

Dermatology News

PURSUING WITH EXCELLENCE THE MISSIONS OF RESEARCH EDUCATION AND PATIENT CARE

Treatment for Hyperhidrosis Changes Patient's Life

FOR BARBARA BAINES, an Advisory Coordinator at Brown Advisory, life is much more carefree these days.

Fall 2012, Barb attended the Johns Hopkins Medicine, *A Woman's Journey*, an annual health conference for women in Baltimore, Maryland, and heard **Rebecca Kazin, M.D.** speak about the treatments she and her staff offer for hyperhidrosis. This talk truly changed Barb's life.

Hyperhidrosis is a condition which causes excessive sweating and can occur without extreme physical exertion or warm temperatures. It is most common in the hands and feet but can also present on the scalp—an area of the body which Dr. Kazin mentioned in her talk. Barb's mother and grandmother both had this condition, and Barb had sought the advice of several doctors who offered her little help and no relief from the excessive sweating at her hairline that she experienced.

After Dr. Kazin's talk, Barb approached her. "I'm sure we can fix your condition, Dr. Kazin immediately told me. She seemed relaxed and confident about it," shared Barb. "The relief was overwhelming. Up until this time, I literally had to plan my life around this condition. Any exertion caused sweating in my scalp and I had to decline lunches in the summer, stop working out in public, and sometimes go home and



Barbara Baines in her garden.

change if I had an event to attend. I love to garden and landscape, and working outside would leave my hair and collar wet, which felt uncomfortable and embarrassing.

Barb met with Dr. Kazin at the Johns Hopkins Cosmetic Center at Green Spring Station and received treatment. The treatment involves Botox injections into the scalp. Almost immediately, she experienced relief. Barb will continue to have treatments every six to nine months and is experiencing dramatic and life-changing results. "Although I am not fond of needles, the treatment is worth it.

I would not hesitate to do it again." Barb can now fully embrace life confidently and resume her gardening and volunteering passions. She looks forward to attending this year's *A Woman's Journey* on November 16, 2013. ■

Rebecca Kazin, M.D. will be speaking at *A Woman's Journey* in Baltimore, Maryland on Saturday, November 16, 2013.
<http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/awomansjourney/baltimore>

Chairman's corner



Sewon Kang, M.D.

I am pleased to share with you the Department of Dermatology's newly redesigned newsletter. This semi-annual publication has been expanded to highlight the Department's research, education, and patient care efforts.

This year marks my fifth year as Chairman of the Johns Hopkins Department of Dermatology. We have undergone many exciting changes over the last five years and each day I am impressed with the superior caliber of faculty and staff that make this Department great. We have much to celebrate. The Residency Program continues to grow, and this academic year brought the number of Dermatology residents up to 16—the largest number in the history of the Department. Over the past few years, we have also added fellowship positions, recruited more full-time faculty, expanded the research program, and encouraged junior

faculty to engage in translational research.

I am pleased to share that the Department will be moving its East Baltimore clinical operations to the 8th floor of the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center in 2015. This move, which was approved by the medical center leadership, is a great opportunity for the Department. We will be able to expand our photopheresis and photo medicine space, grow the Cutaneous Surgery Unit, consolidate some of the Department's offices into one location, create central meeting space, and provide our patients with a better visit experience. I look forward to sharing more information as the renovations commence.

I hope you enjoy our redesigned format of the newsletter, and I look forward to staying in touch.

—Sewon Kang, M.D.
Noxell Professor & Chairman

New Equipment Enhances Residents' Dermatology Education

RECENTLY, THE WOMEN'S BOARD of The Johns Hopkins Hospital awarded the Department of Dermatology funding to purchase an 18-headed microscope for the Dermatopathology Program. The device provides an opportunity for all of the residents to view a specimen at the same time. "The new multi-headed scope has been an invaluable learning tool. It is precise, easy to use, and there are enough heads so all the residents can use the device simultaneously. The new scope makes it easy to take pictures for both clinical and research purposes. I am grateful that the Department is invested in providing this type of tool to help us improve patient care and enhance our educational experience," comments Sowmya Ravi, a second year resident.

Janis Taube, M.D., M.Sc., Director of the Johns Hopkins Dermatopathology Program, believes that the new equipment has made a positive impact on the breadth and depth of the residents' educational experience. "The new equipment allows for more interdisciplinary collaboration. The Department has the ability to invite



Gulsun Erdag, M.D. Assistant Professor in the Department of Dermatology gives a lecture to Dermatology residents.

lecturers from other specialties within Johns Hopkins Medicine and across the country so the residents can learn from pathologists, surgeons, infectious disease specialists, pediatricians, basic science researchers, amongst others." The Department is continually looking for new ways to enhance the residents' educational experience.

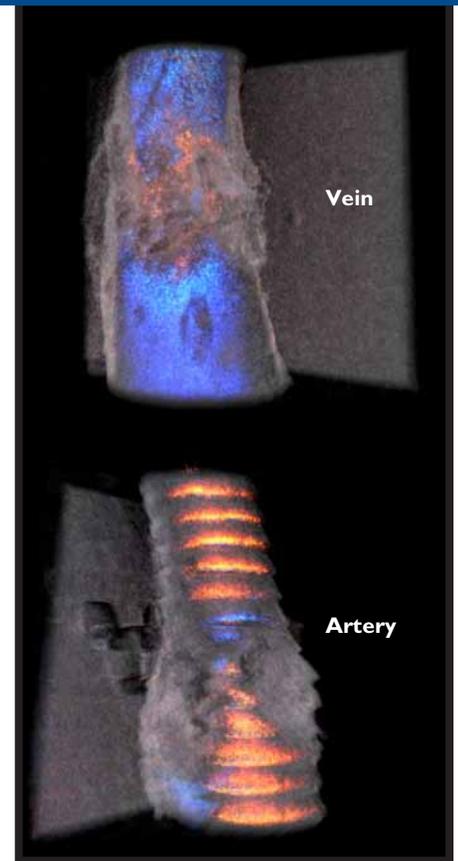
If you would like to contribute to the Resident Education Fund with a tax-deductible contribution, please visit www.hopkinsmedicine.org/dermatology and select "Make a Gift" or call (443) 287-2036. ■

Cross-Institutional Research Collaborations Produces Translational Results

THE JOHNS HOPKINS Department of Dermatology has partnered with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to investigate some of the skin's most perplexing problems. **Sewon Kang, M.D.** and **Jin Kang, Ph.D.**, Chair and Professor of the Johns Hopkins Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering are using photonics to capture information on the skin. This non-invasive tool allows for greater imaging and diagnostic capabilities.

The team is applying this technology to pediatric dermatology—specifically for vascular malformations and hemangiomas. Infantile hemangiomas are the most common benign vascular tumor of childhood, occurring in about 5% of infants. “There is a great deal of

heterogeneity in the tumor's location on the body, its final size, and its growth patterns. Until now, there has not been a good objective way to monitor the growth of the lesion or to measure its response to our treatments. We are excited to collaborate with our engineering colleagues to develop novel multi-modal, non-invasive methods to objectively evaluate the growth of infantile hemangiomas. We are eager to see its response to therapy with beta blockers like propranolol (oral) and timolol (topical),” says **Kate Puttgen, M.D.**, Interim Director of the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Dermatology Program. The team is also using this technology to measure the constituents of the skin such as water, lipid content, and pigmentation. ■



3D Doppler Imaging of blood flow in Vein and Artery after microvascular anastomosis.

Welcoming New Faculty Members and Staff

IN SEPTEMBER, **Inbal Braunstein, M.D.** joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Braunstein received her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of the Medicine, where she also completed her residency in Dermatology. During residency, Dr. Braunstein developed a research interest in complex medical dermatology including autoimmune skin disease and cutaneous graft versus host disease. She was awarded a Resident's International Travel Grant from the American Academy of Dermatology to complete a four-week elective in Botswana. Dr. Braunstein will be treating patients at the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center located on the East Baltimore Medical Campus and at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Campus.



Inbal Braunstein, M.D.



Cathy Kowalewski, M.B.A.

In July, **Cathy Kowalewski, M.B.A.** joined the Department of Dermatology as the new Administrator. Cathy brings nearly 30 years of healthcare experience to the Department. Prior to her arrival, she served as the Director of Ambulatory Services and Revenue Cycle at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Campus. Before her career at Johns Hopkins, Cathy worked at MedChi, the Maryland Physician Health Program and the Baltimore County Health Department. Cathy obtained her M.B.A. from the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School and her undergraduate degree from Towson University.

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Sewon Kang M.D.
Noxell Professor and Chairman
Kyleigh LiPira, M.B.A., *Editor*

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- **Luis Garza, M.D., Ph.D.**, received a Research Project Grant (RO1) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The five year grant will support studies on how to regenerate the thick skin present on healthy palms and soles onto the stump site of amputees to enhance their use of prosthetics. Dr. Garza will study both the basic molecular biology of skin stem cells and the transition of this technology into the clinic.
- **Lloyd Miller, M.D., Ph.D.**, received a grant from the NIH to support his project entitled "*Engineering the immune response for improved resolution of Staphylococcus infection.*" In the spring, Dr. Miller was the plenary session speaker at the International Investigative Dermatology Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland. His talk was entitled "*Differential cell intrinsic MyD88- and STAT3-signaling promote immunity against Staphylococcus aureus skin infection.*"
- **Crystal Agi, M.D.**, a second year resident, received an award from the National Medical Association for her research project and presentation entitled "Exploring Racial Differences in Treatment Regimens for Patients with Late Stage Mycosis Fungoides: A Retrospective Study." The goal of the study is to discuss potential causes for the increased mortality rates in African American patients with Mycosis Fungoides.

Supporting Our Work

In the Johns Hopkins Department of Dermatology we strive to provide outstanding individualized diagnosis and treatment of skin disease, educate the next generation of physicians and scientists to become leaders in medical dermatology, cosmetic dermatology, dermatologic surgery, dermatopathology and investigative dermatology, and develop new and better strategies to diagnose and treat skin disease through groundbreaking research.

To support these research efforts, please make your tax-deductible check payable to:

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To contribute online:
www.hopkinsmedicine.org/dermatology

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