

Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Burns

Ronald Maier, M.D., Chief

The General Surgery Division of Trauma, Critical Care, and Burns, located at Harborview Medical Center, continues to grow and remains extremely active. Overall trauma admissions to Harborview have continued to increase yearly, reaching nearly 6,500 this year. This increase is possible in part by the opening of two new buildings on the HMC campus: the Ninth and Jefferson Building (NJB) and the Maleng Building. These buildings house twenty-four new Surgical Critical Care beds and an additional eight OR's which are enhanced for complex multi-modality care, including Endovascular Trauma Care. Harborview continues to provide significant uncompensated and uninsured care. Last year \$155 million in uncompensated and uninsured care was delivered, continuing by a significant margin Harborview's tradition as the largest safety net healthcare provider in the state. Some of the highlights within the Division in the last several months include:



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Faculty Changes and Additions

- **Dr. Eileen Bulger**, Professor in the Division accepted the offer to become the new Director of Emergency Services, replacing **Dr. Michael Copass**, who retired after 35+ years of outstanding leadership. We are pleased that she has accepted this very important position at HMC. She is doing an outstanding job.
- **Drs. Heather Evans and Erik Van Eaton**, are two newly recruited faculty members. **Dr. Evans** completed her residency at the University of Virginia and joined our faculty after completing her Critical Care Fellowship at Harborview where she focused on surgical infectious complications, prevention, and quality assurance. **Dr. Van Eaton** trained at the University of Washington and completed his Surgical Critical Care training at Harborview along with a Master of Science in Data Management. He is focusing on enhancement of the electronic health care record and means of interfacing data acquisition in the ICU for patient care, quality assurance, and clinical research.

Research at HMC

Research continues to be a high priority at HMC, with recent national or federal grants and awards being received by **Drs. Nicole Gibran, Joseph Cuschieri, Sam Arbabi, Tam Pham, and Anne Hocking**. Our most recent clinical SCC Fellow, **David Zonies, MD, MPH, Major USAF, MC**, won "best paper" at the recent International Surgical Society meeting in Australia, based on his global assessment of training in Trauma and Burn Care in middle and low income nations.

The **Injury Prevention Center at Harborview** has been awarded a postdoctoral training grant by the NIH to complement the long established collaboration of training surgical investigators for injury prevention, treatment assessment, analysis of systems, development of protocolized care and outcomes research. This will enable additional recruitment of outstanding surgical residents for academic careers in epidemiology and outcomes research in trauma.

Teaching at HMC

The teaching mission at Harborview has always been a priority. Recently, **Dr. Ronald V. Maier**, longtime Director of the Surgical Critical Care training program at Harborview, was recognized by the ACGME for his outstanding teaching endeavors. The organization awarded him the Parker J. Palmer "Courage to Teach Award" in recognition of a lifetime of commitment to education and training.

Currently, there are plans to develop a **Fellowship in Acute Care Surgery at HMC**. This fellowship was originally developed nationally under the direction of **Dr. Gregory J. Jurkovich**, Director of Trauma and immediate past President of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, to prepare individuals for a career in dealing with all aspects of severe injury, emergent general surgery, and potential practice in the rural environment requiring multidisciplinary training.

Harborview continues to grow not only physically, but through all aspects of its commitment to the injured and critically ill patient, with training of the next generation of clinicians and researchers in the surgical sciences necessary to mitigate the on-going epidemic of injury in America.