Progressnotes
November 2010

Changing What’s Possible in Health Care

- HeartMate II Destination Therapy Center
- More Options for Cancer Patients
- Comprehensive Stroke Care
The Medical University of South Carolina welcomed Etta D. Pisano, M.D., as dean of the College of Medicine on July 1, 2010. Selected from a national pool of more than 60 candidates, she is the first woman to lead the MUSC College of Medicine and one of only about a dozen female medical school deans in the United States.

Pisano was a faculty member at the University of North Carolina for more than 20 years, where she was a Kenan Professor and served as the vice dean for academic affairs of the School of Medicine. A leader in the field of mammography, Pisano was the principal investigator of a landmark study of digital mammography published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2005. The largest trial ever run by a radiologist, the study involved 33 centers in the U.S. and Canada, and 49,500 women. It showed that digital mammography is better than conventional methods for the detection of cancers in younger women.

“Dr. Pisano is one of the rising stars in academic medicine,” said Dr. David Cole, MUSC Department of Surgery chairman and leader of the dean search committee. “She is a leader in every sense of the word and will help us build even greater excellence here in the years ahead.”

“I am thrilled to be joining such an outstanding institution as the dean. My family and I are very excited about this opportunity,” Pisano said.

A graduate of the Duke University School of Medicine, Pisano trained in radiology at the Harvard-affiliated Beth Israel Hospital. She has been the recipient of numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health and served as the lead investigator for the $61 million Clinical and Translational Science Award to the University of North Carolina. She has been recognized as one of the top 10 experts in women’s imaging and one of the 20 most influential people in radiology. Earlier this year, Pisano was elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

“We are very fortunate to have attracted Dr. Pisano to the Medical University,” said MUSC President Ray Greenberg. “She is brilliant, hard-working, energetic and entrepreneurial. She insists on the highest standards in her own work and in the work of others. She is the right person at the right time for this critical job.”

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the new Progress Notes.

We hope you’ll enjoy the updated design and features, but the most important change is a new focus on providing information for physicians, by physicians.

As an academic medical center, MUSC offers cutting-edge care to residents of South Carolina and beyond, and we continue to expand our capabilities every day through clinical trials and other research. As we grow, we are enhancing patient access to world-class care via outreach and telemedicine initiatives. Progress Notes will keep you up-to-date on that growth and give you an opportunity to get to know the people making it all possible.

Three programs we’re particularly proud of are featured in this issue:

– Our Heart & Vascular Center received certification from The Joint Commission as a Destination Therapy Center for HeartMate II, one of just 80 centers in the United States and the only one in South Carolina. Supported by the HeartMate II®, patients with advanced heart failure are able to live longer and, more importantly, live a life free from debilitating heart failure symptoms.

– MUSC Hollings Cancer Center provides NCI-level care to patients at specialized outreach locations throughout the state, bringing them advanced treatment and evaluation close to home. Multiple, specialized tumor boards meet regularly to discuss patient cases, giving them all the benefits of a multidisciplinary team of professionals. In addition, our Lung Transplant program received UNOS certification and will begin evaluating patients this month.

– The MUSC REACH (Remote Evaluation of Acute isCHemic stroke) program gives affiliated hospitals immediate access to MUSC’s team of stroke care experts. Our team can then evaluate patients and their brain imaging studies in real-time to help provide the best care in coordination with doctors at the remote hospital.

I look forward to sharing more examples of how we’re working together to change what’s possible in health care.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Cawley, M.D.
Executive Medical Director
The HeartMate II provides a huge improvement over older devices that require large, external power systems and could only be used in the ICU setting. HeartMate II’s small size and portable external components allow patients to be discharged from the hospital and return to their lives.

**Matthew Toole, M.D.,** Surgical Director of the VAD program, performed the first HeartMate II implant in April 2009 and 12 other devices were implanted prior to The Joint Commission review. Only select centers across the United States are able to perform Distinction Therapy. On September 22, The Joint Commission evaluated the MUSC VAD Program. The survey team visited multiple sites at the Ashley River Tower including Cardiology, Cardiothoracic ICU, operating rooms and the chest pain center. Staff members were interviewed, HeartMate II patient charts were reviewed and MUSC VAD program performance data were analyzed.

MUSC is one of just 80 centers in the United States that are designated Destination Therapy Centers, and we’re particularly proud that we achieved that distinction with no recommendations — a perfect score.

#### Mechanical Circulatory Support Candidate Selection

This treatment algorithm was developed based on ACC/AHA published guidelines, peer-reviewed studies and collaboration with leading heart failure cardiologists and cardiovascular surgeons. It is only a suggested analytical model — clinical judgement and practice patterns dictate the most appropriate course of treatment for each patient.

### Resources

If you have a patient who may benefit from the Heartmate II, please call 843.876.4790.

For more information, including patient videos, see http://www.muschealth.com/heartmate.
Many MUSC Hollings Cancer Center treatments now can be performed at specialized outreach locations throughout the state. At the Lowcountry Medical Group in Beaufort, for example, MUSC physicians see patients every month so they can get the same Hollings NCI-level care close to home.

John Trouw of Bluffton knows this firsthand. A chest X-ray by his primary care physician in Beaufort, Carl Derrick, M.D., revealed a very large (7x8x7 centimeter) upper-left lung mass with probable lymph node involvement. He then saw Lowcountry Medical Group oncologist Marcus Newberry III, M.D., who confirmed it was a stage III tumor that had invaded the ribs, giving Mr. Trouw little hope for resection and long-term survival. Still, Dr. Newberry suggested that Mr. Trouw choose a surgeon with whom to discuss his options.

It was an easy choice.

“I knew Dr. Newberry and Dr. Carolyn Reed at MUSC worked closely together and a friend had been treated by Dr. Reed and was very happy, so she was who I wanted to see,” said Mr. Trouw.

In addition to the close partnership between his surgeon and referring physician, Mr. Trouw benefited from the Hollings Cancer Center’s weekly multidisciplinary thoracic tumor board, which includes a dedicated radiologist, pulmonologists, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, surgeons and researchers working on the latest clinical trials. The tumor board knew it would be a risky surgery because the tumor was so large and so anterior, but radiologist James Ravenel, M.D., didn’t see definitive evidence that it had grown into areas that would make it unresectable and the team decided to go ahead with surgery.

After a week in the hospital, Mr. Trouw was released and, because of MUSC’s relationship with Lowcountry Medical Group, was able to receive chemotherapy and follow-up care in Beaufort, saving him an hour-and-a-half of travel each time.

“Everyone did their piece and we had very smooth and effective communication back and forth,” said Dr. Newberry. “Dr. Reed will pick up the phone any time there’s a question about a patient we’ve referred and follow up with us about the tumor board’s findings. It’s a lot better than only communicating through the exchange of medical records.”

Mr. Trouw agrees. “The greatest thing is the availability of computers and everyone being able to work together. The teamwork was just phenomenal. And for me, to have access to that level of care close to home is great. Kudos to MUSC for providing that.”

Two years after surgery, Mr. Trouw remains cancer-free and has graduated from a three-month to six-month follow-up schedule. And thanks to Dr. Reed’s monthly office hours in Beaufort, he can see her where he lives.

Referral Information

MUSC Hollings Cancer Center physicians offer outreach appointments at locations throughout the state. For more information, call MEDULINE at 1.800.922.5250 or 843.792.2200.

Resources

The MUSC Physician Portal has many resources you can use when evaluating lung cancer patients, including how your patients can participate in cutting-edge clinical trials.

At the Medical University of South Carolina we have a very unique approach to treatment for stroke patients: utilizing radiological imaging of the brain to select patients rather than conventional time windows. Every patient gets a triple scan—a cat scan (CT), a CTA to see which blood vessel is occluded and a CT perfusion scan to understand blood flow in the brain, identifying tissue at risk of dying. So regardless of when the stroke started or if it was only briefly improved by IV-TPA, we can evaluate an acute stroke patient for definitive treatment. We are currently utilizing endovascular techniques to treat more than 80 stroke patients on site at MUSC each year. This number will increase as our second angiography suite dedicated to neuro-interventional surgeries opens in November.

And your patients don’t need to be in Charleston to benefit. The REACH MUSC (Remote Evaluation of Acute isCHemic stroke) program gives physicians across South Carolina access to our team of stroke physicians. This potentially life-saving network allows remote affiliated hospitals to have immediate access to MUSC’s team of stroke care experts who can then evaluate patients and their brain imaging studies in real-time to help provide the best care in coordination with doctors at the remote hospital. Our mission is to reach out to the broader patient population in the state and provide the best treatment once patients arrive.

A good example of this is recent patient Elizabeth Lafata of Myrtle Beach. Despite being more than 100 miles from MUSC when she suffered a basilar stroke, her physicians at Waccamaw Community Hospital quickly utilized REACH MUSC, allowing heroic lifesaving measures to begin within the critical initial hours of symptom onset — essential for patient survival and recovery after a basilar stroke. At the request of MUSC physicians, IV-TPA was administered to Ms. Lafata early and she was transferred to MUSC by helicopter for further evaluation.

“When you have a major brain artery that opens intravenously with TPA, in a large number of cases it can close back up,” said Robert Adams, M.D., Director of REACH MUSC. “That’s why I wanted her to get down to the MUSC Comprehensive Stroke and Cerebrovascular Center for an intra-arterial evaluation.”

The REACH program is a perfect complement to the interventional capabilities at MUSC. As the only comprehensive stroke center in South Carolina capable of performing thrombectomy surgery, the REACH program provides access to unique treatments for devastating problems like stroke. The Center has three dedicated neurointerventional physicians on staff — myself, M. Imran Chaudry, M.D., and Raymond Turner, M.D. — with someone available for consultation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For patients who are candidates for endovascular treatments, a comprehensive team of specialists cares for the patients from remote consultation through presentation at the emergency room and into neurointerventional surgery. A dedicated inpatient team then takes the patient through their stay in neurocritical care and eventual stroke recovery and rehabilitation.

In Ms. Lafata’s case, once she arrived at MUSC, she was evaluated with our specialized brain imaging and determined to be a good candidate for endovascular treatment. She was taken emergently to the angiography suite and, through a minimally invasive procedure, an emergency thrombectomy was performed to restore blood flow to the basilar artery. She was able to make a full recovery and return to her previous lifestyle.

Given our unique approach and capabilities, I recently told a class of EMS first responders that if they pick up a patient with a severe stroke and outside of the time window for IV-TPA, MUSC is the only hospital in the state that has a treatment option for that patient aside from an aspirin. Fortunately REACH MUSC gives patients statewide access to that level of comprehensive care.

Endovascular Treatments Change Outcomes for Stroke Patients

By Aquilla S. Turk III, D.O.

At the Medical University of South Carolina we have a very unique approach to treatment for stroke patients: utilizing radiological imaging of the brain to select patients rather than conventional time windows. Every patient gets a triple scan — a cat scan (CT), a CTA to see which blood vessel is occluded and a CT perfusion scan to understand blood flow in the brain, identifying tissue at risk of dying. So regardless of when the stroke started or if it was only briefly improved by IV-TPA, we can evaluate an acute stroke patient for definitive treatment. We are currently utilizing endovascular techniques to treat more than 80 stroke patients on site at MUSC each year. This number will increase as our second angiography suite dedicated to neuro-interventional surgeries opens in November.

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When to Refer

- Acute stroke
- Brain aneurysms
- Arteriovenous malformation
- Congenital vascular anomalies

Aquilla S. Turk III, D.O.

Medical School: Nova Southeastern University
Residency: University of Wisconsin, Cleveland Clinic
Fellowship: University of Wisconsin
Board Certified: Diagnostic Radiology, Diagnostic Radiology, Neurointerventional Radiology
Special Interests: Neurointerventional Radiology
The Medical University of South Carolina Welcomes New Physicians to the MUSC Medical Center

MUSC has developed online tools for physicians and their office staff to provide easy access to information and to help streamline the referral process. Information regarding featured clinical news, featured clinical trials and new physicians is also available.

Visit http://physicianportal.MUSChealth.com to see the various features.

MUSC Electronic Medical Records Access
- Information about requesting sponsorship to the MUSC EMR (eCareNet Viewer)
- Confidentiality policy and requirements for compliance with use of the EMR
- Hardware and operation system requirements to support access

e-Referral for Appointment Requests
- General referral form with the ability to include attachments
- Specialty referral forms in development

Access MUSC Clinical Trials
- Information about all MUSC clinical trials
- Information specific to MUSC Hollings Cancer Center clinical trials

Register for Online Grand Rounds for CME Credit and Conferences
- Information about how to register for viewing online sessions
- Listing of Medicine grand rounds with new sessions added regularly
- Other departments’ grand rounds to be added in the future
- Calendar of courses, seminars and conferences

Resources for Physicians and Their Staff
- Referral Relations flyers with updates on clinical services
- MUSC physician directory online
- Download our MUSC physician directory by specialty or in its entirety

For technical questions or comments regarding the Physician Portal, call MEDULINE at 800.922.5250 or 843.792.2200.

Whitney S. Graybill, M.D.
Medical School: East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine
Residency: University of Alabama
Fellowship: University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Special Interests: Gynecologic Oncology

Colin M. Goudelocke, M.D.
Medical School: Louisiana State University
Residency: Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
Fellowship: Medical University of South Carolina
Special Interests: Urology, bladder and pelvic health, urinary incontinence

Gonzalo J. Revuelta, D.O.
Medical School: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
Residency: Hahnemann University
Fellowship: Emory University
Board Certification: Neurology
Special Interests: Dystonia, Parkinson’s disease, essential tremor, Huntington’s disease, Tourette’s syndrome, Botulinum toxin (Botox) injections, ataxia, drug-induced movement disorders, deep brain stimulation, restless leg syndrome, gait disorders

Thomas M. Todoran, M.D.
Medical School: Indiana University School of Medicine
Residency: Duke University
Fellowship: Duke University, Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Board Certification: Internal Medicine: Cardiovascular Disease, Internal Medicine: Interventional Cardiology
Special Interests: Endovascular treatment of peripheral vascular disease, diagnostic and interventional catheterization, coronary artery disease, vascular medicine, percutaneous therapies
CME conference schedule

The following conferences are sponsored by the Medical University of South Carolina. All conferences will be held in Charleston unless otherwise noted. Visit cme.musc.edu for a complete list of CME conferences.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>March 4 - 6, 2011</td>
<td>Updates in General Internal Medicine for Primary Care</td>
<td>Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5, 2011</td>
<td>6th Annual Chronic Kidney Disease Conference</td>
<td>Charleston SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12, 2011</td>
<td>DHEC Winter Diabetes Symposium</td>
<td>Myrtle Beach SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13 - 16, 2011</td>
<td>17th Charleston Symposium: Multi-modality Imaging</td>
<td>Francis Marion Hotel</td>
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<td>March 25 - 26, 2011</td>
<td>10th Pediatric Neuroscience Update</td>
<td>Kiawah Island Resort</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28 - 30, 2011</td>
<td>42nd Annual Ob/Gyn Spring Symposium</td>
<td>Francis Marion Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29 - May 1, 2011</td>
<td>South Carolina Rheumatism Society Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Renaissance Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1 - 4, 2011</td>
<td>Cardiology for the Primary Physician: Evidence-based Management</td>
<td>Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel</td>
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CLINICAL TRIALS

For a complete listing of MUSC clinical trials, visit http://physicianportal.muschealth.com/clinicaltrials.aspx.

For information about clinical trials at MUSC Hollings Cancer Center, call MEDULINE at 1.800.922.5250 or 843.792.2200, e-mail novittm@musc.edu or visit www.hollingscancercenter.org.