



**UC Irvine Health**

SPRING 2015  
QUARTERLY REPORT

# Department of Urology

DISCOVER. TEACH. HEAL.

[www.urology.uci.edu](http://www.urology.uci.edu) | [ucirvinehealth.org](http://ucirvinehealth.org)



## HIGHLIGHTS

- 02 New Technology for Prostate Cancer Detection**
- 05 International Research Recognition**
- 07 Incoming 2015 Urology Residents**

# Message from the Chair



The Department of Urology experienced a bittersweet start to the year. We lost a dear friend, esteemed colleague and highly reputable physician with the passing of Dr. Gordon A. McLorie. With a career spanning four decades, Dr. McLorie created a tremendous body of knowledge and achievements in the field of urology. He was internationally recognized for his refined surgical skills, particularly in reconstructive surgery, pediatric urological oncology and renal transplantation. Dr. McLorie will be remembered in our hearts and in those who entrusted their lives to him.

As we mourn the loss of a leader in pediatric urology, we have the privilege of welcoming back world-renowned endourologist Dr. Ralph V. Clayman. Dr. Clayman has resumed his position as full-time faculty, after serving tirelessly as the dean of the UC Irvine School of Medicine for more than five years. He completed his term as dean having amassed many accomplishments, including the implementation of the iMedEd Initiative, which brought tablet technology for the first time into medical education, the recruitment of 11 new chairs of departments, and solid financial footing for the School of Medicine. As a

clinician, his world-class knowledge and experience surpassed many in the urology field, as he and his team performed the world's first laparoscopic removal of a tumor-bearing kidney, and performed numerous other "firsts" in laparoscopic minimally invasive urologic surgery. Dr. Clayman remains a pioneer and mentor to our entire department, and a very active presence in both clinical and innovative efforts.

The untimely passage of Dr. McLorie highlights the unforeseen events that are a part of life. As a department, we will let this serve as a reminder of how important it is to appreciate and respect each other. The true family spirit of our urology team has never shown more clearly than it has in these challenging moments. Personally, the loss of Dr. McLorie makes me even more grateful for the remarkable faculty, staff, residents, fellows and students who make up the Department of Urology. I am truly honored to be part of this Urology family, who I predict will continue to have one of its best years ever!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jaime Landman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jaime Landman, MD

Chair, UC Irvine Health Department of Urology

## Services Offered by the Department of Urology

At UC Irvine Health Center for Urologic Care, we offer expert, comprehensive care for:

- Female urology
- Male infertility
- Reconstructive urology
- General urology services
- Male urology
- Urologic cancers
- Kidney stones & kidney disease
- Pediatric urology

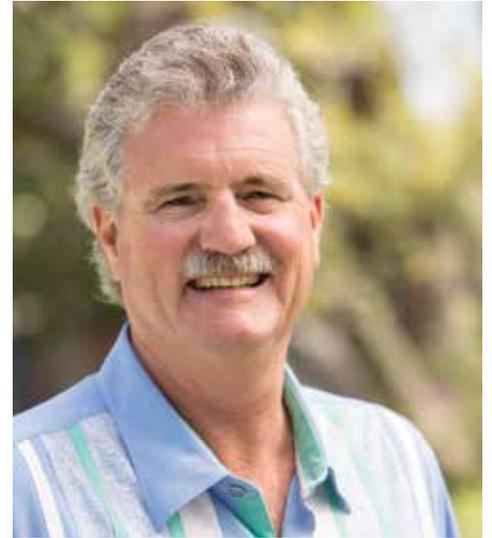
## New Diagnostic Technology Detects Prostate Cancer More Accurately

For decades, physicians have faced the challenge of diagnosing prostate cancer using a relatively blind approach to biopsies. At UC Irvine Health, we provide our patients with the best in innovative urologic care through the use of Artemis technology, a device that greatly improves the accuracy and resulting diagnosis of prostate biopsies.

In a traditional biopsy, the physician places needles in random areas of the prostate gland and, aided with an ultrasound machine, he biopsies those areas for potential disease. But this static, pre-determined placement of the needles could potentially miss an aggressive cancer.

The Artemis device used at UC Irvine Health merges sophisticated MRI technology with real-time ultrasound, allowing our urologists to view the prostate lesion instantaneously when performing a biopsy. This means the biopsies are focused on the suspicious areas, and the diagnoses are far more accurate. UC Irvine Health urologic oncologist Dr. Edward Uchio uses the Artemis system, and routinely finds prostate cancer in patients who have had numerous negative biopsies in the past.

“Targeted biopsies improve the detection of significant prostate cancer,” Uchio said. “Combined with newer genomic or molecular testing, we can tailor treatment to individual patient needs.” This advanced technique and equipment have provided a unique and accurate targeted biopsy, along with patient-centered therapy planning that is not available at other medical centers.



“I owe Dr. Uchio my life.”

Paul Kroger, 56, was seeing a specialist for kidney stones when he found out he had prostate cancer. His doctor told him it was in the early stages, and that he could “wait and monitor” the condition. But Kroger, whose uncle and father had prostate cancer, sought a second opinion at UC Irvine Medical Center. That decision saved his life. Thanks to new, more accurate technology, urologic oncologist Dr. Edward Uchio discovered that the cancer was far more aggressive and advanced than previously considered. Kroger underwent robotic surgery by Dr. Uchio to remove his prostate, and has been cancer-free ever since, with minimal side effects. “I owe Dr. Uchio my life,” he said.

To learn more about the technological advances happening in the UC Irvine Health Department of Urology, visit [ucirvinehealth.org/urology](http://ucirvinehealth.org/urology)

# At the Forefront of International Research

The Department of Urology received two awards from the European Association of Urology (EAU) at EAU annual meeting, held in Madrid, March 20-24, 2015. EAU represents the leading authority within Europe on urological practice, research and education.

Additionally, the American Urological Association (AUA) granted the Best Video of the AUA award to the department at its annual meeting. The AUA is a premier professional association for the advancement of urologic patient care. This year's Annual AUA Meeting was held in New Orleans, May 15-19, 2015.

We are proud of these prestigious awards, which recognize the leading edge research conducted at UC Irvine Health.

## European Association of Urology 30th Anniversary Congress



### International Award-Winning Kidney Cancer Research

**Best Poster of the Session:** Kidney Cancer: Basic Research

**UC Irvine Health urology researchers lead in identifying connection between body fat and kidney cancer**

**Presented By:** Zhamshid Okhunov

UC Irvine Health Department of Urology researchers received an international award for identifying unique molecular components of the fat that surrounds the kidney. Obesity is a worldwide health issue that has been highly correlated with different forms of cancer, including kidney cancer. Initially, our urology team was the first to show that patients with more fat around the kidney demonstrated more aggressive types of kidney cancer. Since this observation, the team has taken the lead in establishing the molecular connection between the fat immediately around the kidney and the behavior of kidney cancer. The findings could shed light on how kidney cancers form and could help patients get the best treatment by helping urologists predict the nature of each cancer.

### International Award-Winning Kidney Stone Research

**European Association of Urology Highlights:** Kidney Stone Surgical Treatment

**UC Irvine Health urology researchers 'score big' in the treatment of kidney stones**

**Presented By:** Zhamshid Okhunov

Nine percent of the U.S. population will deal with kidney stones, and this number has been rising over the past few decades. Percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL) is an advanced procedure used for larger kidney stones. Recently, three scoring systems that use characteristics of the patients and the kidney stones have been created to help urologists and patients predict surgical outcomes from PCNL. The three scoring systems currently used include Guy's Stone score, S.T.O.N.E. Nephrolithometry scoring system and CROES nephrolithometric nomogram. The UC Irvine Health Department of Urology performed a multicenter study to compare the scoring systems used to predict surgical outcomes, including complications associated with PCNL. After analyzing 600 patients, the team found that all scoring systems predicted the probability of successful outcome (no remaining stone). However, the S.T.O.N.E. score was the most accurate predictor of stone-free outcomes following PCNL. This is the largest study to date on the comparison of the scoring systems, and will help urologists predict which patients are at high risk for complications with PCNL procedures.

# Philanthropy Spotlight

The faculty physicians of the UC Irvine Health Department of Urology are dedicated to advancing the diagnosis and treatment of the entire spectrum of urologic conditions.

Our team delivers the highest level of expert clinical care, develops new technologies, educates the next generation of urologists and enhances the urologic health of people worldwide. Many minimally invasive techniques currently in clinical use were developed by the UC Irvine Health Urology team. This team is dedicated to creating a better future for patients with urologic diseases by developing the novel treatments of tomorrow.

With your help, we can turn discoveries into therapies that improve the lives of people throughout our community and beyond. When you give to the UC Irvine Health Department of Urology, you enable our faculty to pursue innovative ideas and educate tomorrow's medical leaders. We ask you to help us create a better future and join the Urology team.

**For a confidential conversation about how you can make a difference, please contact Gloria Crockett at [gcrocket@uci.edu](mailto:gcrocket@uci.edu).**

## First Annual Philanthropy Visiting Professor

Special thanks to Dr. Peter Carroll from UC San Francisco, who served as our first Philanthropic Visiting Professor this past April. During his time with us, he shared his expertise and development strategies with the entire school of medicine leadership. We are grateful for his time and valuable insights.

## American Urological Association Annual Meeting



## Award-Winning Technological Advances

### Plenary I: Best Video of the AUA

**Presented By:** Renai Yoon and William Sohn

UC Irvine Health Department of Urology researchers received the Best Video of the AUA award for their development of the Endockscope: a portable, low-cost alternative to standard endoscopic tower systems used by many physicians to examine inside a cavity of the body or interior of an organ. The standard system utilizes an HD camera and light cord that connects to a video receiver and light box that is contained within a large tower with monitor. In comparison, the Endockscope utilizes smartphone technology and a cordless light source that obviates the need for the standard tower system. The UC Irvine Health Department of Urology research developed the Endockscope to be significantly cheaper and lighter than standard endoscopic systems. Its low-cost and weight makes it an attractive tool for philanthropic pursuits in third-world countries.

## UROLOGY FACTS & FIGURES

128

The number of peer-reviewed publications and book chapters published by full-time faculty members in 2014.

273

The number of national and international presentations (169) and invitations for visiting professorships and special lectures (104) completed by 13 faculty members.

142

The percentage increase of inpatient procedures performed by the UC Irvine Health Department of Urology over the last four years.

2000+

The number of patients seen in our outpatient offices in 2014.

# Fellowship Programs & Courses Offered

The Department of Urology offers the following Urologic Fellowship Programs:

- **Pediatric Urology Surgery Fellowship (ACGME)**
- **Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship**
- **Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship Program (ACGME)**
- **Minimally Invasive Urologic Surgery: Advanced Training Program**

To learn more, visit [urology.uci.edu](http://urology.uci.edu)

## UC Irvine Health Department of Urology Mini-Fellowship

Comprehensive minimally invasive surgical renal tumor management course for urologic surgeons.

**Oct. 10-13, 2015**

*(Choice of attending all sessions or Saturday only)*

Sharpen your skills in:

- Laparoscopic and robotic techniques
- Renal ultrasound and office renal biopsy
- Laparoscopic partial nephrectomy and laparoscopic radical nephrectomy
- Percutaneous and laparoscopic CT-guided cryoablation
- Ureteroscopic biopsy and ablation

**REGISTER TODAY!** This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. To learn more, visit [urology.uci.edu/education\\_courses.shtml](http://urology.uci.edu/education_courses.shtml) or contact Kate Bergin at 714-456-6047 or [kbergin@uci.edu](mailto:kbergin@uci.edu).

## Practical PCNL: From Access to Exit

Small group PCNL learning with intensive lab time hosted by the American Urological Association.

**Three Courses Coming to a City Near You!**

Lake Success, NY	July 18-19, 2015
Minneapolis, MD	September 19-20, 2015
<b>Irvine, CA</b>	<b>November, 14-15, 2015</b>

**REGISTER TODAY!** Please visit [AUAnet.org/PCNL](http://AUAnet.org/PCNL) for detailed program information and registration.

## Visiting Professorships

Each year, the Department of Urology invites leaders in our field with expertise in different subspecialties to join us as esteemed visiting professors. The visiting professorship is a three-day course that incorporates specialty-specific lectures and hands-on surgical training. Visiting professors share their well-crafted techniques with our residents, fellows and faculty. It has been our honor to host these experts in the past year:

January 22–24, 2015



**Patrick C. Walsh, MD**

University Distinguished Service Professor  
James Buchanan Brady Urological Institute  
Johns Hopkins Hospital

April 30 – May 2, 2015



**Peter T. Scardino**

Chairman, Department of Surgery  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

**UC Irvine Department of Urology is proud to introduce our 2015 incoming Urology Residents:**



**Garen Abedi**

**Undergrad:** UC Irvine

**Medical School:** UC Irvine School of Medicine

**Additional Training and Degree:** Master's Degree in Biomedical and Translational Science

**Honors:** Magna Cum Laude

**Memberships:** Alpha Omega Alpha Society, Association of Pathology Chairs Honor Society



**Martin Hofmann**

**Undergrad:** UC San Diego

**Medical School:** UC Irvine School of Medicine

**Additional Training and Degree:** Master's Degree in Biomedical and Translational Science

**Memberships:** Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society, Gold Humanism Honor Society

▶ **New affiliations announced with Long Beach Memorial Medical Center and Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach**

We are happy to announce that our physicians are now providing world-class care at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center and Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach.

To schedule an appointment, please call 714-292-9716 for adult urology services and 562-933-1877 for pediatric urology services.

▶ **Western Pediatric Urology Consortium (WPUC) committed to pediatric research**

We have recently established the Western Pediatric Urology Consortium (WPUC). This is a group of pediatric urologists who are committed to collaborating on pediatric urology research. The first project will be focused on determining which pediatric patients with primary vesicoureteral reflux can be managed safely without prophylactic antibiotics and without recurrent urinary tract infections.



UC Irvine Health Pediatric Urologists, From left to right: Dr. Antoine Khoury, Dr. Elias Wehbi, and Dr. Irene McAleer



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**For appointments or referrals, please contact our business development officer Rachel Hogue at 714-292-9716.**

### Find us online

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For a complete list of services and patient care information, visit [ucirvinehealth.org/urology](http://ucirvinehealth.org/urology)

Additional information can be found on our academic website at [www.urology.uci.edu](http://www.urology.uci.edu)

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