A new regional team for heart and vascular care

Specialists from Wake Heart & Vascular Associates, Rex Heart & Vascular Specialists, and the UNC Center for Heart and Vascular Care have joined to create the UNC Heart & Vascular Network. The network brings heart and vascular specialists closer to patients so they don’t have to travel as far to receive collaborative care.

To learn more about the services, visit: www.anewkindofteam.org

Dr. Nelson organizes Children’s Heart Collaborative

Jennifer Nelson, MD, a congenital cardiac surgeon, has led the organization of the North Carolina Children’s Heart Collaborative, a team of about 25 UNC medical researchers who have a common interest in the diagnosis and treatment of congenital heart disease. Michael Mill, MD, Ruben Bocanegra, PA, and Karla Brown, PNP, are part of the team. The group will foster research across specialties to determine the best treatment for patients with congenital heart disease.

Look for a new web site soon! The web address for the collaborative will be: www.med.unc.edu/childheart

Dr. Egan’s lung project draws media attention

Thomas Egan, MD, has begun a three-year, $4 million clinical trial funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to assess and transplant lungs from non-heart-beating donors, people who have died outside the hospital or in the emergency room and have not been on mechanical ventilation.

Dr. Egan’s work was featured in a widely-published Associated Press article in November; he received coverage in news media including the web sites of The Wall Street Journal, NBC News, ABC News, NPR, Fox News, and Yahoo.com and on the BBC.

Read the AP article here: http://nbcsports.to/1gFH00j
Watch an AP video about Dr. Egan’s research here: http://bit.ly/1hmte5f

Dr. Kiser’s a-fib work featured in Endeavors

Andy Kiser, MD, and his research and training on minimally invasive treatment of atrial fibrillation and heart failure were featured in an article in Endeavors, UNC’s online research magazine in August 2013. Read the article here: http://endeavors.unc.edu/convergent_care

(continued on next page)
**Research News (continued)**

Dr. Egan is co-PI on a project, *Metabolomics to increase and improve lungs for transplant*, funded by a grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. With Jeffrey Macdonald, PhD, of the UNC Department of Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Egan will use metabolomics technology to help determine if lungs retrieved after death are suitable for transplant and investigate ways to treat lungs to improve suitability for transplant.

Dr. Egan, MD, presented results of his lab’s research on ex-vivo lung perfusion of lungs from non-heart-beating donors in a poster presentation at the CHEST World Congress in Madrid, Spain, on March 21, 2014.

**Other presentations by Dr. Egan:**


Richard H. Feins, MD, spoke at an American College of Surgeons (ACS) Surgical Health Care Quality Forum at UNC on Feb. 19, 2014. He was among health care leaders who discussed core requirements for surgical quality improvement, including ongoing training, transparency, and exchange of expertise and resources.

Dr. Feins also spoke on “Simulation in cardiothoracic surgery” to the North Carolina Society of Perfusionists, 2013 Educational Seminar, in Chapel Hill on Oct. 5, 2013.

Andy Kiser, MD, and James Zidar, MD, appeared on “Rex on Call” on WRAL TV on Feb. 17, 2014, to talk about heart health. [http://tinyurl.com/lnhbjr6](http://tinyurl.com/lnhbjr6)

Dr. Kiser spoke on “Understanding atrial fibrillation” and “The best MAZE lesion set” at the ECHI-IMSICS Minimally Invasive Cardiovascular Summit 2013, East Carolina Heart Institute, Greenville, NC, Oct. 4, 2013.

Brett Sheridan, MD, spoke on “LVADs and destination therapy: Where is it going?” to the North Carolina Society of Perfusionists in Chapel Hill on Oct. 5, 2013.

Dr. Sheridan also spoke on “ECMO from a surgical and heart failure/critical care perspective” at a Cardiovascular Symposium at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Wilmington, Sept. 27, 2013.

William Stansfield, MD, spoke on “Transitioning from fellow to attending” at the UNC Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery’s Tricks of the Trade conference on Oct. 3, 2013.

**Abstracts**


**Articles**


**Chapters**


**Suggestions? News to share?**

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