

April 2008



Center of Excellence
for Laparoscopic and
Minimally Invasive Surgery

Welcome

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April 2008

Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter from the Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery. We are excited to have you read and learn about the accomplishments and activities at the Center. Through the hard work and dedication of multiple individuals throughout the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine campus, we are proud to continue to offer state-of-the-art training and educational opportunities. Please feel free to contact us for further new research, education and training ideas or opportunities.



Upcoming Courses

- Peripheral Nerve Block Update: 2008
- Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM)

Check website for dates:
www.mis.med.miami.edu

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The Center - A Brief History

As a result of a unique relationship bringing together an education grant and University funds, the Center opened in 2001 in the McKnight Research Building on the campus of the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine and Jackson Memorial Hospital. The facilities were fully equipped with the laparoscopic, computer simulation, virtual reality, audio-visual, and all other equipment and devices required for education and training. The initial goal was to hold quarterly minimally invasive skills courses for all levels of general surgery residents. Additional courses for attending surgeons were added. Industry also utilized the Center for training local, national, and international surgeons.



After a few years, the integration of resident educational laboratory sessions into the regular rotation schedule has created an extremely successful residency training program. A Medical Advisory Board was established in early 2006 which led to a wider awareness of the resources at the Center within the University. With the above leadership, personnel additions, resident hours change, and overall department/university support, the Center has steadily increased the number of education and training events from a total of 80 in 2005 to 148 in 2007.

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Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS)

Ray I. Gonzalez
Surgical Educator
Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and
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Establishing a National Skills Curriculum is the common goal of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS). In 2005, a curriculum task force committee was established with the objective of improving residents' performance through skills practice and to use assessment of skills as a means of determining "operating room readiness."

The committee formulated a plan to create the National Skills Curriculum in three phases: I. Basic/Core Skills and Tasks; II. Advanced Procedures; and III. Team-Based Skills. Each phase is comprised of multiple tasks referred to as modules. The program, Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS), an innovative product in surgical education and skills assessment introduced by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) and ACS in 2004, is part of Phase I and II.



In 2006, the Center began to implement the FLS Program into the JMH General Surgery Resident curriculum. FLS is comprised of a comprehensive, multi-media CD-based educational module designed to teach the basic knowledge, judgment and technical skills fundamental to the performance of laparoscopic surgery. The CD study guides cover didactics, interactive patient scenarios and manual skills training. The FLS manual skills modules demonstrate coordination, depth perception, ambidexterity, suture ligation (endoloop), retraction, precision cutting, extracorporeal

and intracorporeal suturing along with speed and accuracy emphasized through all modules.

The FLS program is recognized as the system that has undergone the most extensive validation. It also includes the tools to assess cognitive knowledge via a computer based exam and a manual skills exam which is graded by a SAGES approved proctor. Ray Gonzalez, Sur-



Rosiane Roeder, MD, JMH/UM General Surgery Intern practices on the FLS box trainer.

gical Educator at the Center, received approval from SAGES as a proctor for the program. The Center was certified as a regional test site and is one of 29 certified sites for FLS in the United States.

The Center has had great success introducing the FLS program with residents routinely completing the program to passing standards. This success can be credited to adequate in-service sessions where the importance of the CD-based portion is stressed as well as hands-on in-service of the manual skills modules.

Also, the Center makes the FLS box trainer and didactic content available to residents with access to our simulation lab 24/7. Two educational research projects at the Center this year will focus on FLS metrics (recorded), inter-rater reliability between recorded and live scores and FLS metrics (live via internet), inter-rater reliability between live via internet and in person scores.



SAGES Course Endorsement

For the 3rd consecutive year, the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) Continuing Education Committee renewed their endorsement of the Center's courses.

SAGES offers Course and Program Directors at educational institutes the opportunity to have their courses reviewed and endorsed. SAGES endorsement provides the Center with the following benefits:

- Courses are listed on the SAGES web site (~1000 page views/month).
- Courses will be included in SCOPE, SAGES bi-annual newsletter.
- SAGES endorsed course list is mailed or faxed to interested surgeons upon request (average of 10-25 requests per month).
- Course Directors may include the SAGES Endorsement statement on promotional brochures and course materials.



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Annual Flexible Endoscopy CME Course

On March 15, the Center held the annual course, Advances in Flexible Endoscopy. The course director was Jose M. Martinez, MD, with Alberto Iglesias, MD, Atul K. Madan, MD, and Charles Ro, MD, from the University of Miami. Invited faculty included: Brian J. Dunkin, MD, Douglas Pleskow, MD, Adrian Legaspi, MD, and Jeffrey M. Marks, MD.

This course focused on educating surgeons, gastroenterologists, nurses and surgical technicians on the therapeutic advances in flexible endoscopy. Topics of discussion included endoscopic clipping, neoadjuvant stenting, colonic and biliary stenting, choledocopy, and NOTES. (Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery). In addition to the didactic lectures of the aforementioned topics, there was a



Course Director, Jose M. Martinez, MD with course attendee, Javier Parra, MD

hands-on lab attended by 16 practicing physicians, 5 GI fellows, and 3 GI Nurse Managers. The hands-on portion focused on some of industries premier technology including self expanding plastic stents, endoscopic clips, self expanding metal colonic

stents, and biliary metal stents. The course was approved to offer AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] and contact hours for nurses.

In addition to those featured technologies, the attending physicians had the opportunity to attend a NOTES animate lab. During the NOTES lab physicians gained access through the stomach, into the peritoneum, and procedures such as tubal ligation, pancreatectomy, and various closure techniques were performed. And though NOTES and the accompanying devices necessary for its ultimate success are not ready for prime time, at the very least this topic has and will continue to help the development of endoscopic therapies to better manage patients and their respective disease states.

Medical Advisory Board

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DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery

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Mission Statement Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery

To promote the highest level of education and training of medical professionals via the most technologically advanced methods as well as to foster research and product development in laparoscopic and minimally invasive procedures.

Vision

To become the local, national, and international leader in the field of education, research, and product development in laparoscopic and minimally invasive procedures.

Core Values

Ingenuity
Integrity
Quality

Mission Statement University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

- To provide excellence in medical education.
- To expand medical knowledge through research.
- To provide high-quality care to those who need it.
- To be a community partner.

SAGES Grant Awarded to UM Surgeon



Alberto Iglesias, MD
Assistant Professor of
Surgery
Division of Laparo-
endoscopic and Bariatric
Surgery

The Center is honored to be part of a research grant that was awarded to Dr. Alberto Iglesias. Dr. Iglesias joined the faculty of the Division of Laparoendoscopic and Bariatric Surgery, DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery in 2007. The grant entitled, "Prospective randomized trial of virtual reality simulation versus ex-vivo simulation in acquisition of endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography skills" will help shape the future of training advanced endoscopic procedures to

surgeons. The grant will help distinguish which method of training for ERCPs is the most effective and efficient. This is the first time SAGES has given a grant to a UM surgeon. The work is a collaboration of Dr. Iglesias, Dr. Jose M. Martinez, Dr. Emanuele Lo Menzo, MD, and Dr. Charles Ro, MD. The facilities and resources of the Center were a major factor in awarding the grant.

The training sessions and the testing will all be done at the Center. Dr. Atul K. Madan, Director of the Center, stated, "This grant addresses an important problem for both general surgeons and gastrointestinal physicians: how to train physicians in advanced endoscopic techniques, such as ERCPs, in an efficient manner." This is especially

important considering that the general surgery residency review committee has increased the flexible endoscopy requirements." The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (UM) is one of the few institutions that has a group of surgeons led by Dr. Jose M. Martinez (Assistant Director of the Center) with expertise in flexible surgical endoscopy. Dr. Madan added, "The topic of the grant is both timely and pertinent. UM and the Center are one of the few places in the country that this study could be undertaken. We should be proud of Dr. Iglesias and his group."

