC the distinct honor of having the most recipients of any single fellowship program to win this award. “Her work on TAP blocks in minimally invasive surgery is truly ground-breaking and will likely change the way we provide perioperative analgesia to our patients,” said Robert S. Furr, MD, Fellowship Program Director and Assistant Professor of Minimally Invasive GYN Surgery and Robotics at the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga.

ABOUT THE AWARD - The IRCAD Award is presented at the AAGL Global Congress to recognize the best research in education acknowledging innovative ideas in teaching. The AAGL is an association dedicated to advancing minimally invasive gynecology worldwide, and the IRCAD Award is one of the highest honors bestowed on AAGL Members. The winner of the IRCAD Award is acknowledged by receiving a fully paid week-long visit to the IRCAD Institute in Strasbourg, France.

About IRCAD - The IRCAD (Research Institute against Digestive Cancer) was founded in 1994 within the premises of Strasbourg’s University Hospital. The IRCAD pools digestive cancer research laboratories, a research and development department in computer sciences and robotics, and a training center in minimally invasive surgery. The goal of the center is to help surgeons become more familiar with laparoscopic or minimally invasive surgery, meet prominent international experts, watch live operative demonstrations, and practice on live tissue. The institute has welcomed over 4,300 surgeons from 106 countries.

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Dr. Cofer - Erlanger Director of Quality

After 20 successful years as the Program Director in the Department of Surgery, Dr. Joseph Cofer accepted a position with Erlanger as the Director of Quality. Dr. Cofer’s accomplishments while Program Director included being nationally known as a surgical educator by having been the President of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery, being the past Chairman of the American Board of Surgery and the 2014 winner of the Paul J Palmer Courage to Teach Award from the ACGME. In addition, he also became renowned for his work in the developing the TN collaborative to measure quality surgical outcomes (NSQIP) and assisting other organizations in doing the same. Dr. Cofer’s experience in quality outcomes led to a new department at Erlanger just for that purpose.

Dr. Giles - from Resident to Surgery Program Director

Former UTCOM Memphis medical student and Chattanooga surgical resident Dr. Heath Giles has accepted the position as Program Director in the Department of Surgery. Well known to this campus and housestaff, Dr. Giles distinguished himself as a resident in developing a common sense approach to entering duty hours in New Innovations that is still used in new resident orientation. After completing residency in Chattanooga, Dr. Giles completed a Fellowship in Endocrine Surgery at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. He is a member of the Gold Humanism Society and is active in the IHI Open School. Having worked closely with Dr. Cofer as a resident and young faculty member, Dr. Giles is well prepared to take the helm of the Surgery Residency Program.

Dr. Dowden - Assistant Professor

UTCOM Chattanooga Department of Surgery welcomes Jacob Dowden, M.D., as a new Assistant Professor. Dr. Dowden completed his general surgery training in Chattanooga in 2013. He then went to the Medical University of South Carolina to train in transplant/Hepatobiliary surgery.

CME Opportunities on the Next Page >>

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Featured Sessions from our Regularly-Scheduled Series

**OM Conference for Nurses & Physicians (3rd annual)**
February 19, 2016 • 7.5 CME/AMA Category 1 Credits™ • The Colonnade (Ringgold, GA)
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.utcomchatt.org/cme

**Tennessee Radiology Annual Scientific Meeting**
February 27-28, 2016 • 11.5 CME/AMA Category 1 Credits™ • Franklin Marriott Cool Springs
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.tennesseeradiology.net

**Alper Humanitarian Award Ceremony & Lecture**
March 18, 2016 • 1 CME/AMA Category 1 Credit™ • Probasco Auditorium (Erlanger - Chattanooga, TN)
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.utcomchatt.org/cme

Save the Date: **Trauma Symposium** (9th annual)
June 9-10, 2016 • CME/AMA Category 1 Credit™ will be provided • Chattanooga Convention Center
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.utcomchatt.org/cme

**Family Medicine Update (31st annual)**
June 15-18, 2016 • 25 CME/AMA Category 1 Credits™ • Hotel TBA
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.utcomchatt.org/fmu

Save the Date: **Internal Medicine Update (3rd annual) - The Evolving Cardiology Landscape**
September 28 - October 1, 2016 • CME/AMA Category 1 Credits™ will be offered • Hotel TBA
Click here for more info and to register or visit www.utcomchatt.org/imu

**Healthcare Principles in Practice** • Click Here for more info about the series
1 AMA Category 1 Credit™ • 12:00-1:00pm • Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger
February 9, 2016 • Sleep Alertness and Fatigue Education in Residency, part 2 • Tareck Kadhrie, MD
March 8, 2016 • Legislative Update from the TMA and local Medical Society • Rae Bond
March 18, 2016 • **8:00-9:00am** • Alper Humanitarian Award Ceremony & Lecture • Cynthia Haq, MD
April 12, 2016 • Intro to Biostatistics for Clinical Research • Culian Gao PhD and Jenny Holcombe, PhD
June 14, 2016 • Measures of Association for Clinical Research • Rehan Qayyum, MD

**Internal Medicine Grand Rounds** • Click Here for more info about the series
1 AMA Category 1 Credit™ • 8:15-9:15am • Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger
January 28, 2016 • Peripheral Neuropathy • Joshua Alpers, MD
February 11, 2016 • Obstructive Lung Disease for the Internist • Tamas Dolinay, MD
Continuing Medical Education Opportunities - Continued

February 25, 2016 • Spontaneous Pneumothorax: The Usual & Unusual • Nishant Gupta, MD
March 10, 2016 • Rheumatoid Arthritis • Gary Myerson, MD
March 17, 2016 • Winston Caine Jr, MD Lecture: Topic TBD • William Stone, MD
March 31, 2016 • Thyroid Disease: TBD • Bruce Tripp, MD
April 14, 2016 • Lipids: TBD • Larry Sperling, MD
April 28, 2016 • GI: TBD • Michael Lucey, MD
May 5, 2016 • HOLD - Kimsey Endowed Lecture • Speaker TBD
May 12, 2016 • Chronic Total Occlusions: The Last Frontier • Amir Kaki, MD
May 26, 2016 • Topic TBD • Speaker TBD
June 2, 2016 • Jackson & Milli Yium & DCI Endowed Lecture • Atul Gawande, MD

OB/GYN Faculty & Resident Development Series • Click Here for more info about the series
1 AMA Category 1 Credit™ • 8:15-9:15am • Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger
January 27, 2016 • 12:30-1:30pm • M&M Conference
January 29, 2016 • 8-9am • GI Surgery Series: Bowel Health • Shauna Lorenzo-Rivera, MD
9-10am • EMR Series: What Can We Do Better? • John Adams, MD
10-11am • Gyn Chapter Review: Williams Chapter 8 • William Gist, MD

Pediatrics Grand Rounds • Click Here for more info about the series
1 AMA Category 1 Credit™ • Last Monday each month, 8-9am • Massoud bldg conf room 140
January 27, 2016 • Interesting Case TBA • Audrey Fenin, MD

Private/Internal CME Courses (for the professional development of your medical professionals)

Leadership Development Institute
11.5 AMA Category 1 Credits™ • Host Organization: LifeWings Partners, LLC
Click here for More Info and to Register

Teamwork Skills Workshop
3.75 AMA Category 1 Credits™ • Host Organization: LifeWings Partners, LLC
Click here for More Info and to Register

Regularly-Scheduled Series (offered the same days & times each month)

All RSS meetings below have been approved for 1 AMA Category 1 Credit™
**Contact the coordinator for each series about their attendance policy before attending**

Healthcare Principles in Practice (Dean’s Office series) • Surgery Grand Rounds
Internal Medicine Grand Rounds • Surgery Morbidity & Mortality Grand Rounds
OB/GYN Faculty & Resident Development Series • Urology Grand Rounds
Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds • Erlanger Pediatrics Grand Rounds
Orthopaedic Surgery Journal Club • Erlanger Tumor Board Conferences
Orthopaedic Surgery M&M Conference • Redmond Hospital Weekly Cardiology Series
Surgery Critical Care Conference

Click here for more info about UTCOM Regularly-Scheduled Series, to attend, etc.

Accreditation: The University of Tennessee College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

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Articles Published by UT Faculty & Associates


Presentations Given by UT Faculty & Associates

Presentations from the Department Surgery at the recent TN Chapter meeting of the American College of Surgeons:

1. Safety of outpatient management of air leaks after pulmonary resection. Anna M. Royer, MD, presenter. James R. Headrick, MD, mentor and PI. Other co-investigators: JS Smith, ACNP; A Miller, FNP; M Spiva, RN; JM Holcombe, PhD. First place Adkins/Morgan Resident Paper Competition, Clinical Science, American College of Surgeons, Tennessee Chapter meeting, July 31-August 2, 2015, Knoxville, TN.

2. Risk factors associated with mortality in Clostridium difficile infections: a step closer to a mortality based clinical prediction tool. Evon Zoog, MD, presenter. J. Daniel Stanley, MD, mentor and PI. Other co-investigators: ML Figh, MD; EC Nelson, MD; BW Dart IV, MD. Adkins/Morgan Resident Paper Competition, Clinical Science, American College of Surgeons, Tennessee Chapter meeting, July 31-August 2, 2015, Knoxville, TN.

3. The Ferguson operating anoscope for resection of T1 rectal cancer. Christopher M. Bell, MD, presenter. J. Daniel Stanley, MD, mentor and PI. Other co-investigators: KC Turza, MD; S Porbunderwala, MD; S Lorenzo-Rivero, MD; RA Moore, MD, EC Nelson, MD. Cancer Paper Competition, American College of Surgeons, Tennessee Chapter meeting, July 31-August 2, 2015, Knoxville, TN.

4. Placement of post-pyloric feeding conduits utilizing electromagnetic guidance: a trauma/acute care surgery experience. Christopher M. Bell, M.D., presenter. Darren J. Hunt, MD, mentor and PI. Other co-investigators: RA Maxwell, MD; DE Barker, MD; BW Dart IV, MD; VA Mejia, MD; PW Smith, MD; R. Phillip Burns, MD. Trauma Paper Competition, American College of Surgeons, Tennessee Chapter meeting, July 31-August 2, 2015, Knoxville, TN.

GA Vascular Society:

1. Treatment of critical limb ischemia in an outpatient interventional suite is safe and effective. 2nd year Vascular Fellow Robert Patton, M.D. (presenter), LeSar CJ, Sprouse LR II. Georgia Vascular Society, September 11-13, 2015, Greensboro, GA.

Comments, articles and announcements for the COMmunicator can be submitted in a publishable format to billreynolds@uthsc.edu

Content submissions must be received by the last day of every third month

Click here or visit www.utcomchatt.org/communicator to view past issues of the COMmunicator Newsletter