WELCOME!

We know that you are interested in the latest treatments for your patients, and are eager to find new resources and options for them. This newsletter updates you on the innovative procedures and unique treatment options available right here in Chicago. Our neurosurgeons are doing amazing things, and we want you to see how we can work together to benefit your patients.

It’s easy to refer a patient — please see back cover.

Ask Us More Questions!

Think of our surgeons as a ready resource – we’re always available to talk. At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions. We’re here to help, and at home. Please call 773.702.2123.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request to: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnosis, any imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a phone number to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you to accept your patient to our service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be hosting several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies

To register for this upcoming event, please contact: Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.762.8544
At the Forefront of Neursurgical Learning

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be holding several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies

Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544

Ask Us More Questions!

Think of our surgeons as a ready resource — we’re always available to talk. At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions.

We’re here to help. And if unable. Please call 773.714.8732.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request to: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnoses, any recent imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a way to contact to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you to accept your patient to our service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544

At the Forefront of Neursurgical Learning

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be holding several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies

Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544

Ask Us More Questions!

Think of our surgeons as a ready resource — we’re always available to talk. At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions.

We’re here to help. And if unable. Please call 773.714.8732.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request to: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnoses, any recent imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a way to contact to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you to accept your patient to our service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544

At the Forefront of Neursurgical Learning

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be holding several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies

Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544

Ask Us More Questions!

Think of our surgeons as a ready resource — we’re always available to talk. At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions.

We’re here to help. And if unable. Please call 773.714.8732.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request to: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnoses, any recent imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a way to contact to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you to accept your patient to our service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact:
Cecilia Ehlenbach | 773.782.8544
Seizure-Free for More than 40 Years

Michael Segreto, of Saint Charles, Ill., was 5 when the first time he was diagnosed with epilepsy. Yet, his condition did not require serious attention for nearly 35 years. In 2012, something changed.

Growing up with Epilepsy

Physicians prescribed several medications over the years to help Segreto control his epilepsy. He was able to effectively manage his condition with medication and Dilantin.

“I was driving home from soccer and was stopped at a red light when, for the first time in more than 20 years, I lost control of my motor vehicle.”

Segreto recalls. “My car was stopped, so thankfully no one was injured, but this event赴 blood of driving privileges, a fact that underscored the gravity of my personal freedom. Little did I know, this was only the start of a long, difficult road of mayhem.”

According to the American Epilepsy Society, one in 26 Americans will have a seizure in their lifetime. Yet, many will not seek treatment and may continue to experience seizures. In September 2013, Segreto suffered yet another seizure. When he returned to the emergency room, his parents met with Shasha Wu, MD, PhD, at the University of Chicago Medical Center, a neurosurgeon in the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, who has a sub-specialty expertise in the diagnosis and management of adult epilepsy.

“Mr. Segreto’s temporal lobe epilepsy secondary to hippocampal sclerosis, which is a syndrome that occurs in about one in 1,000 individuals, is an antiepileptic drug-resistant type of seizure disorder.”

Wu recognized the distinct clinical characteristics of this disorder in a seizure-free period, or a ‘latent period,’ before it becomes refractory.”

In order to help reduce his recurrent seizure episodes, the team then destroyed the seizure-generating tissue with a laser ablation surgery. With real-time guidance, enabled by MRI imaging, the team locate the origin of the seizures in the cerebral cortex of the brain. The team then analyzes the SEEG results to determine electrical activity in targeted areas of the brain. These electrodes help identify the zones of the seizures in the cerebral cortex of the brain. The team then destroys the seizure-generating tissue with a laser ablation surgery. With real-time guidance, enabled by MRI imaging, the team locate the origin of the seizures in the cerebral cortex of the brain. The team then analyzes the SEEG results to determine electrical activity in targeted areas of the brain. These electrodes help identify the zones of the seizures in the cerebral cortex of the brain. The team then destroys the seizure-generating tissue with a laser ablation surgery.

Proven leadership in epilepsy has garnered UChicago Medicine accreditation as a Level IV Epilepsy Center for both adults and children — the highest ranking level earned by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers. These epilepsy teams are uniquely positioned to care for patients with this complex disease.

Life After Laser Ablation

In August 2014, Segreto, 41, underwent laser ablation without incident and has been seizure-free ever since.

Although he will undergo continued monitoring by his team at UChicago Medicine, Segreto says he is looking forward to having his freedom to drive and to travel.

As leaders in functional and stereotactic neurosurgery, our neurosurgeons and epileptologists offer the full range of epilepsy surgical options. In fact, Warnke was the 1st surgeon in Illinois to offer MRI-guided stereoelectroencephalography (SEEG) and laser ablation surgery for treatment of epilepsy. This approach has advantages over the traditional open surgical approach which leaves patients vulnerable to cognitive side effects.

SEEG and laser ablation surgery is possible thanks to the application of modern neurosurgical techniques. During the SEEG procedure, Warnke and his team use a minimally invasive technique to implant electrodes in targeted areas of the brain. These electrodes help the team locate the origin of the seizures in the cerebral cortex of the brain. The team then destroys the origins of the seizures with a laser ablation surgery. With real-time guidance, enabled by MRI imaging, the team then destroys the seizure-generating tissue with a laser ablation surgery.

There are several advantages to this surgical approach for severe epilepsy, and one is that sub-millimetric precision of laser ablation used concurrently with real-time MRI monitoring means we are targeting the afflicted areas. Warnke said. “The data shows this approach highly effective for those with intractable epilepsy.”

UChicago Medicine offers several surgical treatment options for epilepsy, including functional neurosurgery, stereotactic surgery, and minimally invasive ablation surgery.

As always, we welcome any questions or feedback you may have about the topics covered in this newsletter or any of our clinical specialty programs. Please contact us at ACCESS@uofchicago.edu or call 773-702-2000.

Michael Segreto (center) flanked by his parents and his UChicago Medicine physicians, Peter Warnke, MD and Shasha Wu, MD, PhD.

Explore Our Clinical Specialty Programs

For the latest treatments for a wide range of complex neurological diseases and take a multimodal approach as means to most holistically care. If you would like to learn more about any of our clinical programs or would like to consult with us regarding a particular patient’s case, we encourage you to reach out to us.

• Brain Tumor Program
• Epilepsy Program
• Functional Neurosurgical Center
• Minimal Invasive Surgery
• Neurosurgical Critical Care
• Neurovascular Program
• Pediatric Neurosurgical Center
• Spine Surgery Center
Growing up with Epilepsy

Physicians provided several medications over the years to help Segreto control his epilepsy. He was able to effectively manage his condition under medication and declined surgery.

“I was driving from school and was stopped at a red light when, for the first time in more than 40 years, I had a seizure,” Segreto recalls. “I was so scared, so thankful that no one was injured, but the thought left a lasting impression on a part of my personal history. I didn’t have one until this was the start of a long, affective history.”

Since that incident, the frequency and intensity of Segreto’s seizures dramatically increased. The seizures that occasionally occurred every two weeks suddenly increased in frequency and intensity. In order to help preserve his memory and cognitive function, Wu suggested a surgical solution, taking it to the next level, even risking in a chair. Nearly all of these approaches required medication. Open brain surgery poses the greatest threat to the brain. While there are many different surgical options, including radiation, chemotherapy, and immunosuppressive agents.

In September 2013, Segreto suffered yet another seizure. When he was admitted, Shasha Wu, MD, PhD, the University of Chicago neurologist in the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, has subspecialty expertise in the diagnosis and management of adult epilepsy.

“With Dr. Segreto and I had the kind of seizure-generating tissue with a high probability of certain types of seizures, we suspected that his condition was the same,” Wu said. “Our experts use the latest clinical technologies and research to provide the most accurate diagnosis and individualized treatment plans.”

UChicago Medicine offers several surgical treatment options for epilepsy, including open resection, subpial transections, and stereotactic laser ablation.

As leaders in functional and structural neurosurgery, our neurosurgeons and epileptologists offer the full range of epilepsy surgical solutions. In fact, Warner was the first surgeon in Illinois to offer MRI-guided electrode placement and stereotactic laser ablation surgery for epilepsy. This approach has advantages over the traditional open surgical approach which leaves patients vulnerable to cognitive side effects.

“SEEG and laser ablation surgery is possible thanks to the advancement of modern neurosurgical techniques. During the SEEG procedure, Warnke and his team use a minimally invasive technique to implant electrodes in targeted areas of the brain. These electrodes help the team localize the source of the seizures in the central cortex of the brain. The team then analyzes the SEEG results to determine the optimal location for laser ablation surgery. With real-time guidance, enabled by MRI imaging, the team can then isolate the seizure-generating tissue with a sophisticated laser applicator.”

Segreto control his epilepsy. He was able to effectively manage his condition under medication and declined surgery. “There are several advantages to this surgical approach for severe epilepsy, and one is sub-arachnoid pressure of laser ablation, and secondly, while the MRI monitoring can be targeting the affected areas,” Warner said. “The data shows how this approach is highly effective for those with severe temporal lobe epilepsy.”

In August 2014, Segreto, 41, underwent laser ablation without incident and has been seizure-free ever since. Although he will require continued monitoring by his team at UChicago Medicine, Segreto says he is looking forward to having his “street freedom back.”

“I can perform my daily activities with less fear that I will experience a seizure,” he said. “I look forward to reducing my likelihood of driving while I am on treatment.”
Seizure-Free in More Than 40 Years

Michael Segreto, of Saint Charles, Ill., was 5 years old when he was diagnosed with epilepsy. Yet, his condition did not require serious attention for nearly 35 years. In 2012, something changed.

Growing up with Epilepsy

Physicians prescribed several medications over the years to help Segreto control his epilepsy. He was able to effectively manage his condition with medications and Octodur 2012. He was driving from school and was stopped at a red light when, for the first time in more than 40 years, he had a seizure. When Segreto woke, his mother was so distressed, she called the hospital’s emergency room. His condition did not respond to medical treatment. “We said, ‘Our experts can use the latest clinical technologies and research to provide the most accurate diagnosis and individualized treatment plan,’” said Wu.

As leaders in functional and stereotactic neurosurgery, our neurosurgeons and epileptologists offer the full range of epilepsy surgical options to our patients. From the use of the latest technology, we offer SISD-guided stereoencephalography (2012) and laser ablation surgery as treatment for epilepsy. This approach has shown advantages over the traditional open surgical approach which leaves patients vulnerable to cognitive side effects.

SEG and laser ablation surgery is possible thanks to the application of modern neurosurgical techniques. During the SEG procedure, Warnke and his team use a minimally invasive technique to implant electrodes in targeted areas of the brain. These electrodes help the team target the source of the seizures in the central cortex of the brain. The team then analyzes the SEG results to determine the epilepsy-generating zone in all three dimensions prior to laser ablation surgery. With real-time guidance, enabled by MRI imaging, the team then destroys the epilepsy-generating tissue with a sophisticated laser application.

Proven leadership in epilepsy has garnered UChicago Medicine accreditation as a Level IV Epilepsy Center for both adults and children — the highest ranking level granted by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers. These epilepsy teams are uniquely positioned to care for patients with this complex disease.
WELCOME!

We know that you are interested in the latest treatments for your patients, and are eager to find new resources and options for them. This newsletter updates you on the innovative procedures and unique treatment options available right here in Chicago. Our neurosurgeons are doing amazing things, and we want you to see how we can work together to benefit your patients.

It’s easy to refer a patient — please see back cover.

Ask Us More Questions!

Think of our surgeons as a ready resource — we’re always available to talk. At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions.

We’re here to help, and to listen. Please call 773.702.2123.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnosis, any imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a phone to contact to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be hosting several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact: Cecilia Ehlenbach 773.782.8544

Universities at the Forefront of Neurosurgical Learning

At the University of Chicago Medicine, we value collaboration with fellow physicians. Even if you don’t have a specific patient case, call us if you have questions.

We’re here to help, and to listen. Please call 773.702.2123.

How to Refer a Patient to Our Service

There are a few streamlined ways to refer a patient to our service.

Non-urgent consultations:
1. You, or your office staff, can call 773.702.2123.
2. Email the request: neurosurgery@bsd.uchicago.edu. Please include the diagnosis, any imaging or testing that has been done, and provide a phone to contact to schedule the appointment.

Urgent transfers:
We are prepared and willing to provide emergent or complex neurosurgical care not available locally. You can call 773.834.4782 and we will work with you 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Thanks in part to the Heinrich Kluver Memorial Lectureship Endowment, the Section of Neurosurgery will be hosting several symposia that focus on current trends in neurosurgical care. Our faculty and invited guest speakers present on a diverse range of topics and facilitate engaged discussions on controversies and novel developments that are entering the field today.

Cerebral Aneurysms: Novel Concepts and Management Strategies
Wednesday, May 27 | 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM
Center for Care & Discovery Boardroom, 5700 S. Maryland Ave., Chicago, IL

The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

For additional information, visit: cme.uchicago.edu

To register for this upcoming event, please contact: Cecilia Ehlenbach 773.782.8544