



NewYork-Presbyterian
The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell



Department of Surgery

Section of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Chairman: Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Program Director: Kelly Garrett, MD

Program Manager: David Fehling, MA

Welcome



Weill Cornell Medical College



We are delighted and proud to be an active part of our institution, which is among the top-ranked clinical and medical research centers in the country. Our affiliation with a major academic medical center underscores our department's three-pronged mission: to provide the highest quality of compassionate care, to educate the surgeons of tomorrow, and to pursue groundbreaking research. As members of the clinical staff of New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell, our team of experienced surgeons practice at the forefront of their respective specialties, offering patients outstanding, humane and personalized care. As faculty of Weill Cornell Medical College, these physicians are educating future generations of surgeons and advancing state-of-the-art surgical treatment.

The history of surgery at the New York Hospital, the second oldest hospital in the United States, reflects the evolution of surgery in America, and is marked by some of the most extraordinary achievements in medicine. The New York Hospital was the cradle of early surgical developments and instruction in America, earning a worldwide reputation for excellence and innovation. Many of today's practices and techniques arose from our institution. Our department continues to build upon our rich legacy of surgical innovations, making important contributions to the advancement of new surgical procedures. Wright Post, MD, one of the first surgeons appointed to the hospital in 1792, was the first in America to successfully treat aneurysms, developing state-of-the-art surgical techniques. In 1878, Lewis Atterbury Stimson, MD, the first professor of surgery at The New York Hospital, performed the first public demonstration of an antiseptic operation in the United States. In 1898, Dr. Stimson organized the charter that established Cornell University Medical College.

William Stewart Halstead, MD, widely regarded as the founder of modern surgery, was trained at The New York Hospital, under the mentorship of Henry Sands, MD, who fostered Dr. Halstead's early interest in anatomy and surgery. Another of our distinguished earliest surgeons was Valentine Mott, MD, a pioneer in vascular surgery.

In 1932, George J. Heuer, MD, joined The New York Hospital as Chief of Surgery and established the nation's second modern surgical training program. During the 1950's, Frank Glenn, MD, the first Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery, was internationally recognized as the leading expert in biliary and cardiovascular surgery. In 1963, the first kidney transplant in the metropolitan area was performed by our hospital's surgeons.

Dr. C. Walton Lillehei, who became the Lewis Atterbury Professor of Surgery in 1967, is widely regarded as the father of heart surgery because so many of his innovations were crucial to the evolution of cardiac surgery and cardiopulmonary bypass. He also trained Norman Shumway, MD and Christiaan Barnard, MD, early pioneers of cardiac and organ transplantations.

In 1976, the hospital formed the first comprehensive Burn Center in the New York region— today one of the largest and busiest in the nation. In 1996, we created the first pancreas transplant program in the tri-state area. In 2004 we were the first in the tri-state area to perform minimally-invasive islet cell transplants to cure Type I diabetes. In 2005, the first side-to-side bowel sparing strictureplasty in the eastern United States was performed in our hospital by the surgeon who pioneered the procedure for patients affected by advanced Crohn's disease of the small bowel. Today our surgeons continues to lead the way in shaping the medical world of the 21st century, and we remain one of the most outstanding academic departments and training programs in the world.

Thank you for applying to our Colon and Rectal Fellowship Program.

Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery

Chairman of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medical College

Surgeon-in-Chief

New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Who Are We?

Thank you for your interest in our program. Our [Colon and Rectal Surgery Residency Program](#) is an ACGME accredited one-year residency that accepts two candidates per year at the PGY-6 level. The resident rotates through three highly-regarded institutions for 4 month blocks each. These include the [Cornell campus](#), the [Columbia campus](#), and [Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center \(MSKCC\)](#). We feel the combination of these institutions creates a unique and truly outstanding training experience that is not only modern and technically advanced, but also wellbalanced. We additionally take pride in our didactic curriculum, which includes not only weekly colorectal Grand Rounds, but an additional weekly core curriculum review. A one-month rotation is dedicated solely to the practice of endoscopy (rotation offered at MSKCC).

Weill Cornell Medical College

The Cornell campus is located in the Upper East Side of Manhattan. It features a well-rounded practice in colon and rectal surgery, with significant exposure to [inflammatory bowel disease](#), [malignancies of the colon, rectum and anus](#), [diverticular disease](#), and [other benign/functional diseases of the colon, rectum, and anus](#). The surgeons at Weill Cornell have provided leadership in the advancement of [state-of-the-art minimally invasive colorectal surgery](#) for many years. At the same time, it serves as a tertiary referral center for some of the most complex and challenging clinical cases, including reoperative abdominal and pelvic operations. More recently it has developed a [fecal incontinence](#) program, incorporating the practice of sacral nerve stimulation. The faculty members of Cornell have successfully trained of 22 ACGME colorectal residents over 13 years since the initiation of the training program.

Cornell is home to other digestive disease programs such as [the Center for Advanced Digestive Care \(CADC\)](#), [the Jill Roberts Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center](#), and [the Jay Monahan Center for Gastrointestinal Health](#), and is at the forefront of integrated and multi-disciplinary care for digestive diseases.



NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Who Are We?

Columbia University Medical Center

The [Columbia campus](#) is located in Washington Heights. Together with [Cornell](#) as part of the [NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital](#) system, it remains one of the top institutions for medical and surgical care both nationally and internationally. At Columbia, the entire breadth of [colon and rectal surgery](#) is encountered, with emphasis on [minimally invasive techniques](#) including robotic surgery, reoperative abdominal and pelvic surgery (including the continent ileostomy), treatment of bread-and butter as well as complex anorectal diseases, and endoscopy.

Columbia University, under the leadership of its new division chief, was integrated back into the colon and rectal surgery residency in 2015. We are proud of this partnership, which will undoubtedly have a strong positive impact on resident training.



Columbia University Medical Center

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer (MSKCC)



Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center is located in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, close in proximity to the Cornell campus. [MSKCC's Colorectal Surgery Service](#) provides a tremendous opportunity to become expertly trained in the multimodality management of the colorectal cancer patient as well as in the latest techniques in colorectal surgery, such as [minimally invasive surgery](#) (including [colonoscopy](#), [laparoscopy](#), transanal endoscopic microsurgery, and robotics), endorectal ultrasound, peritoneal tumor debulking, and en-bloc exenterative resections for recurrent pelvic disease incorporating intraoperative radiation therapy. The clinical training is organized into one-month rotations in the model of a one-on-one mentorship.

MSKCC also provides a robust didactic experience that includes weekly Grand Rounds, a core course in surgical oncology, surgical oncology conference, and a weekly [Colorectal Disease Management Team](#) conference (which includes a journal club meeting each month). There is in addition a weekly lecture series on topics related to surgical oncology, weekly service discussions, research conferences, and a fellow-run conference dedicated to resident education.

New Residents



Sarath Sujatha-Bhaskar, MD

In 2009, Dr. Sarath Sujatha-Bhaskar received his BS in Biochemistry from University of California, Los Angeles. Following this, Dr. Sujatha-Bhaskar received his MD from Michigan State University. Dr. Sujatha-Bhaskar completed his residency in General Surgery at University of California Irvine Medical Center in 2019.



Glendon Alan Hyde, MD

In 2007, Dr. Glendon Hyde received his BA in Psychology from Wake Forrest. Following this, Dr. Hyde received his MD from the University of Tennessee in 2013. Dr. Hyde completed his residency in General Surgery at the University of Tennessee in 2019.

Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellow Alumni

All of the graduates of the Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship routinely secure academic and private positions in any one of a number of institutions across the country. Positions obtained by our graduation fellows in past years are as follows:

2019 Graduates	2018 Graduates	2017 Graduates	2016 Graduates
<p>Gregory Charak, MD Assistant Professor of Surgery Colon and Rectal Surgery University of Kentucky</p> <p>John Gahagan, MD Clinical Assistant Professor Colon and Rectal Surgery Stanford University School of Medicine</p>	<p>Mark Hanna, MD Colon and Rectal Surgeon City of Hope Cancer Center Duarte, CA</p> <p>Maria Widmar, MD Surgical Oncology Fellow Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY</p>	<p>Maj. Garrett Friedman, MD Staff Surgeon Nellis Air Force Base Las Vegas, NV</p> <p>David Kleiman, MD Staff Surgeon, Lahey Hospital & Medical Center Assistant Professor of Surgery Tufts University Medical School</p>	<p>Mehraneh Jafari, MD Assistant Professor Colon and Rectal Surgery University of California, Irvine</p> <p>Marjun Duldulao, MD Assistant Professor Colon and Rectal Surgery University of Southern CA</p>
2015 Graduates	2014 Graduates	2013 Graduates	2012 Graduates
<p>Emmanouil Pappou, MD Colon and Rectal Faculty at Columbia University Medical Center</p> <p>Sunil Patel, MD Attending Surgeon in Colon and Rectal Surgery at Queens University in Kingston, Canada</p>	<p>Carrie Y. Peterson, MD Assistant Professor Colon and Rectal Surgery Medical College of Wisconsin Milwaukee, WI</p> <p>Tushar S. Samdani, MD Research Fellowship Colon and Rectal Surgery NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell</p>	<p>Nelya Melnitchouk, MD Colon and Rectal Attending Surgeon at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, Boston, MA</p> <p>Heather Yeo, MD Surgical Oncology Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY</p>	<p>Steven Lee-Kong, MD Assistant Professor in Surgery Columbia University New York, NY</p> <p>Joongho Shin, MD Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery Keck School of Medicine of USC</p>

Our Faculty



**NewYork-
Presbyterian**



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

*College of Physicians
and Surgeons*



**Weill Cornell
Medicine**

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Jeffrey W. Milsom, MD

Jerome J. DeCosse MD Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Chief, Colon and Rectal Surgery

Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Jeffrey Milsom, MD, FACS, is the Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery and the Jerome J. Decosse, MD Professor of Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He serves as the Executive Director of the Center for Advanced Digestive Care. He is co-director of MINT, a multidisciplinary group of surgeons, engineers, MBAs, and lawyers dedicated to innovative new approaches to surgery. Dr. Milsom is an internationally renowned pioneer in minimally invasive surgery and state-of-the-art laparoscopic technologies for colorectal cancer, Crohn's disease and other inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Milsom has been repeatedly recognized by Castle Connolly as one of "America's Top Doctors," by New York Magazine as one of New York's "Best Doctors," and as a "New York SuperDoctor", an honor accorded just 5% of all New York physicians.

For Dr. Milsom's publications, click here: [PubMed](#)

Dr. Milsom has unique expertise and unparalleled experience in minimally invasive surgery for complex colorectal diseases. He has performed over 4,000 laparoscopic colon and rectal operations, and has been invited to perform surgeries in over 30 countries. Under Dr. Milsom's leadership, 90 percent of all procedures in the Colon and Rectal Section at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center are now performed using high-tech, minimally invasive technologies. He has published four books, 24 book chapters and over 250 papers, presentations and educational videos.

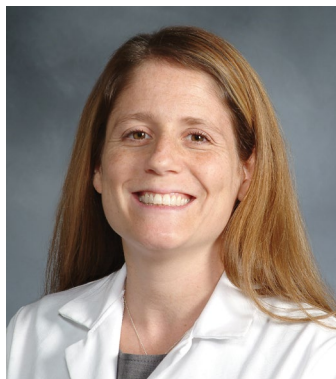
He is a member of 14 prestigious professional societies, and is a Fellow at the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons and the Society of Surgical Oncology.

After graduating summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Milsom received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1979. He fulfilled two years of residency at Roosevelt Hospital in New York and completed his residency at the University of Virginia Medical Center, where he served as Chief Resident. He concluded his advanced training as a Fellow in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Ferguson Clinic, Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1985, and has been a board certified colon and rectal surgeon since 1986. He joined the faculty of New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Medical Center in 2001.

Dr. Milsom was Assistant Professor of Surgery at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan from 1986 through 1989. During this period he was also the Director, Department of Surgical Research at the Ferguson Clinic. From 1990 to 1998, he was the Director of Research, Department of Colorectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and from 1997 through 1998 he was also the Director of Research, Minimally Invasive Surgery Center at the Cleveland Clinic. In April 1998, Dr. Milsom became a Professor of Surgery at The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, Chief of the Division of Colorectal Surgery and Co-Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery.

He has served on the Emerging Technologies Committee for the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons. Dr. Milsom has been a senior examiner for the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. He is a reviewer for Surgical Endoscopy, Diseases of the Colon & Rectum, Annals of Surgery and other surgical journals. His vision for the future of digestive surgery is simple: procedures should be 10 times better, not 10% better. The future of surgery will be endoluminal, using emerging technologies in devices, biomaterials, and imaging to create a new, less costly, and safer era.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Kelly Garrett, MD

Program Director, Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship

Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Associate Attending Surgeon

New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Kelly A Garrett, MD is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Attending Surgeon at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Garrett's specialty interests include functional bowel disorders, fecal incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, fistulas and complex pelvic floor dysfunction and she has lectured regionally and nationally on these subjects. She also treats other colon and rectal diseases, such as colon and rectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, diverticular disease, and benign conditions of the rectum and anus.

In 2014-2015 Dr. Garrett was selected by NY Superdoctors as one of "New York's Rising Stars" in Colorectal Surgery – a recognition bestowed to young physicians with fewer than 10 years of practice who have demonstrated outstanding skills and enjoy an excellent reputation in their field. In 2016, Dr. Garrett was named by Castle Connolly as one of New York Metro Area's Top Doctors.

Dr. Garrett graduated from Drew University in 1996 and received her medical degree in 2003 from St. George's University School of Medicine. After completing her general surgery residency at Albany Medical Center in 2008, she completed a fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in 2009. She then went on to serve as Associate Staff at the Cleveland Clinic – Digestive Disease Institute for one year and then joined the division of Colorectal Surgery at New York Presbyterian Hospital in 2010.

Devoting considerable time to teaching, mentoring and the development of physicians in training, Dr. Garrett served as the Associate Clerkship director for the medical students rotating on the general surgery services from 2013-2016. In June 2014 she was given the Award for Teaching Excellence by Weill Cornell Medical College. She is currently the Program Director for the combined New York Presbyterian Hospital/Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Colon and Rectal Surgery Residency Program.

Dr. Garrett is active in numerous professional societies and she is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. She serves on the executive council of the New York Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery. She has won awards for her publications while in training and has contributed many peer reviewed journal publications and book chapters.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Daniel H. Hunt, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Daniel H. Hunt, MD is a board-certified surgeon in colon and rectal surgery. Dr. Hunt is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Assistant Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He is the Site Chief of Colon and Rectal Surgery at New York-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Hospital.

Dr. Hunt specializes in laparoscopy for benign and malignant colorectal tumors. His expertise also includes cancer prevention, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, diverticulitis, and sphincter preservation for rectal cancer. Dr. Hunt delivers state-of-the-art care using minimally invasive techniques to speed recovery. These advanced procedures and treatment plans, combined with new technologies offer patients improved safety, comfort and the preservation of normal bowel function.

Dr. Hunt earned his M.D degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York in 1999. He received his B.S. in Chemistry from the State University of Albany in 1993. Dr. Hunt began his general surgery residency at St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, New Jersey from 1999 - 2001. He spent two years as a Surgical Oncology Fellow at Weill Cornell from 2001-2003. Dr. Hunt completed his general surgery residency at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn from 2003-2006. He also completed a Minimally Invasive Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at Lankenau Hospital, Wynnewood, PA from 2006-2007. He completed a Colorectal Surgery Residency at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell and Columbia from 2007-2008. He was appointed to the attending staff at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, PA before joining the staff at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

He is a member of the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is widely published in peer-reviewed journals and has presented his research in abstracts, posters and oral presentations at many professional society meetings.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Fabrizio Michelassi, MD, FACS

Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery

Chairman of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Surgeon-in-Chief

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Fabrizio Michelassi, M.D, F.A.C.S., is a world-renowned, board-certified gastrointestinal surgeon with a strong expertise in the surgical treatment of gastrointestinal and pancreatic cancers as well as inflammatory bowel disease. He is the Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and Surgeon-in-Chief at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Dr. Michelassi was recently featured in a story about his pioneering crohns surgery on the award-winning ABC-TV documentary series, "NY Med". To view the episode please [click here](#).

A prolific author of more than 270 papers, book chapters and abstracts, Dr. Michelassi has contributed new insight in the surgical treatment of pancreatic and colorectal cancers, ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. He has pioneered the development of important new techniques that ensure better outcomes and improved quality of life for patients with rectal cancer and ulcerative colitis. These techniques have resulted in a greater percentage of patients avoiding permanent stomas and maintaining urological and sexual function. His recognized expertise in the surgical treatment of pancreatic cancer has led many patients to seek his counsel; in turn, Dr. Michelassi has contributed new knowledge to this field through clinical trials. His experience and expertise in treating Crohn's disease led him to develop a novel bowel-sparing procedure, now known as the Michelassi strictureplasty, designed to avoid sacrificing large amounts of bowel at the time of surgery and facilitating quiescence of the acute disease affecting the diseased intestinal loops. He has edited a book on "Operative strategies in inflammatory bowel disease" and has produced eleven instructional movies for surgeons on the surgical treatment of complications of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Dr. Michelassi has earned numerous awards for his innovative contributions to advancing the treatment of digestive diseases, including the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Award, the American Cancer Society Cancer Development Award and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America. Dr. Michelassi has received federal and non-federal support for his research since 1987. His research on Crohn's disease has been funded by the International Organization of Inflammatory Bowel Disease and numerous other foundations; his research on the genetics of gastrointestinal cancer has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the American Cancer Society.

He has been repeatedly recognized by Castle Connolly, New York Magazine and Chicago Magazine as one of the "Best Doctors in America." Dr. Michelassi is ranked as one of "America's Top Doctors" by US News & World Report. He was chosen as one of "American's Top Surgeons" by the Consumers' Research Council of America, and has been selected as one of New York's "Super Doctors" every year since its inception, an honor accorded to just 5 percent of all New York physicians. In 2015, Dr. Michelassi was awarded the National Physician of the Year Award for Clinical Excellence from Castle Connolly, in recognition of his pioneering contributions to the field of gastrointestinal surgery.

In 2009, in recognition of his many lifetime achievements, Dr. Michelassi was honored as an Official of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy with the rank of Commendatore, the most prestigious and important distinction awarded by the President of the Republic of Italy to Italian citizens of particular merit. He was also inducted as a member of the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit (ASILM), the Italian-American society comprised of those 600 individuals who have been so decorated by the Republic of Italy. Dr. Michelassi received the prestigious 2010 Golden Lion Award from the Order of the Sons of Italy in America and the "Campano d'Oro" medal from the University of Pisa, the highest honor that can be accorded to a University of Pisa alumnus. In 2012, he received the "Grand Award of Merit," the most prestigious award of the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit, in recognition of his accomplishments, dedication and leadership that have improved the lives of numerous Americans, Italians and Italian Americans. Previous recipients of the Grand Award of Merit include H.E. Giorgio Napolitano, President of the Republic of Italy, George W. Bush, former President of the United States, and US Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Parul Shukla, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Parul Shukla, MD is an Associate Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College and an Associate Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Shukla is an internationally known expert in gastrointestinal surgical oncology, and in particular hepato-pancreato-biliary pathology. He is an accomplished master surgeon with excellent clinical judgment and operative expertise. He has extensive experience in treating gastrointestinal cancers, and has a strong expertise as a colorectal laparoscopic surgeon.

In addition to his clinical practice, Dr. Shukla is a renowned researcher and educator. He is widely published with over 110 articles in peer reviewed medical journals and 11 book chapters. He has served as Editor in Chief of the Journal of Colorectal Diseases since 2006, and is a member of the editorial board for the World Gastroenterology Organization. Dr. Shukla is an invited reviewer for many international journals, and has been an invited lecturer at 128 international institutions.

Among Dr. Shukla's many journal publications, two papers have influenced surgical practice. He is the first author of a clinical review from the International Study Group of Pancreatic Surgery regarding standardization in the reporting of pancreatic anastomoses, and his co-authors are two of the leading pancreatic surgeons in the world. The second seminal paper published in the Annals of Surgical Oncology highlights the management experience of gallbladder cancer at the Tata Memorial Hospital; Dr. Shukla analyzed these data to produce a novel scoring system for patients with this pathology. This was recognized as one of the largest series in the world literature regarding this disease.

His current clinical research at NYP/Weill Cornell centers on the application of "needlescopic" procedures to laparoscopic and endoscopic surgery, the expanded role of intraoperative carbon dioxide colonoscopy in the operating room, narrow-band imaging and vascularity of the anastomosis, endoluminal full-thickness closure of intestinal defects, luminal mapping of colorectal tumors and polyps, the role of multi-photon microscopy in luminal diagnosis, the impact of obesity on outcomes of laparoscopic colectomy, and long-term outcomes of colon cancer after open and laparoscopic surgery.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Heather Yeo, MD, MHS

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Weill Cornell Medical College

Assistant Attending Surgeon

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Assistant Professor of Healthcare Policy and Research

Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

Heather Yeo, MD, MHS, is Assistant Professor of Surgery and Assistant Professor of Public Health at Weill Cornell Medical College and Assistant Attending Surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She is board-certified in general surgery, colon and rectal surgery and complex general surgical oncology. Dr. Yeo specializes in the comprehensive care of colorectal cancer patients as well as those patients with benign colorectal disease.

Because of her specialized training as a surgical oncologist, Dr. Yeo, is involved with her cancer patients throughout the course of their therapy and will help them to understand all of their treatment options. She works with a world renowned group of multidisciplinary specialists to help promote a multifaceted treatment plan for her patients, including radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, gastroenterologists, and interventional radiologists.

Dr. Yeo has expertise in minimal access techniques, including laparoscopic, needlescopic, colonoscopic-assisted and robotic surgery. In addition, she has special interests in sphincter preserving surgery (helping rectal cancer patients avoid a permanent ostomy), maintaining fertility in cancer patients, and improving quality of life and bowel function after rectal surgery.

Dr. Yeo's clinical research focuses on the whole patient and improving the surgical experience. She has studied patient quality of life and outcome measures and believes incorporating those factors into her treatment decisions is very important.

Dr. Yeo has written extensively and published in many major journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), Annals of Surgery, and the Journal of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Yeo completed her general surgical residency at Yale New Haven Hospital, and her Surgical Oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and her fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. She has a Masters in Health Service Research from Yale University.

Dr. Yeo is actively involved in many national Surgical and Oncologic Societies, including the American College of Surgeons, Society of Surgical Oncologists, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Association of Women Surgeons, and Association of Academic Surgery.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Pokala Ravi Kiran, MD

Director, Center for Innovation and Outcomes Research
Chief and Program Director, Division of Colorectal Surgery

Dr. Kiran received his medical degree from and completed surgical training at Osmania Medical College in Hyderabad, India, and received advanced training in colorectal surgery in the United Kingdom. He completed his general surgery residency at Yale-Saint Mary's Hospital and Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center and fellowship training in colorectal surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. He is board certified in surgery and in colon and rectal surgery from the American College of Surgeons (FACS) and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (FASCRS) and is a fellow of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of England and Glasgow.

The author of more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Kiran is also an editor and reviewer for numerous prominent journals and textbooks. As a student and physician, he has earned several distinctions, including the National Merit Scholarship and Gold Medals during his medical education and surgical training in India, Resident Researcher of the Year during surgical residency, Teacher of the Year in Colorectal Surgery at Cleveland Clinic in 2011, and the ASCRS Travelling Fellow Award in 2012, and was voted to the list of Best Doctors in Cleveland.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Daniel P. Geisler, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery at CUMC

Daniel Geisler, MD, FASCRS, is an internationally recognized colon and rectal surgeon. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Geisler pioneered single-port colorectal surgery and is one of just a few surgeons in the country doing this procedure - currently the least invasive way to perform colorectal surgery - allowing patients a quick recovery and decreasing many of the complications associated with more invasive conventional surgery. Dr. Geisler has utilized single-port surgery in both the pediatric and adult patient population and currently offers a minimally invasive approach to over 90 percent of his patients. In 2009, while at the Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Geisler performed the world's first SILS total proctocolectomy and ileoanal pouch procedure, where he was able to remove the entire colon and rectum with the creation of an ileoanal pouch through the same incision that was also used to create a temporary defunctioning ileostomy, hence leaving the patient without any visible incision after the procedure.

Dr. Geisler served as the Director of Minimally Invasive Colorectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic from 2005-2010 and was responsible for the resurgence of minimally invasive surgery in the United States during that time. Prior to practicing at the Cleveland Clinic and the West Penn Allegheny Health System, Dr. Geisler was director of minimally invasive colorectal surgery at St. Vincent Health System in Erie, where he also completed his residency in colon and rectal surgery. An additional year of fellowship training was later completed in Philadelphia under John Marks, MD, and Gerald Marks, MD, at The Lankenau Hospital and Institute for Medical Research in Wynnewood, PA concentrating on minimally invasive colorectal surgery as well as the multimodality treatment of low rectal cancers with emphasis on sphincter-preservation surgery.

Dr. Geisler received his bachelor's degree from Austin College in Sherman, TX and his medical degree from St. Louis University School of Medicine. He completed his residency in general surgery at the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa.

A diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, the American Board of Colorectal Surgery and the National Board of Medical Examiners, Dr. Geisler has also authored numerous papers and book chapters and lectured on a wide variety of topics related to minimally invasive surgery and the treatment of colorectal cancer, inflammatory bowel disease and diverticulitis. He is a member of several advisory boards in various societies related to general and colorectal surgery.

Dr. Geisler will lead the Colorectal Surgery Division's interest in innovative minimally invasive surgical techniques for a variety of colorectal conditions with particular emphasis on inflammatory bowel disease, advanced transanal surgery, and ultra-low rectal cancer. He will also lead the Division's expansion to the New Jersey region. In addition to seeing patients and operating at our Main Campus, he will be available to see patients at the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery's Hudson Valley, New York and Englewood, New Jersey offices.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Deborah Keller, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery at CUMC

Dr. Keller joins us most recently from New Brunswick, NJ. Dr. Keller has an MS in Healthcare Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University, worked as a healthcare business analyst for several years and completed her MD at Rutgers University. She did her surgical residency at Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia followed by a Colorectal research fellowship at University Hospitals-Case Medical Center, Cleveland and a Colorectal clinical fellowship at St. Vincent Medical Center, Erie, under Dr. Daniel Geisler, and Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, under Dr. James Fleshman.

Dr. Keller's clinical expertise includes laparoscopic, robotic and minimally invasive colorectal surgery, anorectal procedures and the management of pelvic floor disorders. Dr. Keller is an outstanding researcher with numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, presentations, book chapters, and books to her name. She has an interest in surgical quality with a focus on perioperative management including enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) pathways, multimodal opioid-sparing pain relief, and expanding use of minimally invasive technique to optimize patient outcomes. She also has an interest in rectal cancer management and is currently completing her PhD on the topic at the University College of London, UK where she holds an appointment as an honorary lecturer in gastrointestinal surgery.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



J. Mark Kiely, MD

**Assistant Professor of Surgery at CUMC
Site Director, Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship Program**

Dr. Kiely is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center and sees patients at the NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center Main Campus site located in Washington Heights as well as at the Division's ColumbiaDoctors Scarsdale, Bronxville and Tarrytown locations in Westchester.

Having completed a Clinical Fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio in 2011, Dr Kiely was in an academic Colon and Rectal Surgery practice in Baystate Medical Center, Massachusetts for over five years before being recruited to Columbia. Dr. Kiely completed General Surgery Residency training at the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2010.

Dr. Kiely has a vast clinical experience in straightforward and complex colorectal conditions and he offers expertise in the surgical management of anorectal conditions, colon and rectal cancer, diverticulitis, inflammatory bowel disease, pelvic floor disorders, constipation and fecal incontinence. His specific clinical interests include robotic rectal cancer surgery, Crohn's/inflammatory bowel disease, sphincter sparing anal fistula surgery (LIFT) procedure and abdominopelvic reoperative surgery. He has a keen interest in research and is an author on numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals, published abstracts, oral presentations and book chapters.

In addition to focusing on clinical research, outcomes and education within the division of colorectal surgery, Dr Kiely will lead the incorporation of trans-anal procedures (Ta-TME) for the management of a variety of colorectal conditions at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center. He will also be the lead surgeon for the development of the Colorectal Program for NewYork-Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, NY offering the robotic approach to surgery for benign and malignant colorectal conditions as well as pelvic floor disorders.

Originally from Ireland, Dr. Kiely graduated from medical school at the University of Dublin, Trinity College in 1999. After receiving an Associate Fellowship Degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 2002, he then completed research at the Medical College of Wisconsin from 2002 to 2005 and finished a thesis on leptin, obesity and intestinal function in 2006 obtaining a post-graduate degree (MD) from his alma mater, Trinity College Dublin.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Steven A. Lee-Kong, MD, FASCRS

Assistant Professor of Surgery at CUMC
Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship Program

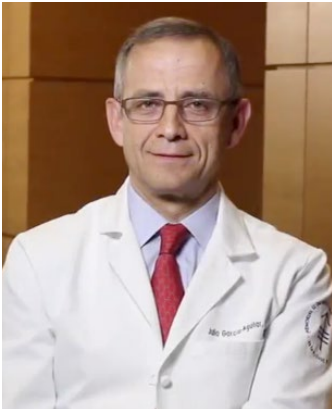
Steven Lee-Kong, MD, Assistant Professor of Surgery, is trained in all aspects of colon and rectal surgery. With a special interest in minimally invasive surgery, he is the only surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia trained to perform robotic colorectal surgery, and he is responsible for evaluating and adopting new technologies for use in the Colorectal Surgery Division.

Dr. Lee-Kong is also highly trained in advanced surgery for inflammatory bowel disease, which includes ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. He has performed a high volume of surgeries on patients with Crohn's disease, many of whom require removal of the colon, rectum, or anus.

Dr. Lee-Kong completed almost all of his medical and surgical education at NYP/Columbia, including his medical degree in 2004 and residency in general surgery (2004 to 2011). He completed a research fellowship in colorectal surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center from 2007-2009, where he studied rectal cancer and hypoxia and early-age-of-onset colorectal cancer. After completing general surgery residency, he completed a colon and rectal surgery fellowship at a joint program between Weill Cornell Medical College and Memorial Sloan-Kettering.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD

Chief, Colorectal Service

Benno C. Schmidt Chair in Surgical Oncology

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Clinical Expertise Colon & Rectal Cancers; Minimally-invasive Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgery

Languages Spoken English

Education MD, PhD, Universidad Complutense (Madrid, Spain)

Residencies Universidad Complutense (Madrid, Spain); Beth Israel Hospital/Harvard Medical School

Fellowships University of Minnesota

Board Certifications General Surgery; Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Garcia-Aguilar has dedicated his career to the surgical care of people with colon and rectal cancer, and is an expert in minimally invasive laparoscopic and robotic techniques for performing these surgeries.

In addition to having treated thousands of patients over the years, Dr. Garcia-Aguilar has a keen interest in research, particularly in examining ways to improve outcomes for peoples with colon and rectal cancers. He has led National Cancer Institute–sponsored studies aimed at improving the quality of life of patients with rectal cancer by performing smaller operations and identifying individuals who might avoid surgery altogether through sufficient elimination of tumors with radiation therapy and chemotherapy.

He is also interested in identifying biomarkers that could predict rectal cancer response to radiation therapy and chemotherapy, and in examining racial disparities in outcomes for people with colorectal cancer.

Over the course of his career, he has contributed to the wider medical knowledge of these cancers, having published more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, abstracts, editorials, and reviews. He has penned chapters for a spectrum of textbooks on surgical therapy for the myriad manifestations of colorectal disease, and also wrote a book for a patient audience titled *Fast Facts – Colorectal Cancer* (Health Press, 2010).

Dr. Garcia-Aguilar has served as associate editor for such publications as *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, as co-editor of *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum*, and as an ad-hoc reviewer on a spectrum of journals including the *Lancet Oncology* and the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

He has lectured extensively on the advances in colorectal surgery both nationally and around the world, from grand rounds at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine to the Harvard Medical School Postgraduate Course in General Surgery. His participation in continuing medical education courses extends back to the mid-1990s, when he served as a lecturer on the principles of colon and rectal surgery at the University of Minnesota.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



José G. Guillem, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS

Clinical Expertise Primary and Recurrent Colorectal and Anal Cancer; Hereditary Colorectal Cancer; Early Age of Onset Colorectal Cancer; Intestinal Carcinoid Tumors; Abdominal Desmoid Tumors; Crohn's Disease; Colitis; Benign Anorectal Diseases; Preservation of the Anal Sphincter and Sexual and Bladder Function Following Rectal Cancer Surgery; Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery (TEM); Endoscopy; Laparoscopy, Robotic Surgery; Laparoscopy

Education MD, MPH, Yale University School of Medicine

Residencies Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center

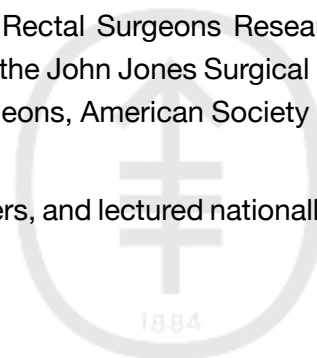
Fellowships Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center;
Lahey Clinic Medical Center (Burlington, Massachusetts)

Board Certifications Surgery; Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Guillem is a colorectal surgeon at Memorial Sloan-Kettering and Director of the Hereditary Colorectal Cancer Family Registry. He has a long-standing interest in the management of primary and recurrent colon and rectal cancer, early-age-of-onset colorectal cancer, and hereditary colorectal cancer. He also has special expertise in the preservation of the anal sphincter as well as bladder and sexual function following radical surgery for rectal cancer that utilizes minimally invasive techniques including transanal endoscopic microsurgery (TEM), endoscopy, laparoscopy and Robotic techniques.

He is the Past President of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Research Foundation, the American Collaborative Group for Inherited Colorectal Cancer and the John Jones Surgical Society. He also has served on numerous Committees for the American College of Surgeons, American Society of Clinical Oncology and The Society of Surgical Oncology.

He has co-authored more than 250 journal articles and book chapters, and lectured nationally and internationally on colorectal cancer.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center™

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Garrett M. Nash, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS

Site Director

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Clinical Expertise Gastrointestinal cancers: primary and recurrent colon, rectal, anal, and appendix cancers; carcinoid; peritoneal surface malignancies; pseudomyxoma peritonei. Laparoscopic and robotic surgery for colorectal tumors; endoscopic and minimally invasive removal of large polyps. Preservation of bowel, bladder, and sexual function in patients with rectal cancer. Clinical trials in surgery.

Education MD, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

MPH, Harvard School of Public Health

Residencies University of Massachusetts Medical Center;

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Fellowships NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia and Cornell; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Board Certifications Surgery; Colon and Rectal Surgery

A graduate of the NYPH-Colon & Rectal Fellowship Program, Dr. Nash has specialized training in cancers of the colon, rectum, anus, and appendix. The focuses of his practice include minimally invasive techniques for colorectal cancer, avoiding colostomy while preserving bowel, bladder, and sexual function, and the management of peritoneal surface malignancies (including pseudomyxoma peritonei and peritoneal mesothelioma).

Dr. Nash's clinical research involves prospective clinical trials of new technology and surgical techniques for advanced colorectal and appendiceal malignancies, as well as optimizing surgical margins and lymph node retrieval for colon and rectal cancers. He is the primary investigator for ICARuS, a randomized clinical trial of intraperitoneal therapy for metastatic appendix and colon cancer.

Dr. Nash has co-authored papers on a variety of subjects including minimally invasive surgery, sphincter-sparing rectal surgery, mechanisms of tumor progression, and predictors of outcome following surgery. He is an instructor for other surgeons learning minimally invasive colon and rectal surgery

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Emmanouil Pappou, MD, PhD

Dr. Pappou completed his General Surgery residency training at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in 2014, with a Research Fellowship in Surgical Oncology at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center (Johns Hopkins). He has completed a Clinical Fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell and the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2015.

His clinical interests include the entire spectrum of colorectal surgery including benign and malignant conditions, anorectal, abdominal and pelvic surgery as well as minimally invasive techniques including laparoscopic, robotic and endoluminal procedures. Dr. Pappou is well versed in utilizing minimally invasive approaches including robotic surgery and sacral neurostimulation (SNS). Dr. Pappou is the surgical lead of the pelvic floor center within the division of colorectal surgery, working with gastroenterologists, urologists and gynecologists to develop a one-stop program for evaluation and treatment of problems related to colon transit, constipation, pelvic floor and evacuatory dysfunction as well as fecal incontinence.

His position also includes leadership in clinical and laboratory research and outcomes within the division of colorectal surgery. He has a keen interest in research and is an author on numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals, published abstracts, oral presentations and book chapters.

Dr. Pappou has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Johns Hopkins George D. Zuidema Research Award for Meritorious Laboratory Research for work on novel chemotherapy treatments in colorectal cancer.

A native of Greece, Dr. Pappou graduated from the Medical School of the Technical University of Munich with honors in 2006 and completed a Ph.D. on human stem cells at the research laboratory of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany.



Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Philip B. Paty, MD

Clinical Expertise Gastrointestinal Cancers: Colon, Rectal, Anal, and Appendix; Preservation of Bowel and Sexual Function in Rectal Cancer Patients; Laparoscopic Surgery for Colorectal Tumors; Colon Cancer in Teenagers and Young Adults; Colorectal Liver Metastases

Education MD, Stanford University School of Medicine

Residencies University of California, San Francisco Medical Center

Fellowships Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Board Certifications Surgery

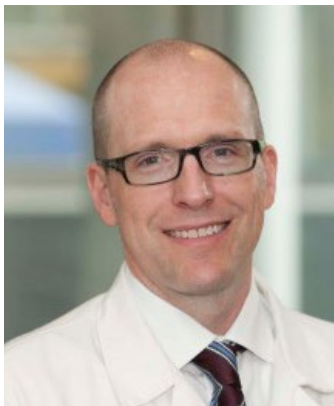
Dr. Paty is a surgical oncologist with special training in cancers of the colon, rectum, appendix, and anus. His interests include surgical techniques for rectal cancer that avoid colostomy and preserve bowel and sexual function, laparoscopic surgery for colorectal tumors, colon cancer in children and young adults, and liver metastases.

His laboratory studies the genetic basis underlying the growth and metastatic spread of colorectal cancer and is developing genetic tests to aid in the management of colon and rectal cancers.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center™

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



J. Joshua Smith, MD, PhD

Clinical Expertise Colon cancer; rectal cancer; minimally invasive surgical approaches (laparoscopic and robot-assisted); preservation of bowel, bladder and sexual function in rectal cancer patients and treatment of colorectal liver metastases in concert with our Hepatopancreatobiliary Service

Education MD, University of Texas Medical School at Houston; PhD, Vanderbilt University

Residencies Vanderbilt University

Fellowships Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

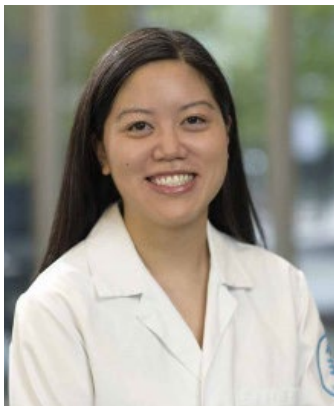
Board Certifications Surgery

Dr. Smith a surgical oncologist and an assistant attending surgeon on the Colorectal Surgery Service who treats people with colorectal cancer and also conducts research on the genetic basis of this disease. He received his MD degree from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston and his PhD degree in cell and developmental biology from Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he also completed his residency. He joined Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in 2013 as a fellow in complex surgical oncology, with an emphasis in colorectal cancer. He also served as the Chief Administrative Fellow for the Department of Surgery from 2014 to 2015. During his fellowship, he was active with members of the colorectal disease management team (DMT) in improving our understanding of rectal cancer patients undergoing nonoperative management after clinical complete response to neoadjuvant treatment.

While his clinical focus is on the treatment of colorectal cancer patients, the majority of his time is spent pursuing basic and translational research in the laboratory of hematologic oncologist Charles Sawyers.

Through his research efforts, Dr. Smith pursues targeted treatments for patients with colon and rectal cancer who are refractory to standard treatment regimens. He investigates the basic mechanisms and predictive markers in colorectal cancer patients, particularly focusing on the study of Smad4 loss to identify subsets of patients at risk of recurrence

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Iris H. Wei, MD

Clinical Expertise Colon Cancer; Rectal Cancer; Minimally Invasive Surgical Approaches; Preservation of Bowel, Bladder, and Sexual Function in Rectal Cancer Patients

Awards & Honors Michael E. Burt Award for Clinical Excellence (2017)

Education MD, University of Michigan

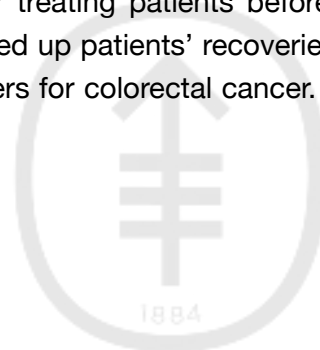
Residencies General Surgery – University of Michigan

Fellowships Complex General Surgical Oncology – Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Board Certifications Surgery; Complex General Surgical Oncology

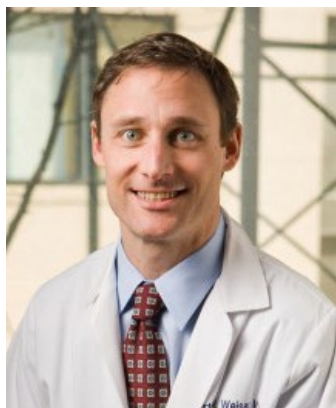
Dr. Wei is a surgeon who specializes in using minimally invasive techniques to treat colon cancer, rectal cancer, and appendiceal cancer. She has special expertise in helping patients preserve important aspects of day-to-day life, such as bowel, bladder, and sexual function. Dr. Wei works with colleagues in medical oncology, radiation oncology, pathology, radiology, and supportive services to provide customized treatment plans to each of her patients.

Dr. Wei's research is focused on developing better methods for treating patients before, during, and after colorectal surgery. A big focus of this work is to improve and speed up patients' recoveries. She is also using computational biology techniques to identify prognostic biomarkers for colorectal cancer. These markers can help inform a patient's likely cancer outcome.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
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Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Martin R. Weiser, MD

Clinical Expertise Colon and Rectal Cancer Surgery; Minimally Invasive Surgery

Education MD, University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Residencies Brigham and Women's Hospital; Harvard Medical School

Fellowships Harvard Medical School; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Mount Sinai Medical Center (New York)

Board Certifications Surgery; Colon and Rectal Surgery

Dr. Weiser is a surgical oncologist with board specialization in colorectal surgery and an interest in primary, metastatic, and recurrent cancers of the appendix, colon, rectum, and anus. His expertise is in laparoscopic (minimally invasive) surgery to remove these tumors with minimal trauma to the patient. He also has an interest in methods to preserve sphincter function and to maintain bladder and sexual function through nerve-sparing surgical techniques.

His clinical research focuses on improved staging and methods to predict outcome following cancer surgery. Dr. Weiser monitors and updates the MSKCC Colorectal Cancer Database, which tracks patient outcome to ensure quality of care. His laboratory research focuses on understanding and targeting mechanisms of tumor spread and metastasis.

Recently, Dr. Weiser was appointed Program Chair of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. He is a member of the AJCC (American Joint Committee on Cancer) staging committee, which develops the staging system for colorectal cancer, and the NCCN (National Comprehensive Cancer Network) colorectal database committee, as well as a cadre member of the GI committee of the CALGB cooperative group.

Who's who in the Department of Surgery?



Koiana Trencheva, RN, BSN, M.S.

**Research Associate
Clinical Research Director
Colon and Rectal Surgery
WMC-NYPH**

**Contact: 212-746 5241
kivanova@med.cornell.edu**

In 2001 she graduated from CUNY- Hunter College, BSN with Summa Cum Laude. Prior to that she has completed 3 years of Medical School in Bulgaria. She is a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society and Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. Ms. Trencheva received her Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology and Health Services Research from Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences in 2009. Her main interest is in clinical outcome research and predictive modeling. Her dissertation work was on "Identifying Important Predictors for Anastomotic Leak after Colon Resection and Developing an Anastomotic Leak Predictive Model." Currently she is working on validation of the anastomotic leak predictive models. Ms. Trencheva is involved in the development of multiple colorectal research projects and manages their implementation. Together with the primary investigators she has been mentoring variety of research fellow's projects since 2006. In the summer of 2007 she started a Colon and Rectal Surgery Research Seminar to further facilitate the research fellow's work and provide place for research discussion. She is a course organizer of the well established Laparoscopic Colon Courses (course directors Dr. Milsom and Dr. Lee) since 2005 and take a key part in an upcoming departmental and hospital events. She has been serving the Institutional Review Board since 2004.



Living in NYC



Life in New York City

Weill Medical College of Cornell University is located in an attractive residential area on the upper east side of New York City, adjacent to the East River. The center is ideally situated to take advantage of New York's cultural treasures. [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#), [Museum of Modern Art](#), [the Frick](#), [Whitney](#), and [Guggenheim museums](#) along with several renowned private art galleries all are within walking distance. Many other cultural attractions including [Lincoln Center](#), [Carnegie Hall](#), [the American Museum of Natural History](#), the great playhouses of Broadway, and world famous [jazz clubs](#) are just a short bus ride away. [Madison Square Garden](#), [Yankee Stadium](#), [MetLife Stadium](#), and [Shea Stadium](#) are easily accessible. Residents are able to enjoy the haven that [Central Park](#) provides from the city's pavement since it is located just blocks from the Medical Center. Numerous restaurants and shops of every kind are also just blocks away. Perhaps most appealing is the great diversity represented in New York's many ethnic neighborhoods, each offering their own unique experiences.

Benefits, Housing & Insurance

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical Center offers all residents the option to reside in hospital-owned apartments located on York Avenue directly across the street from the hospital. The modern luxury apartments are offered at a reduced rate that is considered superior to that offered by other medical centers in New York City.

Stipends and Benefits

The stipends for interns and residents at [NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell](#) are consistent with those offered by other medical centers in the New York City area. The stipends undergo yearly adjustments to keep pace with increases in the cost of living.

Graduate Staff Level (2019 - 2020) Salary

Graduate Staff Level 1	\$73,489
Graduate Staff Level 2	\$77,048
Graduate Staff Level 3	\$83,363
Graduate Staff Level 4	\$85,706
Graduate Staff Level 5	\$88,617
Graduate Staff Level 6	\$90,209
Graduate Staff Level 7	\$92,925

Medical, Dental & Malpractice Insurance

Medical insurance is provided for graduate trainees and their dependents free of charge. This insurance includes Blue Cross and Major Medical Insurance covering inpatient and outpatient services, including pediatric care, formulary drugs, laboratory and x-ray services, emergency care, and maternity care. Long-term disability insurance also is provided free of charge. A dental plan is provided at no cost and can cover eligible dependents with a minimal additional fee. Each intern or resident is provided malpractice insurance free of charge at each hospital through which they rotate.

Other Benefits

At no cost, residents and interns are provided with uniforms and laundry service, \$100,000 in life insurance, and four weeks of paid vacation per year.

Surgical Education Staff

The administrative staff at Weill Cornell Medical Center provides support for the residencies, fellowships, and medical students rotating in the department of surgery. The staff ensures that programs comply with requirements mandated by the ACGME, LCME, and other governing bodies.

Additionally, the administrative support staff is available to assist residents and fellows regarding questions about institutional and departmental policies and credentialing issues, as well as provide information regarding support services for a variety of challenges that may arise.



L-R (First Row): Jennifer Cleaver - General Surgery Residency Coordinator, David Fehling, MA - Surgical Education Administrator, LeShawn Taylor - Medical Student Program Supervisor, Iskander Bagautdinov - Senior Audio Visual Specialist for SAIL

L-R (Second Row): Vanessa Mejia - Residency Fellowship Coordinator, Faith Ebel, MPH, RD - Research Program Coordinator, Xiomara Garcia - Simulation Program Coordinator for SAIL



**NewYork-Presbyterian/
Weill Cornell Medical College**

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