Surgical Oncology

We offer a wide spectrum of cancer control activities, from prevention to surgical treatment, followed by rehabilitation and long-term follow-up. Comprehensive evaluation and treatment are provided for tumors arising in the stomach, intestines, esophagus, liver, pancreas, colon, rectum and breast.

Most invasive disease requires surgical resection, where we emphasize a team approach to ensure the optimal application of all techniques, including chemotherapy and radiotherapy. The Surgical Oncology Section offers a multidisciplinary approach, working closely with the University’s radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and gynecological oncologists. Oncologists provide adjuvant chemotherapy as well as various targeted therapies.

As a member of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, one of the largest clinical cancer research organizations in the United States, we conduct clinical trials in various types of adult cancers. We also provide outpatient screening programs.

DIVISION OF CAROTID SURGICAL SURGERY

Our highly specialized team, consisting of skilled surgeons, critical care physicians, anesthesiologists, physician assistants and nurses, equipped with the latest equipment and innovative techniques, provides surgical care for patients with the most complex cardiovascular diseases and at the highest risk. Specialized services include off-pump coronary artery bypass, complete arterial coronary revascularization and TMR. Innovative procedures recently introduced include complex mitral valve repair, endovascular stent-grafting for aortic arch aneurysms, and dissections. Minimally invasive procedures include endoscopic leg vein and forearm radial artery harvest, "key-hole" valve surgery and robotic surgery.

DIVISION OF VASCULAR SURGERY

The Division of Vascular Surgery provides comprehensive diagnosis and treatment for the entire spectrum of circulatory disorders, including aortic and peripheral arterial aneurysms; carotid, aortic and peripheral arterial disease; venous disorders such as varicose veins, chronic venous insufficiency, and thrombophlebitis; peripheral vascular disease; and renal artery and mesenteric vascular disease.

Our surgeons perform conventional open surgical aneurysm repair as well as minimally invasive endovascular therapy. Advanced catheter-based procedures are used for lower extremity revascularization and to treat renal vascular disease.

Vascular Ultrasound Laboratory

In our nationally-accredited Vascular Laboratory we perform a wide array of non-invasive vascular tests, including carotid duplex, venous duplex, arterial duplex, arterial pressures and waveforms, renal (kidney) arterial duplex, and aortiolic duplex.

SUNY DOWNSSTATE MEDICAL CENTER, the only academic medical center in Brooklyn, has a long reputation for being at the forefront of modern medicine. With our focus on a three-fold mission of clinical, research and academic pursuits, we provide borough residents with state-of-the-art care in a compassionate environment.

PATIENT CARE

The Department of Surgery provides comprehensive surgical services and many surgical specialties and subspecialties. Our highly trained and skilled surgeons perform a wide variety of surgical procedures, ranging from the routine and uncomplicated to the most complex operations.

RESEARCH

Our department has a long-standing commitment to surgical research. Innovative, state-of-the-art basic, clinical and translational research is performed in the laboratory, on the computer and in the clinical environment. The research interests of our faculty are diversified and span the spectrum of surgical problems.

EDUCATION

Our Surgery Residency Program provides superior clinical and academic training in all areas of surgery. We support the only cardiothoracic training program serving Brooklyn and Staten Island. We are dedicated to teaching the future leaders in our field and preparing them to be the surgical educators of the future.

RECOGNITION

Many of our outstanding physicians have been nationally recognized by Best Doctors in America®, and also Castle Connolly Medical, Ltd., the source for New York Magazine’s annual Best Doctors issue.

DIVISION OF GENERAL SURGERY

The Division of General Surgery offers comprehensive surgical care, utilizing the latest in medical technology. Our general surgeons offer a wide variety of specialized services, including:

- Laparoscopic (Minimally Invasive) Surgery
- Endocrine Surgery (Thyroid, Parathyroid & Adrenal)
- Colon and Rectal Surgery
- Gastrointestinal Surgery
- Pancreatic and Liver Surgery
- Surgical Endoscopy
- Surgical Oncology

Laparoscopic Surgery

Minimally invasive surgery of the abdomen has many advantages. Smaller incisions, less blood loss, less post-operative pain and faster recovery time result in the best possible outcomes for our patients. The most commonly performed laparoscopic procedures are gallbladder and hernia repair. Ninety-five percent of our gallbladder surgery is performed laparoscopically and patients typically go home the same day. We have recently implemented laparoscopic colon, stomach and adrenal surgery.

Gastrointestinal Surgery

We provide comprehensive care for patients with disorders of the gastrointestinal tract. Our surgeons have special expertise in colorectal surgery, including laparoscopic colon resection for diseases such as diverticulitis and colon cancer; anastomotic procedures for treatment of hemorrhoids; and surgical treatment for IBD. We also perform advanced hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery and care for malignant diseases of the stomach, colon, pancreas and liver.

SUNY Downstate is one of the few centers in New York where advanced surgical procedures such as pancreatic surgery are performed. We specialize in pancreaticoduodenectomy (the Whipple procedure) and distal pancreatectomy for benign and malignant disease. Our surgeons also perform laparoscopic distal pancreatectomy, along with spleen-sparing surgery.

Surgical Endoscopy

The Surgical Endoscopy Section provides a wide array of diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy services using state-of-the-art computerized video endoscopy equipment. Procedures include:

- Upper and lower endoscopy
- Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy
- Laser ablation of gastrointestinal tumors
- Balloon dilation & insertion of self-expanding metal stents for gastrointestinal cancers.

Endocrine Surgery

Endocrinologists and endocrine surgeons work closely together to coordinate the surgical treatment of patients with disorders of the thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal glands. Minimally invasive techniques are used in most endocrine surgeries today.

Pharmaceutical and Services

SUNY Downstate Medical Center
University Hospital of Brooklyn

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

DIVISION OF CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

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- Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy
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