

WINTER 2009



Center of Excellence
for Laparoscopic and
Minimally Invasive Surgery

Miami CME Winter Series 2009

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The Alexander All-Suite Hotel on Miami Beach is the site of the Miami CME Winter Series.

The Miami CME Winter Series 2009 is a group of CME courses developed by the University of Miami Health-System/Miller School of Medicine Division of CME which involves select faculty as course directors. The series is being held at The Alexander All-Suite Hotel on Miami Beach. Registration and brochures are available online at www.cme.med.miami.edu. For more information please contact CME at 305 243-6716

Battling Obesity, March 12-14, 2009, one of the courses being offered is directed by Atul K. Madan, MD, Chief of the Division of Laparoendoscopic and Bariatric Surgery, Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery, and Director of the Center; and Luigi F. Meneghini, MD, MBA, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Director, Clinical Operations and the Eleanor and Joseph Kosow Diabetes Treatment Center, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism and Associate Director, Diabetes Research Institute. This course is one that affects all specialties since obesity is a major health problem in the United States and the rest of the world.

The two and half day course has a variety of talks including the effects of obesity on the kidney, bariatric surgery, effects of obesity on the cardiovascular system, plastic surgery after bariatric surgery, alternative therapies for obesity, building a successful weight loss program, and management of diabetes as it relates to obesity. Included in the curriculum will be a fin-

continued on page 2

Center Hosts One of the First Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery Courses

On December 5, 2008, an education and training course for the new technique of single incision laparoscopic surgery was held at the Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery. The course was directed by Alberto R. Iglesias, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery with the Division of Laparoendoscopic and Bariatric Surgery. Dr. Iglesias pioneered the technique at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine as reported in the Fall 2008 issue of the Center's Newsletter. He was also interviewed about the new technique in January by CBS-TV Channel 4 (see related story on page 4).

The new technique of single incision laparoscopic surgery may benefit the patient as it seems to be the least invasive, offers faster recovery, and a better cosmetic outcome. During single incision laparoscopic surgery, instead of the surgeon making four small abdominal incisions, a single incision is made through the middle of the patient's belly button. Two ports are inserted in the incision allowing for the entry of a camera and the laparoscopic instruments. Once the single incision heals, it is almost impossible to detect within the belly button.

continued on page 2



Dr. Iglesias teaching single incision surgery at the Center.

Upcoming Courses

- Miami CME Winter Series 2009
Visit www.cme.med.miami.edu
- Gelport™ Minimally Invasive Nephrectomy Workshop
March 18, 2009

Contents

<i>Miami CME Winter Series 2009</i>	1
<i>Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery Course</i>	1
<i>HAL Nephrectomy Course</i>	2
<i>JMH Resident's Corner</i>	3
<i>Advanced Endoscopic Treatments Training</i>	3
<i>New Lap Technique Featured on CBS Channel 4 News</i>	4
<i>Center Research Presented at National Meetings</i>	4
<i>Mission Statement</i>	4
<i>Center Contacts</i>	4

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Miami CME Winter Series 2009

continued from page 1

al session examining controversies in treatment, organized as a debate among experts in the field. Members of the Center's Medical Advisory Board (e.g. Dr. Seth Thaller and Dr. Jose Martinez) will be presenting. Speakers from around the world are coming to present the most up to date treatments for obesity. Credits offered: 15.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Other upcoming meetings include:

Cardiovascular Congress 2009, February 19-21 which strives to provide medical professionals with comprehensive knowledge of the leading trends and best practices in cardiovascular disease therapies. The goal of this educational activity is to provide attendees with improved competency, performance and quality of care for patients. This innovative medical forum will focus on the life-changing and life-saving aspects within the field. Course Directors are Eduardo de Marchena, MD, FACC, FACP, Associate Dean for International Medicine, and William O'Neill, MD, FACC, Executive Dean for Clinical Affairs at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Credits offered: 16 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

New Concepts in Women's Health 2009, February 19-21 which strives to provide a comprehensive update on the problems encountered in obstetrics and gynecology and its subspecialties. It will also disseminate new concepts of care in women's health through every phase. New information and ideas for management of women's health patients will be presented that can be used in daily gynecological practice. The participant will also be able to determine when other advanced technologies are necessary. The Course Director is Gene Burkett, MD, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Credits offered: 17.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Neurology Update and Stroke Intensive, March 5-7 is designed to provide clinicians with the most recent developments in the diagnosis and management of neurologic disorders, including stroke. It will cover the latest advancements in the different fields of neurology and neuroscience necessary to solve the clinical problems and diagnostic and therapeutic challenges encountered in daily practice. For those centers planning to seek stroke center status or already designated as a stroke center, this course will provide your team with the most up-to-date evidence in the field of stroke diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Program Director is D. Ram Ayyar, MD, FAAN, Professor of Neurology, Director, EMG Laboratory, Director, Neuromuscular Medicine Fellowship Program, Department of Neurology at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Credits offered: 20.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Other meetings held as part of the series included Otolaryngology 2009, January 15-17; Advances in Medicine, January 25-30; Perioperative Medicine Summit, February 5-7. and GI Update 2009, February 5-7. For more information, please visit www.cme.med.miami.edu. ■

Single Incision Laparoscopic Surgery Course

continued from page 1

Ten surgeons from Florida attended the course which included didactic presentations, live surgery transmitted to the Center from Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH), and a hands on session. Atul K Madan, MD taught the Single Incision Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding technique as well to the participants. Evaluations from the course were extremely positive. A follow up survey will be sent to all attendees to obtain input on the effect of participating in the course on their actual surgical practice.

Other Faculty members from the Division of Laparoendoscopic and Bariatric Surgery involved in the course were: Jose M. Martinez, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery; and Emanuele Lo Menzo, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Surgery.

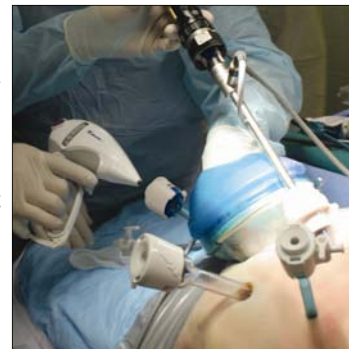
Dr. Iglesias said, "We were proud to be one of the first Centers in the United States to teach this novel technique to practicing laparoscopic surgeons." For more information concerning Single Incision Laparoscopy, contact Dr. Alberto R. Iglesias at 305-243-2424 or raiglesias2@med.miami.edu. For more information concerning Single Incision Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery, contact Dr. Atul K. Madan 305-243-2424 or amad@med.miami.edu. ■

Hand Assisted Laparoscopic (HAL) Nephrectomy Course

A steady demand for education and training to learn the hand-assisted laparoscopic method for the nephrectomy procedure has the Hand Assisted Laparoscopic (HAL) Nephrectomy Workshop scheduled at the Center twice in 2009. Dr. Raymond J. Leveillee, MD, FRCS-G, Professor of Clinical Urology, Radiology & Biomedical Engineering, Chief, Division of Endourology, Laparoscopy and Minimally Invasive Surgery, the Department of Urology at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine directs the course. Additional faculty members from the Endourology Division are Vincent G. Bird, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery and Charles R. Moore, MD, Clinical Associate. Invited faculty for 2009 courses include Robert I. Carey, MD, PhD, Urology Treatment Center, Florida State University School of Medicine, Sarasota, FL; M. Scott Wingo, Low Country Urology Clinics, Charleston, SC; and Eliecer Kurzer, MD, MPH, Broward Urology, Pembroke Pines, FL.

The course includes didactic presentations on: basic laparoscopic instrumentation and techniques; The physiology of laparoscopy; HAL instrumentation/device overview; HAL nephrectomy; laparoscopic partial nephrectomy; laparoscopic and HAL donor nephrectomy; and HAL nephroureterectomy-special considerations. A hands-on training session in which attendees can practice the procedure is scheduled during each course.

Dr. Leveillee said, "HAL nephrectomy is an excellent way of removing kidneys for pathological reasons and for transplantation donors. We have found that the demand for this course has been steadily increasing over the past decade as more surgeons that missed laparoscopic training during their residency have found it important to learn the skills that can help their patients lessen the burden of surgery." This introductory course includes didactic up-to-date lectures as well as an extensive 4 hour intimate hands on surgery portion with nearly 1:2 teacher:student ratio and exposure to latest stapling, dissecting and hemostatic instrumentation. This course is a must for anyone considering learning about the basics of laparoscopy or for those wishing a refresher course to hone their skills. For more information about the course or for patient referrals, contact Dr. Raymond J. Leveillee at (305) 243-4562 or rleveill@med.miami.edu. ■



HAL nephrectomy procedure.

JMH Resident's Corner



Written by: Denise Monahan, MD
JMH Surgical Resident, PGY-2

The Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery is an invaluable asset to the JMH General Surgery Residency Program which few other programs feature. As an intern, I spent a one

month rotation in the lab practicing daily to improve my technical skills on both simulated machines and animal labs. Working on an individual level with Dr. Duane Hutson each day to learn basic operative skills such as dissecting, suturing, tying and performing anastomoses gives a young surgeon the foundation to function in the operating room. His vast surgical experience combined with his patience for teaching makes it a priceless learning experience.

In addition, Ray Gonzalez (Surgical Educator for the Center) works with each resident to orient new interns to the field of laparoscopic surgery. He outlines every step of laparoscopy from setting up the equipment to the specific functions of each instrument. Videos of common procedures are available and then put into practice with simulators. As minimally invasive surgery becomes more integral to every general surgeon's armamentarium, the ability to familiarize oneself with basic laparoscopic procedures

outside of the hospital is paramount.

Even though my one month rotation is complete, the center gives me the ability to practice on the laparoscopic simulators, participate in procedure specific animal labs and access the video library throughout the year. I consider myself very fortunate for the skills that I have gained while training at the Center and know that it will continue to aid me throughout residency.

The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery offers this one month rotation to all general surgery and urology categorical residents. This course is an important aspect of the JMH General Surgery residency program. For more information on the JMH General Surgery residency program, please contact Tanya Spencer, 305-585-1280 or email gsprogrm@med.miami.edu. ■

Advanced Endoscopic Treatments Training for Surgeons From Around the World at the Center



Eduardo M. Martinez, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery
Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

Dr. Eduardo M. Martinez, Assistant Professor of Surgery, will direct fellow Faculty members in the Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery during the South American Physician Training Program in Advanced Endovascular Treatment Techniques for the Repair of Aortic and Thoracic Aneurysms. The training program is conducted in Spanish with the next program scheduled for March 16-17, 2008 at the Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery (Center) and the Endovascular Research Center (ERC) in the McKnight Research Building on the medical campus.

"The University of Miami is the ideal place for this program," said Dr. Martinez, "for several unique reasons. Miami is an easy location to which to travel from Latin America; our community is welcoming and accessible for Spanish-speaking physicians; the University has experienced Spanish-speaking faculty to teach

the program; and we have on the medical campus the unique facilities of Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH), the Center and the ERC from which to teach these advanced techniques."

The Cook Endovascular Latin America Training Program is designed as a collaboration of The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine's Center for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery, The Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery, and Cook Medical Endovascular Division. The impetus is to assist in the training of vascular surgeons and endovascular interventionists from Latin America in the use of state-of-the-art endovascular techniques. This course is designed as a three-day intensive training program which includes didactic sessions with emphasis on the repair of abdominal and thoracic aortic aneurysms utilizing hybrid and pure endovascular technique.

Other aspects of the training include the life-feed of cases being performed in the operating theater at Jackson Memorial Hospital, and in the future from the University of Miami Hospital. These cases which are reviewed preoperatively as well as postoperatively engender lively discussion during the procedure. The physicians who are invited also have the ability at participating in hands on lab where they practice some of the techniques that have been discussed. This hands on lab is a great asset to this training program because of the availability of state-of-the-art imaging within the facility as well as the freedom offered to the

physicians in directing their experience within this setting.

Other services offered by the team include assistance in reviewing and planning of the physician's own cases during this training period as well as afterwards utilizing the internet. Omaid C. Velazquez, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery and Division Chief said, "The Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Division at the University of Miami and Jackson Memorial Health System is proud to host these physician courses, for they provide a fruitful venue for open communication as well as academic and clinical exchange with physician colleagues from Latin America."

Over 20 physicians from Latin America attended previous training programs held in September and November 2008. Invited Faculty member Luis Sanchez, MD, Professor of Surgery, Vascular Surgery Section at Washington University School of Medicine participated in November's course along with the following faculty members from the DeWitt Daughtry Family Department of Surgery, Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery: Omaid C. Velazquez, MD, Associate Professor Surgery and Division Chief; Juan C. Parodi, MD, Professor of Surgery; Sheela T. Patel, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery; Jagajan Karmacharya, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery; and Marwan R. Tabbara, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery.

For more information, contact Dr. Eduardo Martinez, 305-585-5284 or emartinez8@med.miami.edu. ■

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University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
 Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and
 Minimally Invasive Surgery
 McKnight Research Building, 8th Floor
 1638 NW 10th Avenue • Miami, FL 33178
 305-326-6480 • Fax: 305-326-6328
 Email: miscenter@med.miami.edu
www.mis.med.miami.edu
 Virtual Tour: <http://mis.med.miami.edu/x49.xml>

Atul K. Madan, MD - Director
 305-243-2424
amadan@med.miami.edu

Jose M. Martinez, MD - Assistant Director
 305-243-2424
jmartinez4@med.miami.edu

Susan G. Mazzola - Administrator
 305-326-6480
smazzola@med.miami.edu

Ray I. Gonzalez - Surgical Educator
 305-547-3700
rgonzalez4@med.miami.edu

Leonardo Real - Veterinary Technician
 305-482-4784

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

New Laparoscopic Technique Featured on CBS-TV Channel 4

Dr. Alberto R. Iglesias, Assistant Professor of Surgery with the Division of Laparoendoscopic and Bariatric Surgery was interviewed as part of a medical segment that aired during the January 5, 2009, local evening news program on the CBS-TV Channel 4. He was asked about the new single incision laparoscopic surgical procedure he has done multiple times to remove a patient's gallbladder. The two-minute interview focused on the patient benefits of faster recovery and the absence of any scar. See related article on page one and go to:

<http://cbs4.com/health/health.gallbladder.scar.2.900387.html> to view a video clip of the interview. ■

Research from the Center Presented at National Meetings

Ray I. Gonzalez, Surgical Educator at the Center of Excellence for Laparoscopic and Minimally Invasive Surgery (Center), had three abstracts selected for presentations at two major meetings this spring.

His abstract on *Technical Skills Rotation* was selected for a presentation at the 4th Annual Academic Surgical Congress (ASC) on February 3, 2009 in Fort Myers, FL. This abstract discusses the one month technical skills training rotation held at the Center for Jackson Memorial Hospital surgical interns.



Ray I. Gonzalez, Surgical Educator

Ray's abstract submissions on *Telegrading of the Technical Skills Portion of the Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) Program* and the abstract submission on *Dedicated Laparoscopic Skills One Month Rotation for General Surgery Interns* were selected for presentations at the annual meeting of the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) on April 22-25, 2009 in Phoenix, AZ. ■



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 ENHANCING PATIENT SAFETY THROUGH SIMULATION