

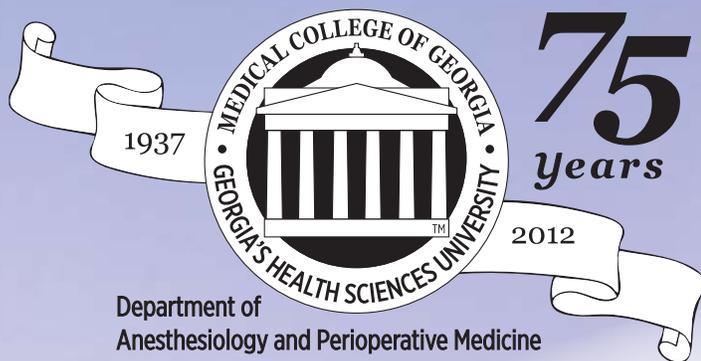
Vigilance at

FALL 2010



MCG

GEORGIA'S HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY



Department of
Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine



IN the SPOTLIGHT

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C. Alvin Head, M.D.
Professor and Chairman

Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

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Dr. C. Alvin Head

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Dr. Eugene K. Betts

Dr. James Mayfield

Dr. Steffen E. Meiler

Section Chiefs

Dr. Ines H. Berger

Dr. Manuel R. Castresana

Dr. Ivan Florentino-Pineda

Dr. Sergio Gregoretti

Medical College of Georgia

1120 15th Street, BIW-2144
Augusta, GA 30912

706-721-3871 phone

706-721-7753 fax

www.mcg.edu/som/anes

Art Direction/Layout

P.J. Hayes Design

Editor

Nadine Odo

Send address changes to:
nodo@mcg.edu

Message from the Chairman

This year's American Society of Anesthesiologists meeting is a bit more exciting for us than usual. For one, we are presenting more posters than we have in probably the past 15 or 20 years, and eight of our residents are named as either a first author or a co-author. I am proud of how involved our faculty and residents have become in national presentations. For another, we're hosting a reception this year, and invite all of you to join us. We are the oldest anesthesiology residency program in the South and will be celebrating our 75th anniversary in 2012. We want you to be a part of the excitement.

I invite you to stop by our 75th Anniversary Kickoff on Oct. 18, 6-8 p.m., during the ASA national meeting. You'll find us in the Aqua Room of the Hilton San Diego Bayfront. Please join us for conversation, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. We'd like to take photos of you at this kickoff so we can include as many of our alumni, faculty and friends as possible in our slide presentation at our upcoming 75th anniversary gala during MCG Homecoming in April 2012.

MCG's anesthesiology department has a long history of education and clinical accomplishments, and more faculty than ever are now interested in research. Drs. Steffen Meiler and Tohru Ikuta are studying potential new treatments for sickle cell disease. Drs. Manuel Castresana, Eugene Betts and I were each involved in multicenter clinical trials that have published result papers. On the horizon are clinical and educational studies by Drs. Sanjeev Kapuria and Jim Mayfield.

On the clinical front, we are sponsoring the Fundamental Critical Care Support workshop in January 2011. During this two-day workshop, we will showcase our new high-tech training mannequin.

All in all, quite a bit of good work coming from the South's oldest academic department of anesthesiology.

New Residents

PGY-1

Dr. Emily Ashford
University of Georgia; Mercer University

Dr. John Blackburn
*University of Kentucky;
University of Kentucky College of Medicine*

Dr. Kathryn Bridges
*Southern Methodist University;
University of Texas Medical School at Houston*

PGY-2

Dr. Ellen Abellana
*University of Florida;
Florida State University College of Medicine*

Dr. Miram Afridi
Aga Khan University

Dr. Michael Allen
*Morehouse College; Kansas City University
of Medicine and Biosciences*

Dr. Stephen Anderson
University of Georgia, MCG

Dr. James Bradley
*University of Rochester School of Arts
and Sciences; University of Rochester
School of Medicine*

Dr. Danielle Doyle
*Howard University;
University of Maryland School of Medicine*

Dr. Michael Ford
*Baylor University;
The University of Texas HSC-San Antonio*

Dr. Chinonye Orizu
*University of Alabama;
University of Alabama School of Medicine*

Dr. William "Peter" Richards
*University of South Carolina;
Johns Hopkins University (MPH), University
of South Carolina School of Medicine*

Dr. Shelly Stephens Norris
*Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University;
Medical University of South Carolina*

Dr. David von Clef
*Franciscan University of Steubenville;
Wake Forest University School of Medicine*

Pain Fellows

Dr. Anuj Aryal
*Northwestern University;
University of Mississippi School of Medicine;
MCG (Anesthesiology)*

Dr. Ashley Mullinax
*University of South Carolina;
Medical University of South Carolina;
MCG (Anesthesiology)*

Dr. Brian Zeh
*University of Georgia; MCG;
MCG (Anesthesiology)*

New Faculty



Dr. Mafdy Basta
Assistant Professor



Dr. Ines H. Berger
Professor
Director, Pain Medicine

MCG to Host SUDAC Meeting

MCG will host the 2011 Southern Universities Department of Anesthesiology Chairs meeting. SUDAC consists of 39 anesthesiology departments. Recent meetings have been hosted by Emory University, the University of Oklahoma, the University of Miami and the University of Virginia.

Dr. C. Alvin Head and Financial Director Ray Brees plan to discuss academic anesthesiology practice issues – for example, managing reduced residency work hours while maintaining competency training, staff compensation, patient care reimbursement, and supporting research in difficult financial times – with fellow chairmen and administrators. Patient safety and quality methodologies will be an important topic, as Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements depend not only on performance, but also on appropriate documentation.

“A strong administration is now considered the fourth leg of the academic stool (the other three being clinical, research, and education) needed to survive and navigate through these difficult times in an academic practice. The SUDAC meeting addresses these issues and we share our knowledge freely so that all can learn from each other,” said Dr. Head.

ASA Meeting

We are well-represented at the American Society of Anesthesiologists meeting in San Diego this October. In addition to 11 poster presentations:

- Dr. William Hammonds will chair the Museum Committee for the Wood Library-Museum Foundation.
- Dr. C. Alvin Head is on the Anesthesiology Practice Management expert panel.
- Dr. Mary Arthur is an alternate delegate.
- Dr. Manuel Castresana reviewed critical care abstracts and is a meeting moderator for the second year in a row.



Congratulations...

(The following awards were presented during the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine annual awards banquet in June at The Richmond on the Green)

...**Dr. Mary Arthur**, Associate Professor, Margaret B. DeVore Residents' Choice Award.

...**Dr. Robert O'Bannon**, Assistant Professor, Jack B. Williams Award of Excellence in Anesthesia Education.



...**Dr. Anuj Aryal**, Robert D. Dripps Memorial Award honoring a senior resident's educational achievements. Dr. Aryal was also recognized for “best presentation” at a journal club meeting.



...**Dr. Nicholas Coates**, Resident Educator Award for mentoring medical students involved in the anesthesia clerkship.



...**Dr. Stephen Wells**, Robert S. Crumrine Award for exemplifying the characteristics of an anesthesiologist as a first-year resident.

...**Third-year resident Vikas Kumar** was elected vice president of the Residents Component of the Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists during the society's summer meeting. He will serve as president next year.

...**Dr. Stevin Dubin**, Associate Professor, was named Consultant of the Year by the Department of Otolaryngology. Dr. Dubin, who was chosen unanimously, was the first anesthesiologist to receive the honor.

...**Rex Davis**, son of administrative assistant Katie Davis, is one of Georgia's top-100 high school baseball players. The Greenbrier High School senior will pitch for Savannah State University, an NCAA Division I school, on a full scholarship next year. Through a special program, Rex will play at Savannah State and graduate with a computer engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

New Staff



Shannon Broxton
Certified Registered
Nurse Anesthetist



BLS Training

Anesthesiology instructor Pam Rosema has trained more than 7,000 people in basic life support, advanced cardiac life support and Fundamental Critical Care Support Courses since 1992. She recently gave a refresher course to anesthesiology faculty, staff and residents.

Dr. Manuel Castresana demonstrates video laryngoscope technique as Pam Rosema and respiratory therapists look on.



Critical care workshop slated for January

Dr. Manuel Castresana will direct the Fundamental Critical Care Support workshop, which trains non-critical care specialists to manage critically ill patients during the crucial first 24 hours, on campus Jan. 29-30. The course, a combination of lectures and hands-on skill stations, will cover care related to mechanical ventilation, hemodynamic monitoring, organ hypoperfusion and neurological support. Continuing medical education credits are available. Visit www.mcg.edu/som/anes for registration information. The deadline is Jan. 21.

Antibiotic sponge ineffective on sternal wound infections

A recent multicenter study found a biodegradable sponge ineffective in preventing sternal wound infections in high-risk patients after cardiac surgery.

Sternal wound infections after cardiac surgeries, particularly in patients with diabetes or obesity, can lengthen hospital stays and increase mortality rates. The gentamicin-collagen sponge was developed to prevent and treat wound infections by concentrating the antibiotic on the wound and avoiding potential kidney damage if administered by other means.

In the study, 1,502 cardiac surgery patients with diabetes and/or obesity were randomly assigned to receive either standard care (prophylactic antibiotics and rigid sternal fixation) or standard care plus two sponges inserted between the sternal halves. MCG was among the 48 U.S. sites.

The sponge was found ineffective in preventing infection, contradicting an earlier Swedish study. The authors note that the latter study included more quality-control measures and a greater number of hospitals (48 vs. two).

"Although it is disappointing that the sponge failed to prevent infections in these at-risk patients, this study highlights the importance of publishing negative results, so that our peers are alerted to ineffective as well as effective therapies. This trial also points to the value of large validation studies in ensuring that we are treating our patients to the best of our ability," said study investigator Dr. Manuel Castresana.

Study notes risks of desflurane during pediatric surgery

A recent study determined that the anesthetic, desflurane, poses greater airway risks than isoflurane in children during surgery.

Children undergoing elective surgery at 10 centers, including MCG Medical Center, were randomly selected to receive one of the two anesthetics. Anesthesiologists used the airway support of their choice, with most using a laryngeal mask airway; the others used facemasks.

The researchers found that desflurane posed greater airway risks than isoflurane during removal of the laryngeal mask, particularly in children who were not awake during surgery. No significant differences in airway problems were noted at other points during surgery. No recovery delays or overnight admissions were reported.

Dr. Eugene Betts oversaw the MCG study.

Medical students scope out anesthesiology

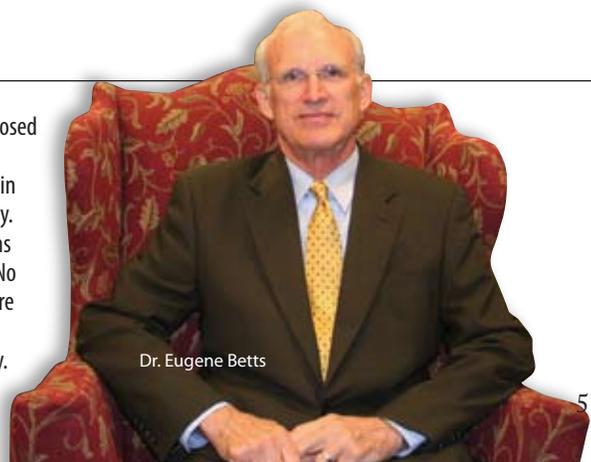
Nearly every month from August through May, five or six medical students rotate through our department as part of the anesthesiology core clerkship. The students learn the basics of anesthetic management and assist in the preoperative clinic, main adult operating room, cardiac anesthesia room, obstetrical anesthesia suites, pain clinic and Children's Medical Center.

Says fourth-year medical student Ashley LeFevre, "I like the hands-on aspect of the clerkship. They let us be a part of the team, and the residents have all been very patient with us."

Dr. Ranita Donald, the clerkship director since 2000, will present an educational exhibit about developing a successful clerkship at the American Society of Anesthesiologists meeting in San Diego in October.



Medical student Ashley LeFevre practices her intubation technique with a video laryngoscope as Dr. Ranita Donald observes.



Dr. Eugene Betts

Publications, Presentations and Abstracts, and Research



Peer-Reviewed Publications

Arthur ME, Odo N. The practice of anesthesiology and perioperative care. *AMWA Journal* 2010;25(2):50-56. *This article was featured in the AMWA Journal Blog, "To sleep, perchance to operate," 8/5/2010, amwajournal.blogspot.com.*

Arthur M, Odo N, Berman A. Anesthetic considerations for electrophysiologic studies and catheter ablations. *MedEdPORTAL* 2010. Available from: www.mededportal.org ID 7985.

Bennett-Guerrero E, Ferguson TB, Lin M, et al., for the SWIPE-1 Trial Group. Effect of an implantable gentamicin-collagen sponge on sternal wound infections following cardiac surgery: a randomized trial. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 2010;304(7):755-762. [Dr. Manuel Castresana is a SWIPE-1 investigator]

Head CA, Swerdlow P, McDade WA, Joshi RM, Ikuta T, Cooper ML, Eckman JR. Beneficial effects of nitric oxide breathing in adult patients with sickle cell crisis. *American Journal of Hematology* [Epub ahead of print].

Lerman J, Hammer GB, Verghese S, Ehlers M, Khalil SN, Betts E, Trillo R, Deutsch J, for the MAPS Investigators Group. Airway responses to desflurane during maintenance of anesthesia and recovery in children with laryngeal mask airways. *Pediatric Anesthesia* 2010;20:495-505. Epub 2010 Apr 23.

Presentations and Abstracts

Gallen T, Arthur ME, Castresana MR. Anesthesia for hybrid convergent ablation procedures: what have we learned? *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

O'Bannon RT, Dubin S. Prevention of progressive deterioration of motor evoked potentials during general anesthesia. *Society for Neuroscience in Anesthesiology and Critical Care, San Diego, CA*, 2010

Rawlings J, Spivey J, Castresana M. Combined propofol and ketamine for the anesthetic management of direct current cardioversions. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Rogg SA, Martinez-Lu K, Martin DC, Williams GO, Hammonds WD. The influence of ethnicity on visual analog scale pain ratings: pre- and post-radiofrequency application for pain of zygapophyseal joint origin. *American Society of International Pain Physicians*, 2010, Arlington, VA [oral and poster presentation]

Setty H, Gallen T, Rothfield K. Use of the video rigid flexible laryngoscope in awake intubations. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Webb DM, Odo N, Arthur ME. Use of TEE and PAC to guide inotropic therapy in cardiac surgery. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010, San Diego, CA

Scientific and Educational Exhibits

Donald RR, Odo N, Dawkins S, Mason N. Strategies for a successful anesthesiology clerkship and rewarding medical student experience. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Medically Challenging Cases

Aryal A, Mayfield J, Hammonds W. Neurologic deficit following ultrasound guided femoral nerve block. *Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia*, 2010, Baltimore, MD

Crews LK, Mattingly D, Florentino-Pineda I. The use of dexmedetomidine during nasotracheal intubation in a patient with Charge Syndrome. *Society for Pediatric Anesthesiology*, 2010, San Antonio, TX

Donald RR, Taylor E, Gallen T. Challenge of a difficult airway and anesthetic management in a patient with Still's disease. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Gallen TB, Qadeer A, Florentino-Pineda I, Weatherred T. Management of a difficult airway in a patient with Trisomy 22 using a Storz video laryngoscope. *Society for Pediatric Anesthesiology*, 2010

Grinage B, O'Bannon R. General anesthesia in an ex-utero intrapartum treatment (EXIT) procedure for a neonate with NAGER Syndrome. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Janardhanam R, Mellinger J, Hammonds W. Thrombolytic therapy in a patient with an epidural catheter. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Janardhanam R, Patel V, Arthur M. The anesthetic management of an obese patient with large anterior mediastinal and diaphragmatic masses. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Mason N, Donald RR, Reynolds D. Anesthesia for cesarean section in a patient with severe pulmonary valve stenosis, pulmonary hypertension and TOF repair. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Mattingly D, Crews LK, Florentino-Pineda I. Intranasal septal perforation in a 4-year-old by an impacted button battery: a case report and report of the literature. *Society for Pediatric Anesthesiology*, 2010

Rawlings J, Spivey J, Castresana M. Unanticipated acute adrenal insufficiency during emergency thoracotomy re-exploration. *American Society of Anesthesiologists*, 2010

Webb DM, Schneider JR, Lober RM, Vender J. Granulomatous conduit for intrathecal infusion of morphine and bupivacaine. *American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine*, 2010, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Letters to the Editor

Adamkiewicz TV, Abboud MR, Alvarez OA, Odo N. Serum ferritin does not correlate with transfusion rate. *Blood* 2010;115(14):2981-2982.

Currently Funded Research

Dr. Manuel Castresana, Principal Investigator, Dr. Mary Arthur, Co-Investigator. The effect of acadesine on clinically significant adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events in high-risk subjects undergoing coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery using cardiopulmonary bypass (Protocol No. P05633): RED-CABG Trial (reduction in cardiovascular events by acadesine in subjects undergoing CABG). *Schering-Plough Research Institute*.

Dr. Castresana, Principal Investigator. Prospective observational trial to investigate the clinical utility of the integrated pulmonary index (IPI) to predict ability to wean from mechanical ventilation. *Innocoll Inc*.

Dr. Tohru Ikuta, Principal Investigator. New hydroxyurea-based combination therapy for sickle cell disease. *NCMHD Southeastern Exploratory Sickle Cell Center of Excellence*.

Dr. Steffen Meiler, Co-Investigator. Nanomedicine Center for Nucleoprotein Machines. *NIH/Nanomedicine Roadmap*.

Dr. Meiler, Co-Investigator. Exploratory Center for Excellence for Minority Health and Health Disparities. *NIH/NCMHD*.

A Tremendous Milestone on the Horizon

75 years

As we approach our 75th year of training future physicians and providing patient care, we ask for your support in funding the first endowed chair and the first endowed professorship for the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine.

Dr. Zachariah W. Gramling, department chairman from 1974-83, oversaw progress including growth of the housestaff; enhancement of an anesthesiology elective for medical students to meet the needs of future physicians; and the founding of MCG's Department of Respiratory Therapy in the School of Allied Health Sciences. Dr. Gramling received the Crawford W. Long Award from the Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists for his significant contributions to anesthesiology. It is certainly fitting that we acknowledge Dr. Gramling's accomplishments in perpetuity by naming our first endowed chair fund in his honor.

Dr. Margaret B. DeVore received the MCG School of Medicine's 1978 Distinguished Faculty Award and the 1989 Residents' Choice Award, which is named in her honor. Dr. DeVore is a well-respected and revered teacher, Professor Emerita, and Associate Dean of Students Emerita. The first endowed professorship in anesthesiology will be named in her honor for her tremendous contributions to the department, dedication to educational excellence and wonderful rapport with our house staff.

Our 75th anniversary is a time to celebrate how far we've come as a department. Both Drs. Gramling and DeVore have been significant partners in our success. Your gift to support one of these funds today will help reinforce the strong foundation we have built to date.

Our goal is to have these two endowments funded by our 75th anniversary celebration in 2012. Let's make it happen together.

In this issue, we express our gratitude for a gift in honor of Dr. Robert Matthew (Medicine, '49, Anesthesiology '52), who passed away Oct. 12, 2009. After serving in the Army and graduating from Vanderbilt University, Dr. Matthew completed medical school and an anesthesiology residency at MCG. He served on our faculty for two years before serving as an anesthesiologist in the Korean War, where he received the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. Dr. Matthew became the first board-certified anesthesiologist at Phoebe Putney Hospital in Albany, Ga., and was a founding partner of Albany Anesthesia Associates. He served on the MCG Foundation Board of Directors, was president of the MCG Alumni Association and received the 2002 Distinguished Alumnus Award. Survivors include wife Marie, a son, a daughter, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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- Margaret B. DeVore Professorship in Anesthesiology

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Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Meetings

■ American Society of Anesthesiologists

October 16–20 San Diego, Ca.

We hope you've made reservations for the ASA meeting because you're invited to our reception. Stop by the Aqua Room of the Hilton San Diego Bayfront on Monday, Oct. 18, 6–8 p.m. for drinks, hors d'oeuvres and lively conversation.

A photographer will take pictures so we can include as many alumni, faculty and friends as possible in our photo montage for our 75th anniversary celebration in 2012. Susan Dawkins, our residency program coordinator and probably the most recognizable face in our department, can't wait to catch up on what you've been doing in your career. If you've done some great things with your life – and haven't we all? – please let her know about it. We'd like to let everyone else know how well you're doing in your career, and maybe mention it in an upcoming newsletter.

While you're here, we'll share more plans for our 75th anniversary celebration. We want to see as many of our faculty, residents and alumni as possible. Come join the fun!



■ American Society of Critical Care Anesthesiologists

October 15 San Diego, Ca.

■ Fundamental Critical Care Support

January 29-30