



# THE SCOPE

Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery



Dwight T. Jones, MD

## Message from the Chair

Time certainly flies and so it did this past year since moving back to Omaha. Thanks to a terrific physician staff and departmental support network, my transition year as department chairman went very smoothly. I really appreciated the thoughts and advice from Drs Dan Lydiatt and Russ Smith. They provided much assistance as I blended into the department, which certainly made my life easier.

The Department of Otolaryngology has changed in many ways this past year. We added three new faculties. Dr. Sam Pate returned to join us after practicing three years in Arkansas. Sam trained here in our department and it is good to have him back. His interests revolve around general otolaryngology with a special interest in nasal sinus disorders. He currently has a large practice and offers the latest technological advances in office-based procedures including balloon sinuplasty, turbinate reduction, and chemical nasal cautery. Sam is a terrific teacher both in the operating room and the clinics. We are all glad to have him back in Omaha and with our department.

Drs. Wes Heckman and Chris Bingcang just joined our department as of September 1. Dr. Heckman is an otolaryngologist who did his facial plastic fellowship at NYU. He is interested in functional and cosmetic facial surgery as well as facial trauma. Wes trained at the University of Wisconsin in Madison

prior to his fellowship. He and his wife have one son.

Dr. Bingcang is a trained otolaryngologist and did a laryngeal fellowship in Madison Wisconsin. Chris is the only fellowship-trained laryngologist in Nebraska and the greater Omaha, Western Iowa region. Chris has training in many office-based procedures involving the larynx, trachea and esophagus. Chris can offer techniques that were previously not available in our geographical area prior to his arrival. He is also interested in general otolaryngology.

In May of this year we opened our brand new state of the art temporal bone lab. The lab is designed to be used for all types of otolaryngology training from temporal bones to vascular anastomosis. It consists of 10 stations, each with HD microscopes and monitors. This setup enables the proctor(s) to help the students without needing to directly look under the microscope. Our next regional temporal bone course is set for this November.

Lead by Drs Militsakh and Lindau, we also have a national vascular course scheduled for early December. This lab will contribute heavily to our residents' education and surgical skills. I thank all who have made this a success and would like to offer a special thanks to Dr. Gary Moore for his tireless

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efforts in helping to make this lab the success it has become.

The citizens of Omaha and greater Nebraska asked for it and to meet their needs, we are now ramped up full force caring for patients at our Village Point location. This location in West Omaha allows patients to be seen and evaluated without making a trip into the city. Most of our services, including office-based surgery are offered at the Village Point location. For out of town patients, it gives them the chance to shop and dine in one convenient location while avoiding a trip into the “big” city. Drs Pate, Heckman, and Bingcang all see patients at Village Point.

Our Head and Neck group continues their strong clinical and research work. We were all saddened to learn that Dr. Aaron Wieland had decided to move to Wisconsin, but we are happy for him since he will now be closer to family and friends. Aaron is a terrific clinician, teacher, and friend to all who know him. Many lives have been helped and touched by his care and knowledge. I hold a special place in my heart for Aaron since he was one of my residents when I was in Boston. We wish him all the best and he will be missed!

With Dr. Bingcangs arrival, Dr. Barb Heywood is focusing her practice on allergy and sinus disease. Barb previously did most of our Laryngology and some general otolaryngology as well, but with Dr. Bingcang now on board she will make allergy her practice priority. Barb has a lot of interest in SLIT allergy treatment.

This past June we had a long overdue alumni reunion here in Omaha. It was wonderful to see many former faces that trained at UNMC. The event peaked with dinner and graduation for our two chief residents Drs Klocke and Allis in downtown Omaha. All in all, everyone had a grand time and I appreciated all the hard work our staff did to make this happen.

The NU Foundation continues to work diligently to fund the Yonkers Professorship and we are near our goal thanks to everyone who has donated to make this happen. If you have not yet donated and would like to, please contact my office. The principle on this professorship will be invested and not spent. Any generated interest will go strictly to resident education and training. This is a great way to support those young budding otolaryngologists and to honor Dr. Yonkers for all he has done for so many of us.

We also have other projects such as the resident Give Back Fund that can always use support. Thanks to those of you that regularly give to this worthwhile cause.

I wish you all continued success in the months we have left in 2013 and a great upcoming 2014. Please feel free to call my office if we can help you out in any way.

Best personal regards to all,

Dwight T. Jones, MD,  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Otolaryngology  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

## Resident Training Fund Support Needed

As practicing physicians, you realize that it all begins with a great medical education program, from the first year through residency and fellowship training opportunities. With your help, the Alumni Give Back Fund will provide much-needed funds to enable our ENT Department to provide the very best in residency programs. In advance, the residents thank you for your consideration of how you can help make this fund a valued resource to the ENT Department and countless residents who will benefit from your generosity.

Please contact Meg Johnson, Assistant Vice President of Development, University of Nebraska Foundation with any questions or interests of how you can help at [MJohnson@NUfoundation.org](mailto:MJohnson@NUfoundation.org) or 402.502.4107.

# Comings and Goings

## WELCOME



**Dr. Christopher Bingcang, MD**, Laryngologist, joined the department in September 2013. Dr. Bingcang not only completed his undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky in Biology in 2002, but he also received a Bachelor's degree in Spanish and Music in Guitar Performance.

Dr. Bingcang received his Doctor of Medicine with high distinction in 2007 and completed his residency and Internship in 2012 in Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Bingcang's fellowship in Laryngology was completed at the University of Wisconsin in 2013.

We recently asked Dr. Bingcang how he felt about coming to UNMC. "I am excited to be joining a department where everyone is so committed to taking excellent care of patients from Omaha as well as all over the region and state."



**Dr. William Wesley Heckman, MD**, Facial Plastic Surgeon, joined our department in September 2013. Dr. Heckman received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Centre College in 2002. From there he finished his medical education, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2007 from University of Louisville School of Medicine in Louisville, KY.

Dr. Heckman completed his General Surgery internship from 2007- 2008 at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics in Madison, WI. His four year residency in the Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery department was complete in 2012 at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics. Dr. Heckman completed a one year fellowship in Facial

Plastic and Reconstruction surgery at New York University Langone Medical Center in 2013.

## Best Wishes to Dr. Wieland

**Dr. Aaron Wieland** and his family moved to Madison, Wisconsin in October 2013, where he took a job at the University of Wisconsin to be closer to family. Dr. Wieland said "the time that I spent at the University of Nebraska was greatly fulfilling. The collective group effort and thoughtfulness in providing outstanding patient care was world class. Our decision to leave the patients, residents and all of the clinical staff at Nebraska was not made lightly and it was fundamentally about being closer to family. We miss everyone and hope to maintain many lasting friendships."

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## 2013-2014 Head and Neck Fellow and First Year Residents



Andrew Coughlin, M.D. is our Fellow from Council Bluffs, IA. He attended Nebraska Wesleyan University and Medical School here at UNMC. During his residency Dr. Coughlin won the Outstanding Resident Award at University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Andrew enjoys bicycling, and spending time with his family.



Jason Talmadge, M.D. is from Portland, OR and attended Ohio State University College of Medicine. Jason enjoys golfing, cooking, traveling, playing the drums, bicycling, and reading.



Jonathan Yoon, M.D. is from Saint Louis, MO, where he also attended Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Jonathan enjoys fishing, rock climbing, and bicycling.



Kimberly Serbousek, D.O. is from McCook, NE and attended Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Kimberly loves the outdoors; including hiking, skiing, fishing, hunting, tennis, and softball. She enjoys playing the piano, crocheting, and scrapbooking.



## Happy Retirement Dr. Yonkers

### YONKERS PROFESSORSHIP IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY - \$500,000

#### LEAD GIFTS (AS OF 9/1/12)

Dr. Alexander Bien

Dr. E. Nicholas Digges

Dr. Ann Edmunds

Dr. Toni Ganzel

Dr. Dwight Jones

Dr. Mark Keller and Dr. Richard Bowen

Dr. James Massey

Dr. Gary Moore

Dr. Iris Moore

Dr. Gerald Simons

**Anthony Yonkers, MD**, UNMC Professor of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, announced his plan to retire on Dec. 31, 2013 after more than 40 years of service to UNMC, including years of service at the Omaha VA Medical Center. Dr. Yonkers will continue in various roles in the department, including educational and career mentorship, departmental fundraising and participation in courses, seminars and grand rounds. He started his career at UNMC in 1970 after serving as a physician in the Air Force at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue. The Muskegon, Mich., native and 1963 University of Michigan Medical School alum, continued to serve in various capacities in the Air Force Reserves until 1998 when he retired as a colonel. In his spare time, he will continue his involvement in the Lion's club and Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem, fly his airplane and learn how to play golf since he lives on a golf course.

The UNMC Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery has established the Anthony J. Yonkers, MD Professorship in Otolaryngology to honor his committed service, the excellence of his teaching, and the personal attributes that helped him become a role model for so many students.

The Anthony J. Yonkers, MD Professorship - the first named faculty position in the Department - will allow us to pay tribute to Dr. Yonkers' dedication and support his legacy of teaching and training residents.

### How You Can help

Your gift added to the gifts of other physicians will enable the UNMC College of Medicine to create a permanent endowment that will recognize Dr. Yonkers in perpetuity. For more information, contact University of Nebraska Foundation Senior Director of Development Meg Johnson at 402.502.4107 or [mjohnson@nufoundation.org](mailto:mjohnson@nufoundation.org).

# Promotions, Awards and Recognitions



## Dr. Aru Panwar Received “MD of the Quarter Award”

In February 2013 **Dr. Aru Panwar**, Head and Neck Surgical Oncology fellow was awarded “MD of the Quarter” from The Nebraska Medical Center. He was nominated because the nurses cited several examples of him staying with patients to make sure that they were taken care of as well as having the willingness to teach the staff.

Dr. Panwar stated, “It was an immense honor to be nominated for this award. It is a testament to the close collaboration between the Head and Neck team physicians and the nursing staff that ensure superior outcomes for our patients. I extend my gratitude to the 6N nursing staff for their continued support and hard work.”

## Dr. Bill Lydiatt Chosen for the “James A. Canedy Scholarship”

The James A. Canedy Scholarship allows one physician each year an opportunity through the Nebraska Medical Center to further their education and encourages them to seek out the next level of leadership. This program will provide Dr. Lydiatt with a Master of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in health administration. He will have the opportunity to collaborate with peers from across the nation and study the latest trends, strategies, and issues facing healthcare.



## Dr. Militsakh Graduates from 2012-2013 iLead Program

**Dr. Oleg Militsakh** was one of twenty-eight faculty members to graduate in June from the 2012-2013 Interprofessional Leadership for Excellence and Academic Development (iLEAD) program after a nine month course of study in leadership. iLEAD is an intensive faculty development program bringing proven leadership techniques to academic medicine in an inter-professional environment.

## Dr. Blake Hyde Joins GME Committee



**Dr. Blake Hyde** (R3) was selected as one of the three residents to be on the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GME). The GME Committee of the College of Medicine oversees all training programs sponsored by the institution. It is responsible for advising and monitoring all aspects of residency education.

The University of Nebraska College of Medicine sponsors this medical education program to provide specialty education opportunities for physicians and to prepare highly qualified physicians to practice various disciplines of medicine for the health care benefit of the people of the state of Nebraska.



## The Nebraska Medical Center ENT & Cancer Care Recognized by U.S. News & World Report

U.S. News & World Report surveyed the nation’s roughly 5,000 hospitals to come up with this year’s list of Best Hospitals. Fewer than 150 of those hospitals are nationally ranked. We are ranked #1 Hospital in the State and 40th nationally for cancer care. Ear, Nose & Throat was nationally ranked “high-performing,” which means The Nebraska Medical Center was in the top 25 percent of hospitals with nationally ranked ENT departments.



# Residents, Fellows and Alumni

## Mini Boards

On a rainy Thursday morning the department hosted its annual mini boards for residents, which volunteer faculty were invited to attend as guest examiners.



First row seated Catherine McHugh, MD, Sal Zieno, MD; Second row seated: Jane Emanuel, MD, Steve Denenberg, MD, Sam Medaris, MD, Andrew Gaut, MD; Third row seated: David Chait, MD, Paul Sherrerd, MD, Anthony Yonkers, MD; Standing: Barbara Heywood, MD, Jessica Moran-Hansen, MD, Jamie Flohr, MD, Lindsey Klocke, MD, Matt Johnson, MD, Blake Hyde, MD, Jonathan Hatch, MD, Terah Allis, MD, Jordan Schramm, MD.

## Residency Program Celebrates 45 Years 1968 – 2013

On Saturday June 15th, 2013 we celebrated the past, present and future of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery with a CME course followed by an alumni luncheon. The course, Recent Advances in Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery was held in the Durham Research Center.

### Lectors:

New Technologies in Implantable Hearing Aids, Alex Bien, MD., University of Missouri

Pediatric Sleep Apnea – New Guidelines, Manali Amin, MD., DuPage Medical Group in Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Advances in Sinuses Surgery – Balloon Sinuplasty, Sam Pate, MD., UNMC

Trends in Residency Training, Barbara Heywood, MD., UNMC

## New Group “TOHNSIL”

In September 2013 the department added an exciting new group designed to meet the needs of students who are both interested in Otolaryngology as a possible career choice as well as those who will encounter ENT-related complaints in another chosen specialty. Open to medical students of all years M1-M4 this group is student run with both resident and faculty involvement.

**The Otolaryngology Head & Neck Student Interest League**

## RESIDENTS

### LEVEL 5 RESIDENTS – Chief residents RESIDENCY COMPLETION IN 2014

Jamie Flohr, M.D.  
Jessica Moran-Hansen, M.D.

### LEVEL 4 RESIDENTS RESIDENCY COMPLETION IN 2015

Jonathan Hatch, M.D.  
Jordan Schramm, M.D.

### LEVEL 3 RESIDENTS RESIDENCY COMPLETION IN 2016

Blake Hyde, M.D.  
Matthew Johnson, M.D.

### LEVEL 2 RESIDENTS RESIDENCY COMPLETION IN 2017

Kyle Stansifer, M.D.  
Paul Judge, M.D.

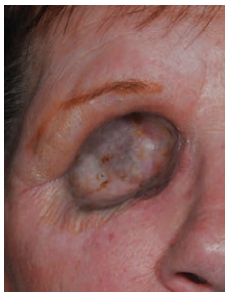
### LEVEL 1 RESIDENTS RESIDENCY COMPLETION IN 2018

Kimberly Serbousek, D.O.  
Jonathan Yoon, M.D.  
Jason Talmadge, M.D.

## Oral Facial Prosthetic Dental Oncology Update

Though the department has been providing facial prosthetic services for many years, we are often asked who makes facial prostheses and how are they made. Since materials utilized in the process of impression making, sculpting, mold-making, and casting facial prostheses are similar to or identical to materials routinely used in a restorative dental practice, dentists completing prosthodontic residency programs and maxillofacial prosthetic fellowships are trained in the provision of facial prostheses as are a cadre of practitioners called anaplastologists. Anaplastologists differ from dentally trained practitioners in that their education is more oriented toward the art of sculpting, painting, and often medical illustration. With there being no anaplastologists in Nebraska or Iowa, the division of oral and facial prosthetics is routinely engaged in the multidisciplinary task of providing facial prostheses for patients with congenital or acquired facial deficits. Individuals often called upon to assist the facial prosthetist with this care include head and neck surgeons, plastic surgeons, otologists, oral and maxillofacial surgeons, and ocularists.

A recent process of fabricating an orbital prosthesis for a patient following the surgical ablation of a malignancy will be offered as an example of facial prosthetic fabrication.



The well-healed orbital defect and its split thickness skin graft lining were impressed with a dental impression material audiologists often use to impress auricular anatomy. The impression is cast with gypsum

to form the first half (drag) of what will eventually become a two-piece mold.

The polymethylmethacrylate resin ocular component of the eventual prosthesis is situated into the orbit in a three dimensional position that simulates the anatomic position of the contralateral natural eye. This is done by fixing the ocular component of the prosthesis with wax into a polymethylmethacrylate shell that is customized to fit the orbit. This patient's ocular component was provided by David Greer, an ocularist at Torrison Eye Care. The ocular component of the prosthesis' spatial position is keyed upon the drag with gypsum of a contrasting hue that is cast through a hole that is drilled through the center of the drag. This prevents the ocular component of the prosthesis from moving into an inappropriate gaze when the bulk of the prosthetic material is cast into the eventual mold.

The proposed shape of the prosthesis is sculpted with wax around the ocular component. This gross sculpture is done on the patient's face before the sculpture is transferred to the drag where it is refined chiefly by feathering the wax margins to affect thin prosthetic margins that better blend with peripheral skin. The surface of the drag is lubricated before gypsum is cast upon it and the finished sculpture. This is allowed to cure to form the second half (cope) of the two-piece mold. The sculpture and the investing drag and cope are placed into boiling water to eliminate the sculpting medium and provide a hollow mold.



The patient is returned to the clinic where a concoction of silicone, pigment, and rayon fiber are mixed to simulate the patient's skin tones. This concoction is cast into the mold around the keyed ocular component and allowed to cure before the excess silicone is trimmed from the prosthesis. The patient is returned to the clinic where pigmentation is supplemented by the addition of extrinsic hues that are sealed upon the prosthesis' surface by the addition of three translucent silicone laminations. Finally, an artificial eyelash obtained from a cosmetics counter is cured into an incision line made into the prosthetic palpebrae.

While most facial prostheses are retained with the use of prosthetic adhesives, endosseous titanium implants can be employed to retain them when enough bone surrounds the anatomic defect or anomaly to adequately house them.

## The Midwest Head and Neck Cancer Consortium

MWHNCC is a multi-institutional group with primary goals resident/fellow education and research focusing on neoplastic disease of the head and neck. The group is comprised of the Head and Neck Surgery divisions of the University of Nebraska, University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, and University of South Dakota/Sanford Healthcare. Annual meetings are held on a rotating schedule amongst all of the institutions. The most recent meeting was held in March 2013 at the University of South Dakota/Sanford Healthcare in Sioux Falls, SD. The next meeting will be held in the spring of 2014 at the University of Nebraska.

Swallowing, Airway, and Voice Evaluation Team

The SAVE Team conference creates a multidisciplinary forum to improve the care of patients with voice, swallowing, airway, and speech pathology. This goal of this team is to provide a unified, consistent approach to patient care as it relates to patients with dysphagia and hoarseness. SAVE team members are integrally involved in all stages of patient care designated by the SAVE team medical director, Dr. Bingcang.

This team meets weekly and consists of physicians, Speech-Language Pathologists, physician extenders (physician’s assistants or advanced nurse practitioners) and clinical nurses who are regularly involved in the treatment of laryngology patients, residents on laryngology rotations.

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Family Care Giving

UNMC has received a 4 year grant from the American Cancer Society for an inter-professional, collaborative study of family caregiving during cancer treatment. Family caregivers of patients with head and neck, lung, or GI cancer will be invited to participate. Patients will be invited to participate as well, since patient and caregiver experiences are so intertwined during cancer treatment. In the head and neck population, the study will be led by Karen Schumacher, RN, PhD from the College of Nursing and William Lydiatt, MD in the College of Medicine.

The aim of the study is to better understand the caregiving role as it evolves over the course of cancer treatment. A special emphasis will be exploration of the similarities and differences in caregiving across the rural - urban continuum served by UNMC and the Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center. The researchers will follow study participants for six months during the initial cancer treatment and into the early post-treatment survivorship phase. In addition to completing survey questionnaires about caregiving, quality of life, and health outcomes, study participation will include one-on-one interviews so that the researchers can learn about caregivers’ experiences from their personal perspective. Family caregivers play a vital role during cancer treatment, often fulfilling responsibilities that non-professional caregivers have little preparation for. However, little is known about how they take on the caregiving role or how it changes over the course of cancer treatment.

UNMC and the Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center bring unique strengths to research on family caregiving, including a strong history of inter-professional collaboration in head and neck cancer research and long-standing leadership in cancer treatment in Nebraska and the Great Plains region. The new study builds on the significant commitment made by the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgical Oncology Division to quality of life, supportive care, and cancer survivorship research. Study results will provide evidence for innovative clinical programs designed to prepare and support family caregivers and ultimately to enhance patient care and caregiver well-being.

UNMC High School Alliance

High School Alliance is a program for local students to observe, shadow, and take college-level classes from UNMC’s physicians, researchers and health care professionals. Courses cover a range of health care topics such as human anatomy, biomedical research, and medical decision-making.

Dr. William Lydiatt is a mentor and enjoys working with the young students of UNMC’s High School Alliance. “As physicians and health care professionals, we become accustomed to fairly remarkable experiences,” he said. “We get to take part in very critical events in people’s lives. We get to see them express incredible gratitude, but also fear and a whole range of emotions.” He adds. “It’s nice to see that and to think about what it is like to witness this event as someone who’s had little to no experience in these situations.” Dr. Lydiatt highly recommends the mentoring experience. There’s little time commitment the students are HIPAA-trained, and are prepared to act professionally. “

Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Screening

Each year the Division of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology provides two free screening evaluations in the Omaha metro area. April 2013 a total of 104 people at the Nebraska Medical Center and 70 people at Methodist Hospital were screened. The Head and Neck Cancer Screening will be held again in April 2014. Please contact Jean Palmer at 402.559.7775 or jean.palmer@unmc.edu for further information.



# Research and Education



## Research in 2013

Clinical research continues to thrive in the Head and Neck Surgical Oncology Division (H&N). In March 2013, the Head and Neck Cancer Research Working Group at UNMC held its first monthly meeting. This group is comprised of clinicians from Endocrinology, Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, and bench scientists from UNMC's departments of Genetics, Cell Biology and Anatomy, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and College of Public Health Environmental and Agriculture. The goal of this group is to increase institutional knowledge of the clinical dilemmas faced in head and neck cancer to facilitate collaborative translational and clinical research studies on campus. Early directions of research with the working group include Human Papilloma Virus, over expression of membrane bound proteins, and estrogen metabolites and their possible role in carcinogenesis.

The Thyroid Tumor and Cancer Collaborative Registry (TCCR), a study done in conjunction with the Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (DEM) went through a transition to be part of the campus wide iCaRe2 study that brings the TCCR, along with the other existing registries on campus together into one shared, innovative database. This change will facilitate quicker enrollments, more simplistic data queries, and make IRB processes more streamlined for the research team and subjects. The TCCR is entering the 6th year of recruiting and has surpassed the mark of 1300 enrolled

subjects at UNMC with thyroid cancer or nodules. This registry has produced 3 articles and 1 in the last few years. Multiple other projects are currently underway. The addition of 2 outside institutions, Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center and Sanford School of Medicine, both in Sioux Falls, SD, has solidified the TCCR as a truly multi-institutional collaborative endeavor. The TCCR is continuing its mission to unite like-minded centers with expertise in thyroid tumor epidemiology, genetics, biology, early detection, and patient care to facilitate the rapid and uniform collection of critical information and biological samples to be used in improving prevention, detection, and treatment strategies against thyroid cancer.

The NIH sponsored trial evaluating the prevention of depression in head and neck cancer patients has been completed with the article being published in JAMA Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery 2013; 139(7):678-686. This article illustrates the importance of recognizing and treating depression in patients undergoing treatment for head and neck cancer. The abstract of this paper was featured in JAMA September 4, 2013 highlighting the significance of the research.

The Midwest Head and Neck Cancer Consortium (MWHNCC) is entering its 6th year of existence. This collaboration between the University of Iowa, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska and Sanford School of Medicine in South Dakota

has continued to be a successful endeavor for education and research. There are 2 ongoing research studies that in the MWHNCC group and one study that has been published. The ongoing studies are focused on unknown primary carcinomas of the head and neck and the use of FDG-PET imaging in the staging of advanced head and neck cancers. "Ultrasound for Localization in Primary Hyperparathyroidism" is the first publication for the MWHNCC and is in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck 2013;149(3):366-71. A 2nd project from the Parathyroid Program was presented as a poster at the Annual AHNS meeting in Orlando, FL entitled "Implications of Multiple Localization Studies in Primary Hyperparathyroidism." This will be submitted for publication in 2014.

The Head and Neck Division plans for continued expansion of clinical research and to incorporate more translational research efforts in 2014, is an endeavor Otolaryngology- Head and Neck surgery will continue to support and grow in the years to come. Future studies that are planned will evaluate the impact of nutritional supplementation in head and neck undergoing concurrent chemo-radiation therapy as well as study genomic profiles of a host of different head and neck cancers. The continued growth in research is paramount to our goal of improving the lives of head and neck cancer patients.

# Research and Education



From left, Matt Johnson, MD, Dwight Jones, MD, and Blake Hyde, MD, show off the state-of-the-art equipment in the new bone lab.

## New Bone Lab Puts UNMC on National Map

It's been a big spring for ribbon cuttings, groundbreakings and tributes at UNMC. Buildings—proposed, newly open and about to come down—have taken the headlines.

But while those patient-care initiatives took center stage, the otolaryngology (head and neck surgery) department opened its new, education-focused bone lab - a larger, state-of-the-art facility that otolaryngology (ENT) residents are comparing favorably with labs anywhere else in the country.

**Dwight Jones, MD**, said the new lab puts both the otolaryngology and neurosurgical

departments on the national map for quality resident and faculty education. "This lab will help us recruit quality otolaryngological and neurosurgical residents," Dr. Jones said. **Gary Moore, MD**, began trying to raise funds for a new space about two-and-a-half years ago. "This offers residents hands-on education," Dr. Moore said, watching on a mounted video screen as **Jonathan Hatch, MD**, performed a delicate procedure on a temporal bone, the part of skull that contains the ear. "It also allows us to train more people, as well as draw residents from other educational programs."

## Early Antidepressant Use Cuts Depression in Some Cancer Patients

A University of Nebraska Medical Center study has determined that giving head and neck cancer patients an antidepressant prior to starting treatment can reduce the incidence of depression by more than 50 percent and improve their quality of life. Results of the study were reported in the June 20 issue of JAMA Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery. Co-principal investigators on the study were **William Lydiatt, MD**, otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, and **William Burke, MD**, Psychiatry.

The randomized, double-blind trial included 148 newly diagnosed head and neck cancer patients entering treatment who did not yet have a diagnosis of depression. Half of the patients received Escitalopram, an

antidepressant with the trade name of Lexapro. The other half received matching placebo pills.

"It's important that cancer patients avoid becoming depressed. We think that the antidepressant medication is helping to improve the resiliency of these patients who are in a stressful and challenging position. Overall, this improved resiliency can help them better deal with their cancer situation."

Dr. Lydiatt said head and neck cancer patients have a three times greater risk of committing suicide than the general public. He said head and neck cancers represent about 4 percent of all cancers. Those that are related to the human papilloma virus - a growing percentage - tend to happen to



younger, healthier people and thus can have a more long-term negative effect on them.

"It's a controversial idea to put someone on an antidepressant who isn't depressed," said Dr. Lydiatt, "but if you go to the prevention paradigm, it's not much different than healthy people taking a baby aspirin to ward off a possible heart attack."

# Faculty



**Christopher Bingcang, MD**

*Assistant Professor*

Specialty: Laryngology  
Voice disorders  
Swallowing disorders  
Airway  
Professional Voice  
General ENT



**Wesley Heckman, MD**

*Assistant Professor*

Specialty: Rhinoplasty  
Aesthetic Surgery  
Reconstructive Surgery  
Maxillofacial Trauma  
Congenital lesions and abnormalities  
Mohs



**Barbara M. Heywood, MD MACM**

*Associate Professor*

Specialty: Environmental Allergy  
ENT Allergy  
General ENT



**Dwight Jones, MD**

*Chairman & Professor*

Specialty: Pediatric general ENT  
Pediatric sinus disease  
Pediatric airway disorders  
Pediatric cystic fibrosis  
Pediatric sleep disorders



**Robert Lindau, III MD**

*Assistant Professor*

Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology  
Reconstructive Surgery



**Daniel Lydiatt, MD DDS, FACS**

*Professor*

Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology



**William M. Lydiatt, MD, FACS**

*Professor*

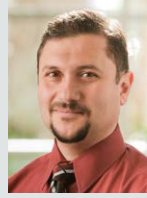
Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology



**Jeffery Markt, DDS**

*Associate Professor*

Specialty: Oral Facial Prosthetics  
Dental Oncology



**Oleg Militsakh, MD, FACS**

*Associate Professor*

Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology  
Reconstructive Surgery



**Gary F. Moore, MD, FACS**

*Professor*

Specialty: Neurotology  
Facial nerve disorders  
Balance disorders  
Skull base surgery



**Samuel Pate, MD.**

*Assistant Professor*

Specialty: Nasal/Sinus disease & Rhinology  
General ENT



**Alan T. Richards, MD, FACS**

*Associate Professor*

Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology



**Ryan K. Sewell, MD, JD**

*Assistant Professor*

Specialty: Pediatric ENT



**Russell B. Smith MD., FACS**

*Vice Chairman & Professor*

Specialty: Head and Neck Surgical Oncology



**Anthony J. Yonkers, MD, FACS**

*Professor*

Specialty: General ENT  
Facial plastic and reconstructive surgery  
Cleft lip and palate surgery  
Sleep apnea  
FAA physicals



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Head and Neck Surgery

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for alumni and friends of the University of Nebraska Medical Center  
College of Medicine Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery