

# Honors, Awards and Publications



**Benjamin O. Anderson, MD, Professor,** was chosen by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) electorate to serve on the International Cancer Control Congress (UICC) Board for a two-year term (2012–2014).



**Andre A.S. Dick, MD, Assistant Professor,** was selected as the recipient of the UW School of Medicine Committee on Minority Faculty Affairs Scholarship Award to attend the 2012 AAMC Minority Development Seminar which was held in Chicago, IL, September 2012.



**Heather Evans, MD, Assistant Professor,** whose research with collaborators on Biomedical Informatics and Pulmonary Critical Care was mentioned in an ACS Surgery News article titled “*Chest X-Rays Incongruous with Lavage Results in VAP.*”



**Lorrie A. Langedale, MD, Professor,** was appointed to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Board of Directors in October, 2012. Lorrie has long been active in Graduate Medical Education and this significant appointment recognizes her expertise and commitment to educating surgical residents. She currently also serves as an ACS governor, representing Washington State and is an elected member of the Board of Governors Executive Committee.



**Ron V. Maier, MD, Professor and Jane and Donald D. Trunkey Chair in Trauma Surgery** served as the President of the Halsted Society at the recent annual meeting hosted by the University of California San Diego in La Jolla, California, September 2012.



**Douglas E. Wood, MD, Professor and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery** was appointed to the Lung Cancer Alliance Medical & Professional Advisory Board.

## Other News in the Department of Surgery...

- **Dr. Thomas Varghese**, thoracic surgeon and an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at UW Medicine, is medical director of a program in Washington state, Strong for Surgery, which has joined with partners including the American College of Surgeons to provide preoperative checklists focusing on risk factors that can be modified before surgery.

Often patients may only get a sheet of instructions a day or two before surgery on how to prepare for the procedure. Strong for Surgery checklists are meant to be reviewed much earlier—in an initial consultation between the doctor and patient, who also is provided a packet of educational materials to take home.

The checklist focuses on four issues: smoking, nutrition, blood sugar control and medication. Smoking, for example, can impair the ability to withstand anesthesia, increase the risk of respiratory complications after surgery such as pneumonia and interfere with wound healing.

The Strong for Surgery checklist also includes a recommendation that patients and doctors review all medications, including herbal remedies that patients may not think to disclose. Ginkgo biloba for instance, can cause bleeding problems and hormone therapy can increase the risk of blood clots after surgery.

*A version of this article appeared October 23, 2012, on page D1 in the U.S. edition of The Wall Street Journal, with the headline: Need Surgery? You Might Have to Get Healthier First.*

- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has recognized UW Medicine’s heart, kidney and liver transplant programs as national leaders in their fields.

The Health Resources and Services Administration’s Donation and Transplantation Community of Practice program gave these awards based on key performance measurements, including how quickly patients received a transplant after being placed on the waiting list, post-transplant graft survival rates, and patient mortality rates while waiting for an organ to become available.