

Colorectal Cancer, presented by Alpha Oncology ([www.alphaoncology.org](http://www.alphaoncology.org)), a subsidiary of the Coalition of National Cancer Cooperative Groups. At the conclusion of the broadcast, the Internet audience was able to discuss new advances in the surgical management of metastatic colorectal cancer; the use of laparoscopic surgery and its role in the treatment of the disease; and the use of liver resection surgery in the management of metastatic colorectal cancer.

In April, Dr. Kemeny participated as an invited speaker and moderator at the University of Rennes' 21st Meeting on Surgery of the Digestive Tract, "Neoadjuvant and Adjuvant Therapy with Surgery for Digestive-Tract Cancers: Absolute and Relative Indications," held in Rennes, France.

**Dr. Brian J. O'Hea**, assistant professor of surgery and medical director of the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center, in March presented his study, "Atypical Ductal Lesions Found after Large Core Needle Biopsy of the Breast: Is Surgical Excision Always Necessary?," at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Central Surgical Association, held in Chicago; he conducted this study with Stony Brook pathologist Dr. Carmen Tornos.

### *Surgical Research*

**Dr. Margaret A. McNurlan**, assistant professor of surgery, is co-principal investigator of an ongoing study titled "Cellular Mechanisms for Metabolic Dysfunction in HIV," for which four-year funding (\$1,775,947) was renewed last fall by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Marie C. Gelato, professor of medicine and director of Stony Brook's General Clinical Research Center, is principal investigator of the study. Drs. Collin E.M.

Brathwaite and John S. Brebbia, of our Division of Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, are collaborators in this research.

### *Trauma/Surgical Critical Care*

**Dr. Collin E.M. Brathwaite**, associate professor of surgery and chief of trauma/surgical critical care, directs our **bariatric surgery program for the treatment of morbid obesity**. Established last fall, this program continues to grow, and about two operations per month are currently being performed by him, with increasing numbers of patients undergoing evaluation.

In February, Dr. Brathwaite made a poster presentation of a study on which he collaborated, "Central Venous Catheters and Risk for Resistance" (authors: Smith CJ, Fitzgerald D, Brebbia JS, Brathwaite CE), at the 29th Annual Educational and Scientific Symposium of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, held in Orlando, FL.

At the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, which was held last September in Boston, Dr. Brathwaite presented a study titled "Sepsis-Induced Alterations in Glucose-6-Phosphatase (Glu-6-Pase) Activity and Gene Expression" (authors: Maitra SR, Wang S, Brathwaite CE).

**Dr. John S. Brebbia**, assistant professor of surgery, has been inducted into the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), the leading professional society of board certified surgeons who use endoscopy and laparoscopy as an integral part of their treatment of patients. Prerequisites for membership include certification by the American Board of Surgery; demonstrated and

acknowledged skill and excellence in gastrointestinal endoscopic surgery; and written endorsement by a member of SAGES and either an instructor or a colleague.

With his expertise in "video-scope" surgery, Dr. Brebbia will play an active role in the newly established **Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery** (see page 1).

The study on which he collaborated with Dr. Brathwaite and others, "Central Venous Catheters and Risk for Resistance," was presented as a poster at the 29th Annual Educational and Scientific Symposium of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

**Dr. Subir R. Maitra**, research associate professor of surgery and emergency medicine, last August received a three-year grant (\$626,763) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to support a three-year basic science study titled "Glu-6-Pase and 6PF2K/FBPase Gene Regulation in Sepsis"; he is the principal investigator of this study. As a supplement to this grant, a postdoctoral fellowship under his mentorship was awarded to Dr. Dorrie-Susan Barrington for the present year.

Last September, at the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma held in Boston, Dr. Maitra presented his study titled "Sepsis-Induced Alterations in Glucose-6-Phosphatase (Glu-6-Pase) Activity and Gene Expression" (authors: Maitra SR, Wang S, Brathwaite CE).

**Jane E. McCormack**, trauma nurse coordinator, in March was elected president of the New York State Division of the American Trauma Society (ATS). The ATS is a nationwide, non-profit, voluntary organization dedicated to the prevention of trauma and improvement of trauma care. It currently has 22 state

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## First Endovascular AAA Repairs

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chief of diagnostic radiology. In the near future the Center plans to include specialists in cardiology.

With a range of current and potential applications, endovascular surgery is called minimally invasive because the incision is just large enough for the surgeon to insert a catheter into the blood vessel, through which instruments and devices can be inserted to treat diseased blood vessels.

Because endovascular surgery involves a smaller incision compared with that used in conventional vascular operations, it causes less disruption of the patient's physiology, or vital processes. Consequently, the hospital stay is usually much shorter and the patient's recovery much faster.

The earliest endovascular techniques were developed in the late 1960s. Given that less invasive methods of treating vascular disease have been sought for decades, endovascular surgery is now a rapidly growing field of therapy. It may be used independently or in combination with conventional operations in the treatment of vascular disease.

Although the endovascular procedure called balloon angioplasty has been used for years to treat occlusive disease (blocked/narrowed arteries), the recent advent of the aortic stent graft has expanded the role of endovascular surgery to include the treatment of aneurysmal disease.

*For consultations/appointments with our endovascular surgeons, please call (631) 444-2565.*

## OUR ELECTRONIC PHYSICIAN DIRECTORY



The Department provides a physician directory as part of its website on the Internet—please visit us at the following address to find information about our individual surgeons (see sample page below), as well as our programs in patient care, education, research, and community service:

[www.uhmc.sunysb.edu/surgery](http://www.uhmc.sunysb.edu/surgery)



*Dr. Brian J. O'Hea*

**MD:** Georgetown University (1986).

**Residency Training:** General Surgery, St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center of New York.

**Fellowship Training:** Breast Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

**Board Certification:** [Surgery](#).

**Specialties:** Diseases and surgery of the breast, with special interests in [sentinel node biopsy](#), breast conservation, and skin-sparing mastectomy.

**Additional:** Medical Director of Stony Brook's [Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center](#); Fellow, American College of Surgeons ([FACS](#)); see [recent publications](#).

**Honors:** One of the "Doctors of Excellence" featured in the latest edition (1999) of the Castle Connolly Guide, *How to Find the Best Doctors—New York Metro Area*.

**Language Spoken:** English.

**Consultations/Appointments:** 631-444-4550.

## Division Briefs

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divisions throughout the U.S. that assist in promoting ATS public awareness/education programs at the grassroots level. The New York State Division runs injury prevention programs such as Troo the Traumaroo in schools, operates anti-drunk driving programs in the community, and helps implement the National Trauma Awareness Month campaigns locally.

## Vascular Surgery

**Dr. John J. Ricotta**, professor and chairman of surgery, has been selected to be included in *Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare, 2000-2001* (Marquis), scheduled for publication in June.

Dr. Ricotta will become president of the Eastern Vascular Society at its May meeting in Baltimore. The objectives of the Society are: 1) to advance the art and science of vascular surgery; 2) to provide an educational forum for physicians in the Eastern United States and Canada active in the field of vascular disease; 3) to improve the delivery to the public of healthcare for vascular disease; and 4) to improve research in the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of vascular diseases.

Since March 1999, Dr. Ricotta has been vice-president of the Society of Clinical Vascular Surgery, a leading national organization of about 1,000 academic and community vascular surgeons.

## Recent Publications

(Continued from Page 8)

Mynarcik DC, Frost RA, Lang CH, DeCristofaro K, **McNurlan MA**, **Garlick PJ**, Steigbigel RT, Fuhrer J, Ahnn S, Gelato MC. Insulin-like growth factor system in patients with HIV infection: effect of exogenous growth hormone administration. *JAIDS* 1999;22:49-55.

**O'Hea BJ**, Ho MN, Petrek JA. External compression dressing versus standard dressing after axillary lymphadenectomy. *Am J Surg* 1999;177:450-3.

**Rapaport FT**. A half-century retrospective of transplantation as viewed by the protagonists. *Transplant Proc* 1999;31:15.

**Rapaport FT**. Current status and future prospects for organ procurement and retrieval. *Transplant Proc* 1999;31:1763-4.

**Rapaport FT**. Felix Milgrom, immunologist and microbiologist par excellence. *Transplant Proc* 1999;31:1452-5.

**Rapaport FT**. Some landmarks in the evolution of transplantation. *Transplant Proc* 1999;31:2939-44.

**Rapaport FT**. The birth of the Transplantation Society of Latin America and the Caribbean. *Transplant Proc* 1999;31:3085.

Smith CJ, Fitzgerald D, **Brebbia JS**, **Brathwaite CE**. Central venous catheters and risk for resistance [abstract]. *Crit Care Med* 1999;27(12 Suppl):A118.

**Smouha EE**, Inouye M, Sobol LL, Slepcey NB. Histologic changes after semicircular canal occlusion in guinea pigs. *Am J Otol* 1999;20:632-8.

**Stefano GB**, Prevot V, Beauvillain JC, Fimiani C, Welters I, Cadet P, Breton C, Pestel J, Salzet M, **Bilfinger TV**. Estradiol coupling to human monocyte nitric oxide release is dependent on intracellular calcium transients: evidence for an estrogen surface receptor. *J Immunol* 1999;163:3758-63.

Suzuki A, Shao X, Song XQ, Hanaoka T, Irie S, Kashiwada M, **Samara G**, et al. Identification of a 5-cM region of common allelic loss on 8p12-p21 in human breast cancer and genomic analysis of the hEXT1L/EXTR1/EXTL3 gene in this locus. *Int J Oncol* 1999;15:443-51.

Udar NS, Xu S, Bay JO, Dandekar SS, Patel N, Chen X, Liang TY, Uhrhammer N, Klisak I, Shizuya H, Yang H, **Samara G**, Nelissen J, Sawicki M, Concannon P, Gatti RA. Physical map of the region surrounding the ataxia-telangiectasia gene on human chromosome 11q22-23. *Neuropediatrics* 1999;30:176-80.

Vosswinkel JA, **Bilfinger TV**. Cardiac nail gun injuries: lessons learned. *J Trauma* 1999;47:588-90.

Vosswinkel JA, McCormack JE, **Brathwaite CE**, Geller ER. Critical analysis of injuries sustained in the TWA Flight 800 midair disaster. *J Trauma* 1999;47:617-21.

☆ **This study, of which the first author is surgical resident (PGY-4) James A. Vosswinkel, MD, was the journal's news-making lead article in its October 1999 issue.**

## Reaching Out to Nuns For Breast Health Education

In December, the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center presented its first "Breast Health Day for Women Religious" at Queen of the Rosary Motherhouse in Amityville, NY. Attended by 250 nuns from all over Long Island, Brooklyn, and Queens, this outreach program provided breast health education with special emphasis on the needs and concerns of nuns, who as a group are at greater risk of developing breast cancer than the general population of women.

Nulliparity—that is, the condition of having never given birth to a child—is a well-established risk factor for breast cancer dating back to the 18th-century observation that breast cancer occurred with higher frequency among nuns.

The Breast Care Center's program included talks by physicians and other healthcare professionals (all women) who addressed the topics of breast health for nuns, barriers to breast health for nuns, psychosocial implications of the pursuit of breast

healthcare, breast health and disease, and methods to enhance breast health.

Sister Angela Gannon, CSJ, general superior of Saint Joseph Convent, said, "The day provided a very valuable learning experience for all of us who attended and one which I hope will be repeated in the future."

As executive medical director of the Breast Care Center, M. Margaret Kemeny, MD, professor of surgery (interim) and chief of surgical oncology, played an important role in developing the four-hour educational program. She will be instrumental in bringing this program to the Archdiocese of New York as a result of previous contacts with Cardinal O'Connor's office.

In addition, a modified version of the breast health program is planned for Stony Brook's women faculty/leaders.

*For information about the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Care Center and its educational programs, please call (631) 444-4550.*

## Alumni News

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**Dr. Constantinos N. Zarmakoupis** ('92), Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, completed his military service and country service in Greece in 1997. Since then, he has been in private practice in Athens, specializing in vascular surgery. Together with his partner, Dr. John Iliopoulos (a former associate professor of surgery at the University of Kansas), he is performing endovascular surgery; they successfully performed six endovascular repairs of abdominal aortic aneurysms and one popliteal artery aneurysm during 1999. Last fall, he was visited by **Dr. Steven J. Busuttill** ('94), with whom he performed surgery, as in their Stony Brook days.

**Dr. Toufic K. Safa** ('96) is a vascular surgeon at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, NY, with an appointment as assistant professor of surgery at New York University. He recently published this paper:

- **Safa TK**, Friedman S, Mehta M, Rahmani O, Scher L, Pogo G, Hall M. Management of coexisting coronary artery and asymptomatic carotid artery disease: report of a series of patients treated with coronary bypass alone. *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg* 1999;17:249-52.

A personal note: On July 16, 1999, Dr. Safa and his wife had their first child, a boy (weight, 8 lb 11 oz; height, 23 in), and named him Ryan.

# STONY BROOK SURGICAL ASSOCIATES, PC

## BREAST CARE

John S. Brebbia, MD  
Martyn W. Burk, MD, PhD  
M. Margaret Kemeny, MD  
Louis T. Merriam, MD  
Brian J. O'Hea, MD  
Vimala S. Sivaraman, MD

## BURN CARE

Collin E.M. Brathwaite, MD  
John S. Brebbia, MD  
Harry S. Soroff, MD

## CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Thomas V. Bilfinger, MD, ScD  
Kathleen N. Fenton, MD  
Irvin B. Krukenkamp, MD  
Allison J. McLarty, MD  
Adam E. Saltman, MD, PhD  
Frank C. Seifert, MD

## GENERAL/GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY

Robert D. Barraco, MD  
Collin E.M. Brathwaite, MD  
John S. Brebbia, MD  
Martyn W. Burk, MD, PhD  
Louis T. Merriam, MD  
J. Martin Perez, MD  
Vimala S. Sivaraman, MD  
Thomas R. Smith, MD

## OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD AND NECK SURGERY (ENT)

Arnold E. Katz, MD  
Denise C. Monte, MD  
Ghassan J. Samara, MD  
Maisie L. Shindo, MD  
Eric E. Smouha, MD

## PEDIATRIC SURGERY

Jane T. Kugaczewski, MD  
Cedric J. Priebe, Jr., MD

## PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Steven M. Katz, MD  
Steven L. Shoen, MD

## SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

Martyn W. Burk, MD, PhD  
M. Margaret Kemeny, MD  
Louis T. Merriam, MD  
Brian J. O'Hea, MD  
Vimala S. Sivaraman, MD

## TRANSPLANTATION

Felix T. Rapaport, MD  
John J. Ricotta, MD  
Wayne C. Waltzer, MD

## TRAUMA/SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

Robert D. Barraco, MD  
Collin E.M. Brathwaite, MD  
John S. Brebbia, MD  
J. Martin Perez, MD  
Thomas R. Smith, MD

## VASCULAR SURGERY

Rishad M. Faruqi, MD  
Fabio Giron, MD, PhD  
David B. Gitlitz, MD  
John J. Ricotta, MD  
Paul S. van Bemmelen, MD, PhD



For consultations/appointments with our physicians, please call

- (631) **444-4550** for our specialists in breast care
- (631) **444-1820** for our specialists in cardiothoracic surgery
- (631) **444-4545** for our specialists in general/gastrointestinal surgery
- (631) **444-4121** for our specialists in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery (ENT)
- (631) **444-4538** for our specialists in pediatric surgery
- (631) **444-4545** for our specialists in plastic and reconstructive surgery
- (631) **444-4545** for our specialists in surgical oncology
- (631) **444-2209** for our specialists in transplantation
- (631) **444-1045** for our specialists in trauma/surgical critical care
- (631) **444-2565** for our specialists in vascular surgery
- (631) **723-5000** for our specialists at Stony Brook Outpatient Services in Hampton Bays: breast care - general/gastrointestinal surgery - pediatric surgery - vascular surgery

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