



FALL 2017



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AVIVA PREMINGER, M.D.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Fellow Members of Our Society,

In Judaism, the number eighteen or "Chai" means life. I am proud to say that, thanks to the tremendous dedication of the Executive Board and our new Executive Director, Mark Espinosa, the Regional Society looks toward the year 2018 invigorated with new life. A lot of time and effort has been devoted to maintaining the character of this Society while establishing new partnerships to encourage growth.

2017 was a successful year for membership recruitment as the Society welcomed 17 active members, 4 candidate members, and 1 resident member for a total of 22 new members. Overall, membership revenue increased by 20.4%. A Social Mixer to encourage new interest and involvement in the Board was very well-attended. I look forward to welcoming all those with interest to get involved and attend our monthly Board meetings.

Our partnership with ASPS has also brought new benefits including the convenience of remitting your 2018 dues with your 2018 ASPS dues payment. Collaborations with industry have further augmented member benefits. NYRSPS members now receive a 20% discount off ClearDoc, a portal that allows physicians to answer common healthcare questions related to plastic surgery using a video platform. For more information, go to <https://www.cleardoc.com/>. We look forward to exploring how we can further add to the benefits offered by your NYRSPS membership!

Hosting and organizing Residents' Night has

always been a core part of this Society and it is so important that we continue to encourage and reward resident contributions to the future of our specialty. Despite threats of an impending storm, this year's Residents' Night was a success. There were 115 attendees and twelve programs were represented: Albany, Montefiore, Cornell/Columbia, New York Medical College, Mount Sinai, Northwell, Long Island Plastic Surgery, NYU, Rutgers, Stony Brook, the University of Pittsburgh, and Yale.

In an effort to respond to the needs and desires of our membership in light of increasing meeting fatigue, the Society has decided to move towards a single annual weekend meeting. Please mark your calendars for the Fall of 2018 for our first annual all day NYRS event!

Our Spring Meeting, "The Skinny on Fat" was our best-attended Spring event on record. We also had more vendors represented than ever before. Attendees were privileged to learn about the latest advances and safety concerns associated with autologous fat injection.

We intend to gather continued momentum as we move towards the fall. The 2017 Fall Meeting, "Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Facial Rejuvenation" will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the New York Academy of Medicine. The renowned list of speakers will include Dr. Steven Fagien, Dr. Henry Spinelli, *con't on page 5*



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TRACY M. PFEIFER, M.D.

letter from the editor

**Dear Friends and Fellow Plastic Surgeons,**

Hope your summer was fun and filled with sunshine. Fall is always exciting and this year is no exception. The Board has put together a great program for the Fall Meeting. Thanks to an infusion of new talent, NYRSPS members who are stepping up to the plate as Board members, the Board has a lot of energy and innovative ideas for future programs. As always you, the members, are the focus of all our efforts. We remain dedicated and resolved to providing exceptional educational events right in your own backyard. If any of you are interested in serving your Society as a Board Member, please contact any one of us.

Dr. Tom Biggs will be our Masters Series speaker at the upcoming Fall meeting. As many of you know, Dr. Biggs lives in Houston. Please keep Dr. Biggs and his extended family in your thoughts and prayers.

If you are feeling a bit down about medicine and the state of our beloved profession, reconnect with the reasons you went into medicine in the first place. Dr. Abraham Verghese, author of "Cutting for Stone" (a fabulous book!), gives a great TED talks on You Tube on the transformative power of the physician-patient relationship. Definitely worth your time.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxnlwprf_c

I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Tracy

Drtracypfeifer@gmail.com



Ron Israeli, MD, Peter Taub, MD, Peter Korn, MD, Keith Blechman, MD and Douglas Senderoff, MD.

ALAN MATARASSO, M.D., CHAIRMAN
STEVEN WALLACH, M.D., CO-CHAIRMAN

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Spring 2017 Meeting



The April 1, 2017 meeting was titled "The Skinny on Fat." This meeting was held at the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) with an amazing turnout of both members and vendors.

Dr. W.G. Austen, MD was our first speaker. He reviewed the current "science" on fat. He tried to break down every component of the fat grafting process from a scientific perspective and cited the current literature throughout his presentation. In summary, he reported that high pressure suction did not impact fat viability, and that almost any type of collection system worked. He also showed that 4mm cannulas or greater were ideal to harvest fat, and that low shear was the key to have viable fat grafts. He felt that there was a lot we do not know and further studies are essential to make the process better.

Dr. J. William Little gave a talk on periorbital fat grafting. He went through his techniques for fat graft harvesting and injection and reviewed all the various equipment he prefers to accomplish his results. Dr. Little stated that he almost exclusively performs fat grafting for periorbital rejuvenation and only performs a blepharoplasty in about 5% of his patients. Interestingly, he has also abandoned the use of midface lifting techniques and dermal grafts that he used in the past to rejuvenate this area. It was a tour de force in periorbital rejuvenation.

Dr. Steven Kronowitz focused his lecture on fat grafting to the breast both for aesthetic augmen-

tation and breast reconstruction. He went through the techniques he uses to treat irradiated skin prior to and during various reconstructive phases. It was interesting to see how his techniques differed from Dr. Little, with equal success. He also reviewed the current literature on safety with regards to breast imaging, and the risks of developing cancer or a recurrence. His lecture was excellent and clarified many concerns about the use of fat grafting.

Dr. Steven Teitelbaum was our final speaker who reported on the current state of potential risks developing during brazilian butt lift (BBL) surgery. He reviewed the most recent release from the BBL task force that was recently published by the Aesthetic Surgery Journal. He discussed the potential risk for fat embolism and recommendations made by the task force to help minimize the risk. This lecture supports the idea that there needs to be close monitoring and further research to get reliable data on the subject.

I would also like to thank our commentators Dr. Scot Glasberg, Dr. Sydney Coleman, and Dr. Dan Del Vecchio for their insightful discussion on the various subjects presented.

Our next meeting will be November 18, 2017 at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Yours truly,
Steven Wallach, MD
Scientific Program Co-Chairperson



Randy Feingold, MD and
NYRSPS Past-President Lloyd Hoffman, MD



Larry Sirota, DO, J. William Little, MD and
NYRSPS President Aviva Preminger, MD

Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Facial Rejuvenation

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2017
7AM-12PM EST**

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL BE STARTING
1 HR. EARLIER THAN PAST MEETINGS**

LIGHT BREAKFAST

3 CATEGORY 1 CME CREDITS

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

1216 5TH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10029

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE: At the conclusion of this educational activity, learners will be able to:

- Evaluate and measure the success of different Oculoplastic techniques
- Explain how to obtain the best aesthetic results from invasive and non-invasive treatments for facial rejuvenation
- Confer multi-modality non-invasive treatments for facial rejuvenation
- Discuss methods to enhance patient safety and management of complications.
- Analyze future directions in facial rejuvenation

PRESENTATIONS:



MASTERS SERIES LECTURE
THOMAS BIGGS, MD
Private practice, Houston, TX. Clinical Professor of Plastic Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine



FRED G. FEDOK, MD, FACS
Private practice, Foley, AL. President American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery; Adjunct Professor of Surgery-University of Alabama



COMMENTATOR:
HENRY SPINELLI, MD
Private practice, NYC. Clinical Professor of Surgery (Plastic) and Clinical Professor of Neurological Surgery-Weill Cornell Medicine



STEVEN FAGIEN, MD
Private practice, Boca Rotan, FL.



LISA M. DONOFRIO, MD
Private practice, New Haven, CT. Associate Clinical Professor, Dermatology-Yale University School of Medicine and Assistant Clinical Professor, Dermatology-Tulane University School of Medicine



COMMENTATOR:
CHARLES H. THORNE, MD
Private practice, NYC. Chairman, Department of Plastic Surgery, Lenox Hill Hospital



Spring Meeting 2017: First row left to right): Sydney Coleman, MD, William Gerald Austen, MD, Steven Kronowitz, MD, J. William Little, MD and Tracy Pfeifer, MD. (2nd row) Steven Teitelbaum, MD, Jennifer Capla, MD, Aviva Preminger, MD, Peter Taub, MD, Alan Mararasso, MD and Scot Glasberg, MD. (3rd row) Mark Espinosa, Lloyd Hoffman, MD, John Vaccaro, MD, Keith Blechman, MD, Oren Lerman, MD and Gregory Rauscher, MD

Dr. Thomas Biggs, Dr. Fred Fedok, Dr. Lisa Donofrio, and Dr. Charles H. Thorne. The meeting will focus on invasive and noninvasive techniques in facial rejuvenation in general and oculoplastic surgery in particular.

in light of increasing meeting fatigue, the Society has decided to move towards a single annual weekend meeting. Please mark your calendars for the Fall of 2018 for our first annual all day NYRS event!

In an effort to respond to the needs and desires of our membership

I look forward to seeing you all in the Fall.

We would like to welcome the following individuals to our membership roster:

Nadia S. Afridi, MD	Active	Sandra L. Margoles, MD	Active	Michael Sternschein, MD	Active
Jerome D. Chao, MD	Active	Norman G. Morrison, MD	Active	Katie E. Weichman, MD	Active
Christopher T. Chia, MD	Active	David M Otterburn, MD	Active	Susan Chung, MD	Candidate
Evan S. Garfein, MD	Active	Ash Patel, MBChB	Active	Francesco Gargano, MD	Candidate
Douglas M. Hargrave, MD	Active	Silvio Podda, MD	Active	Peter W. Henderson, MD, MBA	Candidate
Alexes Hazen, MD	Active	Maura Reinblatt, MD	Active	David J. Pincus, MD	Candidate
Jonathan Keith, MD	Active	Aleksandr Shteynberg, MD	Active	Ronald Bogdasarian, MD	Resident
Dimitri J. Koumanis, MD	Active				

SAVE THE DATE RESIDENTS' NIGHT 2018

MARCH 12, 2018

Einhorn Auditorium, Lenox Hill Hospital

Submit abstracts to: nyresidentsnight@gmail.com

Abstract submission opens October 1, 2017; Final date for submission January 1, 2018



William Rosenblatt, NYRSPS Past President and Mentor representative Michael Lawrence



Steven Teitelbaum, MD updates the spring meeting 2017 attendees on the risk of autologous fat grafting to the buttocks.



Jennifer Capla, MD, NYRSPS Treasurer and Sydney Coleman, MD



William Gerald Austen, MD, Tracy Pfeifer, MD, Steven Teitelbaum, MD and Steven Kronowitz, MD

WILLIAM ROSENBLATT, M.D.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fall 2017

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready for the fall work season. In this article, are my two favorite issues of interest to plastic surgeons: one regarding malpractice and the other regarding office-based surgical (OBS) regulations in New York State.

Malpractice

This June, the New York State legislature passed a bill to amend the civil practice law and rules in relation to accrual of certain causes of action (S.6800 (DeFrancisco)/A.8516 (Weinstein)). If signed by the Governor, it would extend the statute of limitations on the discovery of cancer from the current 2 ½ years to 7 years. The thought here is to protect patients with missed cancer diagnosis, so they could recover damages if the cancer was found further out than the current 2 ½ years.

The problem is that the law, as currently written, is vague and could possibly increase our malpractice rates by as much as 15%. At the moment, the bill has not been sent to the Governor and we hope that it will be either vetoed by Cuomo or amended by the Legislature to pare it down and fix some of the drafting errors.

With our malpractice rates as high as they are, and one of the major insurers in the state insolvent, extending the statute of limitations is not wise in our state. Watch your email for updates from MSSNY and go to the grassroots center to express your feelings when this legislation resurfaces.

Office Based Surgery

Now for the latest information coming out of the NYS Department of Health OBS Advisory Committee Meeting that was held via teleconference on August 22: at the moment, I am the only plastic surgeon on the committee; there are few other practicing office-based physicians and we are grossly outnumbered by state employees and full time hospitalists.

For those of you who have an OBS in your office, you should have gotten a request to furnish information regarding what you do in your OBS. You have to go to the Department of Health (DOH) health commerce site and provide all sorts of information, including the total number of cases you do and also their CPT codes.

This first foray by the DOH to mine data was voluntary. Starting this January they want to make your provision of this information mandatory. They feel that they have the authority to require you to do this because of the

following wording in the OBS law:

Reference: PHL § 230-d, 4. (b): *“The department may also require licensees to report additional data such as procedural information as needed for the interpretation of adverse events.”* http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/office-based_surgery/law/docs/230-d.pdf

I argued that if a patient of mine has an adverse event, I have no problem furnishing that data. But for me to mandatorily fill out pages of forms, is just another intrusive unfunded mandate by government, in my opinion.

As a plastic surgeon, most of my procedures are not reimbursed by insurance, so I don't even bother with recording CPT codes for those procedures.

Just for history, in NYS there are over 980 OBS facilities. About 650 are certified by AAAASF, which provides the NYS DOH with the number of cases done. Neither AAAASF nor the Joint Commission ask their facilities for those numbers. If the DOH wants a denominator, they should ask the two other certifying agencies to provide them and not hassle the doctors.

So far during the voluntary reporting, 179 of the 983 facilities in NYS reported. I asked the DOH leaders what they would do if facilities did not report, and their answer was that they would report them to OPMC. Could you imagine, what would OPMC do with the report of hundreds of non-reporting facilities? They can't even handle the workload they have now.

Also, I believe it may be necessary to get advice of counsel regarding how far they can go in requiring reporting with the ambiguous law that I quoted above.

I think we many need to get the Regional Society mobilized and also the NYS Plastic Surgical Society, as well as the other specialties such as GI and invasive radiology who work in their own office-based surgical facilities.

Keep in touch and if you feel that the DOH is overstepping their charge, feel free to call Tina Helsinki (Tina.Helsinki@health.ny.gov) or Rosemarie Casale (Rosemarie.Casale@health.ny.gov) and express your displeasure at having to fill out more forms.

If you have any more ideas, I will be glad to speak to any of you.

William Rosenblatt, MD
Past President, MSSNY



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ZO SkinHealth northeast regional sales manager Dawn Campbell and Christine Markevich, NY/NJ sales representative



Lawrence Keller, CRP of Physician Financial Services answers some questions.



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COMMUNITY

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