

SUTURES

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Department of Surgery
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## **Documentation of Malignancy and Findings from Pathology Reports:**

"Abnormal findings on the pathology report are not coded and reported unless the provider indicates their clinical significance. This ensures that the documentation and the codes reported are consistent with the attending physician's interpretation since he or she is responsible for the clinical management of the case. Although the pathologist provides a written interpretation of a tissue biopsy, this is not equivalent to the attending physician's medical diagnosis based on the patient's complete clinical picture."\*

Unfortunately simply staging the TNM staging classification is not sufficient as coders are not able to interpret. Rather, they must rely on physician documentation in order to code specific sites of metastasis.

Correct and accurate coding of all conditions has a significant impact on risk adjusted quality measures and reimbursement.

\*from the Coding Clinic 3Q 2008 pg 11-12, 2Q 2002 pg 17-18, and 1Q 2004 pg 20-21.

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OR Scheduling

We continue to look for ways to make scheduling a case for the OR more efficient. For those of you familiar with the Web based ORSCHED system, you know that this is a request format that allows the office scheduler to submit a request electronically. Confirmation of the request can also be done electronically. Sometimes a phone call is still necessary to finalize the placement of the case. If the office is not set up on ORSCHED, it is also possible to use an email scheduling template. Instead of making a telephone call, the office scheduler can fill out the request, forward it to "Group Central Schedulers" and an email confirmation will be sent back to the sending office.

In either case, once a case is confirmed, the office scheduler is able to check on WEB/VS what they have scheduled thru ORSCHD or E-Mail. Confirmation of case placement can also be confirmed following telephone or fax requests. Please contact the Central Scheduling supervisor, Sergio Hernandez @ 423-0687, if you need assistance with any of these formats.



Preference list

The Operating room team is committed to improving physician satisfaction, resource management and efficiency. We believe improving the accuracy of preference lists is an important component of customer service. Please inform the charge nurse if you feel your preference list needs to be updated or revised.



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) NIH Funding

With the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, an unprecedented level of funding (\$8.2 billion in extramural funding) was made available by NIH on a competitive basis to stimulate the economy, create jobs, and advance biomedical research. NIH received approximately 22,000 applications, with CSMC submitting approximately 130 grants.

CSMC performed very well in this highly competitive process with 15 being awarded to the institution for a total of \$5.4 million. Of this, the Department of Surgery was awarded **five grants** totaling **\$1.73 million**.

We wish to congratulate the following recipients:

PI	Grant Type	Project Title	Award
Dr. Zulma Gazit, PhD.	R03	STEM CELLS FROM THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISC: DO THEY VARY IN DEGENERATION?	\$162,500
Dr. Seigo Hatada, PhD.	R21	TARGETED GENE CORRECTION IN MULTIPOTENT HEMATOPOIETIC CELLS	\$418,750
Dr. Yaron Rabinowitz, M.D.	R01 Supp.	GENETIC FACTORS IN KERATOCONUS	\$641,218
Dr. Krishnan Ramanujan, PhD.	R21	MULTIPHOTON FLUORESCENCE LIFETIME	\$377, 850

		IMAGING OF SOLID TUMORS INVIVO	
Dr. Ali Salim, M.D.	Ro1 Supp.	INCREASING ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION IN HISPANIC AMERICANS	\$128,090
		Total NIH ARRA Funding for DOS	\$1,728,408



CITIZENSHIP AND BEYOND

Calendar

Surgery Grand Rounds

Wednesday, November 18th, 2009 at 7:00am in Thaliens Auditorium

"A Balanced Surgical Life: Myth or Reality" with Layton "Bing" Rikkers, MD

Publications

Abstract *"A Single Center Experience of Aggressive Surgical Resection of Retroperitoneal Sarcomas: Analysis of Factors Determining Outcomes"* by Farin F .Amersi, MD, James R. Ouellette, DO, Nicholas P. McAndrew, Leah Marsh, Jason S. Cohen, MD, Leslie Memsic MD and Allan W. Silberman, MD, PhD was accepted for presentation at the February 2010 meeting of the Pacific Coast Surgical Association

The *International Principle of Laparoscopic Surgery* book was recently released by Dr. E. Frezza, MD; M. Gagner, MD; Prof. M. K. W. Li with a chapter written by George Berci, MD about *"Anesthesia in Video Assisted Anesthesia Techniques"*; Publisher, Cinemed, Woodbury, CT, 2010

Presentations

Robert McKenna, MD recently returned from the Association for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons of Asia (ATCSA) biannual meeting on October 26th – October 28th where he gave 3 talks: VATS Lobectomy for Lung Cancer, VATS Lobectomy- Technical Details for Difficult Situations, and Current Status of Minimally Invasive Surgery of the Chest.

Lecture, *"Trauma CSI: Error Analysis & Identifying Opportunities for Improvement,"* was given by Trauma Program Manager, Heidi Holtz, R.N. during the San Diego Day of Trauma 2009: The Human Factor in Trauma Care: Errors and Near Misses in a Complex Medical System.



Items for submission to Sutures may be sent to Meg Jenkins at jenkinsml@cshs.org

The next SUTURES will be Tuesday, November 24th, 2009.