A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

The wonderful Colorado Summer has arrived and it begins to be a challenge to balance work and time spent in the great outdoors.

As you will see in this edition of our newsletter we have been very busy over the past few months as we continue toward excellence in all areas.

We’ve hosted several guest lecturers and visiting professors; Steven M. Strasberg, MD from Washington University School of Medicine; Cameron D. Wright, MD from Massachusetts General Hospital; Bryan Clary, MD from UC San Diego; Eleni Tousimis, MD from Medstar Georgetown University Hospital; and Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH from University of Wisconsin who was our featured speaker at our Third Annual Research Symposium.

Transplant Division Chief Igal Kam, MD, was recognized at the annual Hearts of all Ages event for his nearly 30 years of service to the program, the University, and University of Colorado Hospital. This year’s event also raised a record amount of funds for the Transplant program.

Ernest G. Moore, MD was recognized with a lifetime achievement award from SUS and Frederick Grover, MD was awarded the Bakken Scientific Achievement Award, these are just a small sampling of the recognition received by our faculty and staff.

Plans are in motion for our 4th annual Surgical Mountain Assault Series Hike (SMASH) as we prepare to take on two of Colorado’s best 14’ers; Grays and Torreys.

In addition to scaling Colorado’s mountains we continue to reach new heights clinically. Our Cardiac Transplant team has now performed over 500 heart transplants and the living donor kidney program reaches 1,000 transplants.

Another great clinical addition has been the use of an app for burn patients. It is exciting to see how these new technologies continue to change the face of how we provide services to patients.

The future proves to hold even more astounding developments in our clinics, classrooms, and labs here within the Department of Surgery.

It continues to be my privilege to share our successes and upcoming events with you. I hope you enjoy the newsletter that follows.

Richard D. Schulick, MD, MBA
The Aragón/Gonzalez-Giusti Chair Professor & Chair

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ELEVENTH ANNUAL MARVIN POMERANTZ LECTURESHIP IN CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Cameron D. Wright, MD

Cameron D. Wright is a Professor of Surgery and Associate Director of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. Dr. Wright is also the Associate Program Director of the Thoracic Surgery Residency program at MGH where he also leads the Quality and Patient Safety Committee for the Department of Surgery. He is also the Mathiesen Family Professor of Thoracic Surgery at Harvard.

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Wright attended medical school at the University of Michigan. His surgical training continued at Massachusetts General Hospital where he completed his general and thoracic surgery residencies before accepting a faculty appointment at Indiana followed by Harvard. His clinical interests include video assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS) lung resections, tracheal surgery, thymic tumors, outcomes analysis and model development with The Society of Thoracic Surgeons General Thoracic Database, as well as pulmonary thromboendarterectomy (PTE) for chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension or CTEPH.

In addition to managing a busy clinical practice, Dr. Wright is a Director of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) as well as currently serving as Chair of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. Dr. Wright has held committee appointments with the STS, the Thoracic Surgery Directors Association and the ABTS among others. He has published over 120 peer reviewed articles and been an invited speaker locally, nationally and internationally.

A repeat recipient of the Top Doctor award from Castle and Connolly, Dr. Wright has also served as a Trauma Surgeon with the US Army at Al Assad Airbase in Anbar Province Iraq in 2007-2008 as well as in Afghanistan in 2010 and 2013 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Presented “Creating a Culture of Safety in Surgery” at Grand Rounds on May 2, 2016

Steven M. Strasberg, MD

Dr. Strasberg is the Pruett Professor of Surgery and head of the section of Hepato Pancreato Biliary and Gastrointestinal Surgery in the Department of Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine. He also is a professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Physiology there. He heads a group of seven board-certified surgeons who have established themselves as the largest Midwestern surgical referral center for disorders of the liver, gallbladder, pancreas and GI tract. In terms of volume, Strasberg’s group does more pancreatic and liver resections and bile duct reconstructions than any other center in the Midwest and it ranks in the top five of each of these procedures nationally.

Born and raised in Toronto, Canada, he received his medical degree from the University of Toronto and entered its surgical training program. He taught, did research and performed surgery at the University of Toronto Hospitals for nearly 20 years and was recruited by Washington University to head its new HBP surgery unit in 1992.

He also has written hundreds of journal articles and medical book chapters, and he’s constantly invited to present papers at meetings of surgeons all over the world. Strasberg plans to keep working at Washington University, continuing to develop and improve his specialty. He’d like to see more gains made in cancer of the pancreas, including ways to screen and diagnose cancer of the pancreas earlier.

Presented “Safe Cholecystectomy: Traps, BIFs and Bail-Outs” at Grand Rounds on April 4, 2016

Greg Stiegmann, MD; Jim Chandler, MD; Steven Strasberg, MD; Richard Schulick, MD

VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS AND GUEST LECTURERS

HENRY SWAN VISITING PROFESSORSHIP IN SURGERY - SUPPORTED BY THE PLANK ENDOWMENT

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Bryan Clary, MD, MBA

Bryan Clary, MD, MBA is currently Professor and Chair of the Department and M.J. Orloff Family Endowed Chair in Surgery at UC San Diego. Dr. Clary is a native of Southern California and graduated in 1987 from the University of California at San Diego with a degree in bioengineering. Dr. Clary received his medical degree from the University of California at San Francisco and then completed general surgery residency training at Duke in 1998 under the leadership of Drs. David C. Sabiston Jr. and Robert W. Anderson. Following a fellowship in surgical oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Clary joined the faculty at Duke University in 2000 where he remained until 2015. He completed an executive MBA at the Duke Fuqua School of Business in 2014.

Dr. Clary is a nationally recognized expert in the field of hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery. His translational research efforts are focused on the development of reagents that traffic in vivo to systemic sites of metastatic colorectal cancer. These and additional clinical research revolving around outcomes and techniques in hepatic surgery are the subject of over 130 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Clary is the editor of the recently published textbook, Contemporary Surgical Management of Liver, Biliary Tract, and Pancreatic Disease.

Dr. Clary has dedicated considerable efforts to surgical education serving for six years as the Program Director of the General Surgery Residency at Duke from 2007-2012 and as the Program Director of the Duke HPB Oncology Surgical Fellowship from 2009-2014.

In February of 2015 Dr. Clary transitioned to the University of California at San Francisco and then completed general surgery residency training at Duke in 1998 under the leadership of Drs. David C. Sabiston Jr. and Robert W. Anderson. Following a fellowship in surgical oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Clary joined the faculty at Duke University in 2000 where he remained until 2015. He completed an executive MBA at the Duke Fuqua School of Business in 2014.

Dr. Eleni Tousimis, MD

Dr. Eleni Tousimis is a board-certified General Surgeon who is a nationally renown specialist in breast cancer surgery. She recently joined Medstar Georgetown University Hospital, Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center as the Director of the Ourisman Breast Center, Chief of the Division of Breast Surgery and Fellowship Director of the Breast Oncology Fellowship in Washington D.C. Dr. Tousimis attended Dartmouth and Mount Holyoke College where she graduated Cum Laude. She then received her medical degree from Albany Medical College. Following her breast surgery fellowship training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, she completed additional specialty training in minimally invasive surgery of the breast at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, Italy. Dr. Tousimis was previously Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery at the Weill Cornell Medical College, New York-Presbyterian Hospital and served as Associate Program Director of Surgical Education. She has been recognized for her pursuit of new initiatives in breast cancer management, including nipple-sparing mastectomy, partial breast radiation, and new anesthetic techniques for breast surgery. As a well-respected clinician, researcher, and teacher, Dr. Tousimis holds a variety of leadership positions in several professional societies. She was the 99th President of the American Medical Women’s Association and acted as Section Editor of the Aesthetic Plastic Surgery Journal. She has been recognized as one of Castle Connolly’s Top Doctors, Top Surgeons and Best Doctors in 2009-present. She has received numerous awards including an Achievement Award from the City of New York for her surgical skill, compassion, and service as well as the Kalopthakis Award, which recognizes the contributions of female physicians.

Presented “The Impact of Trainees on Surgical Outcomes” at Grand Rounds on May 16, 2016

Presented “Recent Advances in the Surgical Management of Breast Cancer” at Grand Rounds on February 22, 2016
THIRD ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

We were honored to host Dr. Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH, FACS as Visiting Professor and moderator of the Third Annual Department of Surgery Research Symposium. Professor Greenberg is the Morgridge Distinguished Chair in Health Services Research and the Vice Chair of Research at the University of Wisconsin Department of Surgery, in Madison, WI. She is the Director of the Wisconsin Surgical Outcomes Research Program (WiSOR). She has affiliate appointments in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, and the Department of Population Health. Dr. Greenberg was previously the Director of the Center for Surgery and Public Health at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Greenberg hails from Chicago, attending the University of Chicago for undergraduate and medical school. She performed her General Surgery residency at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, her Masters of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health, and her Surgical Oncology fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Center, all in Boston. She is a practicing Surgical Oncologist. She has been continuously funded on peer reviewed research grants since 2004, focusing her research on patient-centered outcomes and clinical effectiveness, and advances in medical education. She has numerous peer-reviewed publications, chapters, and has co-authored Successes in Academic Surgery: Health Services Research. She is the President of the Association for Academic Surgery and previously of the Surgical Outcomes Club. Dr. Greenberg continues to serve as a mentor to surgeons and researchers in training, and sits on numerous advisory boards.

WELCOME NEW FACULTY & STAFF!

Faculty

Muhammad Aftab, MD
Assistant Professor
Cardiothoracic Surgery

Andrea Bischoff, MD
Associate Professor
Pediatric Surgery

Brenda Curtis, PhD
Assistant Research Professor
GI, Tumor and Endocrine

Erin Lennon, PAC
Instructor
GI, Tumor and Endocrine

Katherine Moore
Instructor
GI, Tumor and Endocrine

Alberto Pena, MD
Professor
Pediatric Surgery

Catherine Velopulos, MD
Assistant Professor
GI, Tumor and Endocrine

Amanda Young, FNP
Instructor
Cardiothoracic Surgery
SEPTEMBER 2016 UC DENVER-ANSCHUTZ WELCOMES THE HALSTED SOCIETY

This coming September Drs. Richard Schulick, Barish Edil and the Department of Surgery at the University of Colorado will be hosting the Halsted Society’s 90th Annual Meeting. It has been over 25 years since the meeting was held in the Denver area and we are honored to be chosen for this year’s event.

The Halsted Society, named after William Stewart Halsted was formed in 1923, one year after Dr. Halsted’s death. William S. Halsted was a pioneer of scientific surgery. Amongst many areas of innovation of the time, he developed conduction anesthesia, was one of the first to use aseptic methods in surgery and introduced the use of latex surgical gloves. At Johns Hopkins University he helped establish the medical school, which opened in 1893; Dr. Halsted is also credited with starting the first formal surgical residency training program in the United States.

Halsted Society members are senior level physicians and surgeons from throughout the country. The purpose of this society, and its annual 3-day meeting, is to further the scientific principles and ideals for which Dr. Halsted stood and to encourage the exchange of ideas.

In addition to a robust scientific program during the 3 day meeting, we have gathered speakers from each of our divisions to showcase our research, clinical strengths and history of the department.

90th Annual Halsted Society Meeting September 7-10, 2016 Aurora, Colorado
GLITZ, GLAMOUR AND FAMILY FUN AT HEARTS OF ALL AGES 2016

The annual “Hearts of All Ages” event drew a crowd of nearly 900 to the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center on Feb. 6, 2016. The gathering netted more than $365,000 for the University of Colorado Transplant Program, making it the most successful fund raiser since its debut in 2008.

Former Denver Broncos running back Reggie Rivers served as emcee for the event, which also honored Transplant Division Chief Igal Kam, MD, for his nearly 30 years of service to the program, the university, and University of Colorado Hospital.

The Transplant Center at UCH has been a leader in the field of transplantation since the team performed the first-ever liver transplant in 1963. For decades, Dr. Kam and his team have focused on providing the very best care for transplant patients. Under his leadership, the center has grown into the largest and most comprehensive transplant center in Colorado performing heart, lung, liver, kidney and pancreas transplants. To date UCH has performed more than 2,000 liver transplants and 5,000 kidney transplants. Dr. Kam has cared for thousands of patients during his career. We greatly appreciate his service.

2016 DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY RECEPTION

Approximately every 2 years the Department of Surgery hosts a reception to celebrate its accomplishments.

The 2016 Department Reception was held in Parker, CO at the Vehicle Vault, amongst a private collection of automobiles.

We were very pleased to have Dr. Bill Aragon in attendance and a showing of over 100 department faculty and staff. Additionally in attendance were distinguished guests from around the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Richard Schulick, MD, Chair of the Department of Surgery took a few moments to thank the faculty and staff for all of their hard work over the past few years and to encourage everyone to continue to strive toward excellence.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2018.
FOND FAREWELLS

Igal Kam, MD, Professor and Division Head Transplant Surgery

As you may know, Igal Kam, MD will step down from his position of Transplant Surgery Division Head effective July 31, 2016.

His career path began in 1982 when, as a young resident in general and vascular surgery in Haifa, Israel, he found himself caring for casualties on both sides of a war between Israel and Lebanon. Some of the patients needed liver surgery.

“People were dying,” he says. “Somebody needed to go learn major liver surgery.”

So Kam went to Pittsburgh to study under Thomas Starzl, MD, who had recently left Colorado General Hospital (now University of Colorado Hospital), where he had pioneered kidney and liver transplants during his 19-year tenure.

Under Starzl in Pittsburgh, Kam was the right person in the right place at the right time. As Starzl built Pittsburgh’s transplant program (his team did 200 liver transplants in 1984), Kam found himself increasingly excited by the possibilities of the field. “It was a huge experience for me,” he says. “I couldn’t go back to general surgery.”

After brief stopovers in Brazil and back in Israel, Kam was recruited by the University of Colorado Hospital in 1988. The Transplant Program had closed down when Starzl left, and Kam would be starting over, so he hesitated before finally agreeing to resurrect the program.

In the past 30 years, Kam has reinvented the university’s Transplant Program, transplanting some 1,800 livers, 3,000 kidneys and 150 pancreases. He performed the first “adult to adult” live donor liver transplant in the western world. One-year survival rates after liver transplants stand at 85 percent nationally; at the University of Colorado they are 90 percent. Kam wants to see the program continue to grow, and he describes himself as “still learning, trying to push the envelope.”

We wish him the best of luck with his future endeavors.

Frederick ‘Fritz’ Karrer, MD, Professor and Division Head Pediatric Surgery

As many of you are aware, Fritz Karrer, MD will step down from his position of Pediatric Surgery Division Head effective June 30, 2016. Coincident with that resignation, he has been mobilized for a 3 month deployment to Afghanistan with the US Army Reserves starting in July.

Frederick ‘Fritz’ Karrer is currently the David R. & Kiku Akers Chair in Pediatric Surgery at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Dr. Karrer was born in McCook, Nebraska and completed his undergraduate and medical school education at the University of Nebraska. He completed a transplant fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh, and advanced to the rank Professor with tenure in 2003. In 1988, Dr. Karrer became the Surgical Director of Pediatric Transplantation. Throughout his career he has given 84 presentations, submitted 73 abstracts and 21 posters, written 46 book chapters, and has 120 original papers published. Dr. Karrer has also served in the military since 2002, with four deployments two to Iraq and two to Afghanistan. He is currently a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.

We wish him the best of luck and a safe deployment.
The Society of University Surgeons has awarded Ernest “Gene” Moore, MD, Vice Chairman for Research and Professor of Surgery at the University of Colorado Denver, the 2015 SUS Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Society of University Surgeons initiated the Lifetime Achievement Award (LTAA) in 2005. This award was designed to recognize individuals who have had a sustained career in academic surgery with contributions to surgical science. In addition, these individuals have demonstrated a commitment to the Society of University Surgeons whereby they have participated in the Society even after superannuating to Senior Membership status. The Society of University Surgeons seeks to honor and recognize these individuals because of their embodiment of the principals of the Society.

Dr. Moore was nominated and selected by his peers based on his leadership in academic surgery as well as the SUS, including his role on the SUS Executive Council and as SUS President in 1989. He was Chief of Trauma at the Denver General Hospital for 36 years, and is currently Editor for the Journal of Trauma. An active investigator for nearly 40 years, Dr. Moore has over 1,500 publications. In addition, his mentorship is widely recognized in all aspects including professionalism, career decisions, patient care conundrums, and research, and Dr. Moore was lauded for his ability to encourage, listen, and help mentees explore new research directions.

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Congratulations 2016 UCH Medical Staff Award Winners

Charles Brantigan, MD
Volunteer Physician of the Year

Joseph Cleveland, Jr., MD
Full Time Physician of the Year

Barish Edil, MD
Pioneer

David Fullerton, MD
President’s Award for Leadership

Robert Meguid, MD
Clinical Excellence & Patient Safety Award

Nathan Pearlman, MD
Distinguished Service Award

Erik Peltz, DO
Extraordinary Service

ACGME Recognition for Claire Travis

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) presented awards to 23 recipients at its Annual Educational Conference, one of which was our very own Claire Travis.

The GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award is given to program coordinators in recognition of their in-depth understanding of the accreditation process, excellent communication and interpersonal skills, and projects to improve residency programs.

Congratulations Claire on receiving the 2016 GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award.

The Department of Surgery will soon be hosting its 4th Surgical Mountain Assault Series Hike (SMASH) on August 20, 2016.

Richard Schulick, MD, Chair of the Department of Surgery, and Randall Meacham, MD, Chief, Division of Urology, lead the hike each year. It is a great opportunity to not only conquer a 14’er but to spend time with some of the departments leadership.

This year’s hike will include 2 peaks, Grays and Torreys with the highest point being at 14,270 ft.

SMASH 4 is open to anyone who would like to attend and often draws attendees from all parts of the Anschutz Medical Campus.

If you are interested in joining the group on this year’s trek please RSVP by emailing Shelly Lange at shelly.lange@ucdenver.edu.

Hope to see you there!

SMASH 3 Summit

Richard Schulick, MD and Randall Meacham, MD; SMASH 3 Summit of Mt. Sherman

Grays and Torreys SMASH4 venue

SMASH 4 - AUGUST 20, 2016

Mark Nehler, MD and Claire Travis,
CARDIAC TRANSPLANT PROGRAM AT UCH HITS NUMBER 500

By Tyler Smith, UCHealth

One day in 1986, David Campbell, MD, stood in an OR at University of Colorado Hospital looking down at a dying patient. The man was only in his mid-50s, but his heart was failing, ruined by severe coronary disease that had ravaged the left ventricle.

Campbell did the only thing possible to save the man’s life. He gave him a new heart. The patient became the first recipient of UCH’s Cardiac Transplantation Program.

“The transplant went well,” Campbell recalled.

But as was so often the case in the nascent years of transplant medicine, the results fell short of his hopes. Campbell and the transplant team did their best to get the patient through the rigors of organ rejection, but he survived only a week or so – as did the next two.

A decade later, a young resident named Joseph Cleveland, MD, stood in an OR at UCH, assisting on his first heart transplant case. Cleveland peered into the patient’s chest cavity, which held no heart, only bypass tubing.

“I remember thinking we had passed the point of no return,” Cleveland said. “Nothing was going to help except a good heart.”

Another 20 years on, Campbell and Cleveland are still transplanting hearts in the young, the old, and ages in between. Their careers are intertwined: Campbell served as surgical director of the Cardiac Transplantation Program from its inception through 2003, at which point Cleveland took the reins and continues to serve in that post.

Campbell is surgical director of the Cardiac Transplantation Program at Children’s Hospital Colorado. That program has gone on to perform more than 400 pediatric heart transplants, he said.

Together, the two have participated in or overseen the 506 – and counting – heart transplants at UCH. The program reached the 500-transplant milestone last December. Their memories serve as a reminder that it took many years and painful losses to make heart transplants the reliable procedures that many today take for granted.

The 1986 heart transplant procedures weren’t Campbell’s first. He had teamed up with cardiothoracic surgeon David Clarke, MD, in 1979 to perform two, about a decade after Norman Shumway, MD, performed the first adult human-to-human heart transplant at Stanford University Medical Center in January 1968.

The UCH patients Campbell and Clarke operated on suffered hyperacute organ rejection and died soon after the procedures.

At that time, there were no immunosuppressant drugs to fight off rejection.

By the time Campbell launched the program in 1986, the anti-rejection drug cyclosporine had changed the landscape of organ transplantation. But it took years for clinicians to fine-tune administering the drugs, balancing the risk of infection with the necessity of slowing rejection. In addition, UCH and other programs around the country took on extremely sick patients, driving the odds of survival down even further.

“We took on patients we shouldn’t have,” Campbell said. “We had patients sitting in the ICUs who had had two or three previous surgeries, some with increased pulmonary artery pressure. We did the best we could.” He and other transplantation specialists soldiered on in the hope of advancing care, much as liver transplant pioneer Thomas Starzl, MD, had done, first at UCH and later at the University of Pittsburgh.

Campbell and his team’s fourth patient, John Mitchell, a middle-aged man with severe coronary disease, received his new heart in 1987 and survived for four years, a quantum leap forward. Then came Jennifer Green. In 1988, she was a 13-year-old from Gillette, Wyo., who was gravely ill with idiopathic cardiomyopathy – disease of the heart muscle with no known cause. She was in the ICU at UCH – the pediatric program did not move entirely to Children’s Colorado until 1990 – when Campbell and colleagues decided her best chance of survival was a heart transplant.

The procedure was not covered by Medicaid at the time, but Wyoming residents raised tens of thousands of dollars on her behalf, and then-governor Mike Sullivan lifted the restriction on a one-time basis. Campbell performed her heart transplant in June 1988. The heart functioned for 22 years before she required a second transplant, again by Campbell, in July 2010. ...
A person arrives at an emergency department with a painful burn. The examining physician needs to make a quick decision about the care to provide, but wants the advice of a burn expert - and the hospital doesn't have one. Fortunately, there’s an app for that.

Providers now can get a remote consult with specialists at University of Colorado Hospital’s Burn Center with a download-able app dubbed UCHealth Burn Consult. Developed by Allentown, Pa.-based CSimplicity Software, the free app allows providers to take photos of patients’ burns with their mobile phones and transmit them securely to burn specialists for evaluation. The app is HIPAA-compliant: All information sent and received is encrypted and erased from phones after the consult to ensure patient privacy.

UCHealth is the first provider in the Rocky Mountain region to offer the app, said Laura Madsen, RN, outreach coordinator for the Burn Center. The hospital worked with the app’s creator, Hamed Amani, MD, FACS, a burn specialist with the Lehigh Valley Health Network Regional Burn Center, to prepare it for launch. After a successful pilot with UCHealth Colorado Springs (Memorial Hospital) last fall, Madsen began contacting hospitals outside the UCHealth system to let them know about UCHealth Burn Consult. She said she’s signed up providers at nine hospitals so far, including three late last month at Community Hospital in Grand Junction.

UCHealth Burn Consult works simply. The referring provider logs into the app from a mobile phone, enabling the camera to take photos. After selecting up to four, the provider fills out a form that includes his or her name; the patient’s name and birth date; and the type of burn sustained, such as grease, chemical, or electrical, and submits the information.

The app then displays a message advising the provider to call the number of the UCHealth DocLine for a consult. With that call, DocLine staff alert the burn specialist on call to log into the app and review the photos for an assessment and a consult with the referring provider about treatment for the patient.

The aim is to get the patient the appropriate level of care, Madsen said. For patients with very serious burns or frostbite, that could mean transport to UCH, but looking at the photos could also prevent a patient with more superficial injuries from being transported unnecessarily. In one recent case, a provider in Steamboat Springs submitted photos of a frostbitten patient. After review, the Burn Center decided the patient could safely receive treatment in the community.

“That’s a huge win because we were able to do what is best for the patient,” Madsen said.

“It has been very helpful to get the attached photos. We have been able to keep patients at their home hospitals and avoided unnecessary transfers,” added Anne Wagner, MD, of the Burn Center. “It has also made it very easy and efficient for providers to consult us. I feel strongly it improves patient care and is patient-centered.” Wagner said the number of requests for the app continues to increase.

In a phone interview, Amani said he developed the app to help providers make that type of difficult patient-transfer decision. He and his colleagues in Pennsylvania encounter it frequently. “We have had patients three to five hours away who didn’t need to come in to our burn center,” he said. “The app gives us a way to triage patients from afar.”

The burn app has been well received, he said, with 104 referral facilities using it within the Lehigh Valley network. These include emergency departments, urgent care centers, physician offices, and occupational health specialists in companies, many of them in the gas industry. In addition to UCH, the app is being used by one hospital in Louisiana and another in Nevada, Amani said.

“We’ve had nothing but enthusiasm thus far,” he said. “The aim of the app is to make providers’ lives easier, so there are no more just verbal descriptions of burns. They can now have an elucidated consult with referring providers.”

Madsen said she has also used UCHealth Burn Consult as another way to create positive contacts with community providers. “We try to maintain contact with far-reaching places, and this is a great way to do that. It’s a nice way to build strong relationships and help to answer questions.”

The burn app is just one of several CSimplicity has developed to assist providers in various specialties. Madsen found out about it at a day-long session of the American Burn Association devoted to the future of telemedicine. She spoke with Amani after he gave a demonstration of the burn app and brought the idea back to Burn Center Nurse Manager Mary Holden and Medical Director Gordon Lindberg, MD. After they responded favorably, the Burn Center worked with Information Technology and the UCHealth TeleHealth team to test the app to ensure it worked properly and protected patient information...
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 20, 2016</td>
<td>Core Curriculum</td>
<td>7:00 am - 8:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 27, 2016</td>
<td>No Conferences</td>
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<td>July 4, 2016</td>
<td>No Conferences</td>
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<td>July 11, 2016</td>
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<td>July 18, 2016</td>
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<td>July 25, 2016</td>
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<td>August 15, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 20, 2016</td>
<td>SMASH 4 - Grays &amp; Torreys 14,270 ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 22, 2016</td>
<td>Core Curriculum</td>
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<td>September 5, 2016</td>
<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12, 2016</td>
<td>John H. &amp; Cynthia H. Schultz Lectureship</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 19, 2016</td>
<td>Grand Rounds</td>
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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Pediatric Surgery**
  - Rony Marwan, MD
  - Assistant Prof., Pediatric Surgery
  - Children’s Hospital Colorado
  - June 20, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Trauma I**
  - Ryan Lawless, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - Denver Health
  - July 11, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Trauma II**
  - Erik Peltz, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - June 27, 2016
  - Holiday
  - Independence Day

- **Trauma III**
  - Fred Pieracci, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - July 18, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Trauma IV**
  - Eric Campion, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - Denver Health
  - August 1, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Trauma V**
  - Lisa Ferrigno, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - August 8, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Trauma VI**
  - Catherine Velopulos, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - August 15, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Critical Care I - Shock/Sepsis**
  - Frank Wright, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - August 20, 2016
  - SMASH 4 - Grays & Torreys 14,270 ft.
  - RSVP for SMASH 4 by emailing shelly.lange@ucdenver.edu

- **Critical Care II - Infections**
  - Lisa Ferrigno, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - August 22, 2016
  - Core Curriculum
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Critical Care III - Organ Failure I**
  - Catherine Velopulos, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - University of Colorado Hospital
  - September 5, 2016
  - No Conferences

- **Critical Care IV - Organ Failure II**
  - Eric Campion, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - Denver Health
  - September 12, 2016
  - Surgery in the New World Order
  - Steven D. Schwartzberg, MD
  - Professor and Chair
  - Department of Surgery
  - Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
  - University at Buffalo
  - Grand Rounds Resume
  - 7:00 am - 8:00 am

- **Critical Care V - Nutrition**
  - Ryan Lawless, MD
  - Assistant Professor, GITES
  - Denver Health
  - September 19, 2016
  - Grand Rounds
  - Conference Continues
  - 6:30 am - 7:00 am

This publication is viewable online at: http://issuu.com/slangesurgery/docs/Jun2016_dos_newsletter