

LifeLink Tissue Bank Announces Tissue Advisory Council Members

LifeLink Tissue Bank formed a Tissue Advisory Council to ensure a multidisciplinary approach to LifeLink's tissue banking philosophy and to further enhance the quality, safety and clinical efficacy of tissue provided by LifeLink. The council, made up of noted orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons and other professionals in the tissue banking industry, will provide LifeLink Tissue Bank's leadership team advice on technical, scientific and medical matters, the development of strategies to further enhance technology, research and clinical trials of allograft tissue. The Tissue Advisory Council members include:



Kevin L. Boyer, MD, a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, NE. He completed his internship and residency at Emory University in Atlanta,

GA. As a board certified neurosurgeon, Dr. Boyer is currently on the medical staff at Blake Medical Center in Bradenton, FL and is a member of the Pinnacle Medical Group. He has earned many awards throughout his academic and professional career and is widely published in his field.



Sheryl A. Chewing, RN, LHRM, is pursuing her MSN at the University of South Florida. She is the Director of Performance Improvement/Risk Management including infection control at Shriners

Hospital for Children in Tampa, FL. Sheryl is certified in Infection Control and Healthcare Quality and is a member of many professional organizations such as the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and the Florida Professionals in Infection Control. Very knowledgeable in tissue banking, Sheryl reviews the quality and safety of all tissue that is processed for Shriners' patients and determines an organization's eligibility to meet the hospital's standards for supplying tissue to the hospital.



Andrew Cordover, MD, is a board certified orthopedic surgeon and an active member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. After obtaining his Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Engineering,

Dr. Cordover concurrently earned his Medical Doctor and Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA. His surgical internship and residency were performed at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia, PA. Following a spinal surgery fellowship at Duke University, Dr. Cordover joined Orthopedic Specialists of Alabama. In addition to the above, Dr. Cordover is an active researcher with numerous published articles and has taught numerous CME education and techniques seminars.



Carl D. Fackler, MD, earned his medical degree at the University of Iowa Medical School, completed a medical internship at Boston City Hospital and a one year general surgery residency at Boston University.

His specialized medical training continued with a residency in orthopedic surgery at Harvard University, followed by a clinical fellowship at Children's Hospital in Boston. He currently resides in Atlanta, GA where he recently retired after 30 years in practice as a board certified orthopedic surgeon, partner and former president of, Peachtree Orthopedic Clinic. He is a member of the Scoliosis Research Society and a former

Continued on page 2

Tissue Connection Trivia

Correctly answer this quarter's question and you'll be entered to win a \$25 gift certificate to Best Buy.

To enter, e-mail your answer to: contactinfo@lifelinkfound.org. Please provide your full name, hospital and phone number.

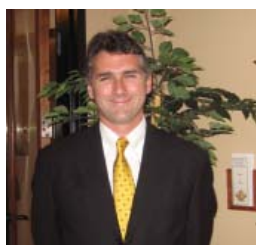
Joint Commission accreditation is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards. How frequently must an organization undergo an on-site survey by a Joint Commission survey team to earn and maintain the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™?

Only correct answers will be entered into the drawing. One winner per quarter. The winner will be notified and posted in the next Tissue Connection.

consultant with the Atlanta Braves. In retirement he is a medical advisor for an insurance company and works as a viticulturist in north Georgia.



Bernard H. Guiot, MD, a board certified neurosurgeon, earned his medical degree and completed his residency at the University of Ottawa School of Medicine. He is fellowship trained in spinal deformity, reconstructive spinal surgery and adult neurosurgery. Until recently, Dr. Guiot held a full time appointment as Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of South Florida. While there, he served as the Director of Spine Surgery, Medical Director of the Biomechanics Lab, Director of the Spine Cadaveric Teaching Lab as well as Director of the Neurosurgery Spine Fellowship program. Dr. Guiot currently serves as the Chief Medical Officer at minSURG Corporation.



Jorge Lastra, MD, is a board certified neurosurgeon practicing at Manati Medical Center in Puerto Rico. He also has a private practice at Oficinas Medicas. Dr. Lastra earned his medical degree at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine. He completed his surgical internship, general surgery residency, and neurological surgery residency at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus and Affiliated Hospitals. He is fellowship trained in spine surgery from the Department of Neurosurgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.



David McKalip, MD, is a board certified neurosurgeon who earned his medical degree from the University of South Florida College of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

and his internship at the University of South Florida. He is currently on the medical staff at St. Anthony's Hospital and Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg, FL where he also has a private practice. He specializes in spine surgery, brain surgery, deep brain stimulator for Parkinson's disease, vertebroplasty, peripheral nerve surgery and neurotrauma, and has authored and co-authored numerous articles on these subjects.



J. Todd Smith, MD, a board certified orthopedic surgeon, earned his medical degree and completed his general surgery internship at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham. After finishing his orthopedic surgery residency, he trained in a variety of orthopedic areas including sports medicine and pediatric orthopedics. His areas of subspecialty include total joint replacement, sports medicine, spine and back, shoulder and elbow, and hip and knee. Dr. Smith maintains strong ties to his community, serving as team physician for the Birmingham Bulls and the Birmingham Steeldogs as well as participating in the Baptist Sports First Program, where he also serves as team physician for local area schools.



Pedro J. Tort-Saade, MD, a board certified orthopedic surgeon, earned his medical degree at the Universidad Central del Caribe. After completing his internship and residency at the University of Puerto Rico,

he completed a fellowship in sports medicine at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. During this fellowship, Dr. Tort was the team physician for many local teams including major league baseball, professional indoor football, professional indoor and outdoor Lacrosse, NCAA Division One Women's and Men's basketball, and NCAA Outdoor Lacrosse. Dr. Tort-Saade has been an active reviewer of The American Journal of Sports Medicine since 2005.

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Please contact LifeLink at 800-683-2400 for more information. ■

Donate Life through Organ and Tissue Donation

Thousands of Americans are in need of life-saving organ transplants, and thousands more are in need of life-enhancing tissue transplants. For many, the chance to live a full life won't come unless more people consider organ and tissue donation. Everyone can indicate their intent to donate, including persons less than 18 years of age, as long as the parent or guardian supports their decision.

One organ and tissue donor can potentially help as many as 60 people. Organs that can be donated for transplantation include the heart, liver, lungs, kidneys, pancreas and intestines. Tissues that can be transplanted include the skin which can help burn patients heal, bone which is used to replace bone that has been destroyed by tumors, trauma or infections, corneas and sclera which provide the gift of sight, and heart valves which replace valves that are diseased.

LifeLink of Florida is the non-profit federally certified organ and tissue recovery agency serving 15 counties in West Central Florida; LifeLink of Georgia serves the state of Georgia and two South Carolina counties; LifeLink of Puerto Rico serves Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. There are 58 federally-designated, non-profit organ procurement organizations throughout the country. Through the efforts of physicians, surgeons, nurses, medical examiners, coroners, volunteers and the true heroes, donor families, LifeLink recovers and equitably distributes organs and tissue for transplantation. Our organ recovery agencies work with the United Network for

Organ Sharing (UNOS) which maintains a national computerized list of more than 97,000 patients awaiting an organ transplant in the United States. Patients are matched to organs based on a number of factors including blood and tissue typing, medical urgency, time on the waiting list and geographic location.

Organ and tissue donation does not disfigure the body or interfere with funeral arrangements, including open casket services. The donor's family does NOT pay for the costs associated with donation and all major religions approve of organ and tissue donation. In fact, many religions consider donation the ultimate charitable act.

It's simple for an individual to become a potential donor. First, obtain the facts. Second, make a decision. Third, sign up on the state's donor registry, normally through a driver license office or online and tell your family.

For more information about organ and tissue donation, contact LifeLink's public relations department at (800) 262-5775, or visit www.lifelinkfound.org

Did you Know?

A single organ and tissue donor can help up to 60 people.

Dorothy Demello - Grateful Tissue Recipient

I am a mother of four and have seven grandchildren. Retirement for my husband of 45 years and I came at a great stage of our lives; I was very active until two years ago when my right leg and arm started going numb and the pain was so unbearable I couldn't sleep. I couldn't lift anything as I lost all my strength on my right side. I went to Dr. Petersen and he recommended cervical spine surgery utilizing donated bone. He repaired discs 5, 6 and 7 with allograft tissue.

After the surgery I was restrained with a neck brace for several months. Now I am free from the brace, have no pain and move with little effort. I haven't felt this great in a long

time. I am back on the golf course with my husband; I work out and love to read. I will always thank the person who gave so willingly so that others like me could have better lives.



AORN CORNER

55th Annual AORN Congress

Get inspired. *Share Your Passion, Illuminate Our Profession* is the premier perioperative nursing event of the year and will take place March 29th through April 3rd in Anaheim, CA. The Congress offers a variety of prominent, industry leading speakers, information-packed and entertaining general sessions, poster displays, and countless opportunities to connect with your colleagues, industry partners, and friends.

New and exciting events for the 2008 Congress include:

- A completely redesigned "Sweet Success" awards reception where members will benefit from a streamlined application process, increased recognition for the award winners, a shorter program and lower ticket price.
- The Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing will feature a champagne toast, an incredible dessert station, and a fabulous prize.
- Special networking events and programs include a First-Time Attendee Breakfast, a Next Generation Happy Hour for the younger attendees, a Denim & Diamonds party, an Exhibitors'/Nurses Day and excursion to Knott's Berry Farm!

Special Announcements:

Tissue Connection Trivia Winner:

The Tissue Connection Trivia winner from last quarter's newsletter was Amy Ramkhelawan, RN, who was chosen at random among the 30 entries. Amy is the OR Nurse Manager at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been a nurse for 11 years and just recently moved to Atlanta from St. Petersburg, Florida. Congratulations! Amy won a \$25 gift card to Best Buy.

Free Tool Contact Us Today

Tissue Connection readers measure up to LifeLink's high standards!

Call LifeLink Tissue Bank to order your free measuring tape tool at 800-683-2400 ext. 4144 or send an e-mail to contactinfo@lifelinkfound.org. This cool gadget is a compact size measuring tape with a belt clip so you can take it anywhere. Self-locking measuring tape includes level, pen and note pad.



LIFELINK ANNUAL HOSPITAL AWARDS



Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, Florida, Brookwood Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama, and Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia were the three healthcare facilities recognized this year for their dedication and commitment to the safety of tissue transplant recipients. This prestigious award is offered annually to several hospitals from LifeLink Tissue Bank's distribution areas which are located throughout the country.

Professional services representatives and senior staff submitted award nominations based on a hospital's proficiency in the tracking and handling of allograft tissues and a hospital's commitment to patient safety through the selection of the grafts they implant. These hospitals were selected out of 20 nominations.

According to the American Association of Tissue Banks, approximately 1.5 million tissue transplants are performed annually. Vicki Mansavage, Senior Vice President of Tissue Banking Services at LifeLink Tissue Bank states, "Skin grafts can save the lives of burn patients, bone replacements can save a limb from amputation and repair sports injuries."



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