

# Surgery News



Mark with "the catch of the day"

do surgically under any circumstance, even if it's something he hadn't done since residency. Despite Mark's wealth of knowledge, he usually didn't speak up in meetings unless specifically asked to do so. He was a sea of calm in the midst of a hectic office and in a stressful profession. Mark's quiet jokes included sending new OR circulating nurses out to look for the Otis Elevator or non-existent sutures, asking medical students to hold bits of tissue for as long as possible or enticing them to contaminate themselves in the OR, hooking together all the paper clips in the office, and stealthily turning off lights in a room without being discovered. He didn't like dressing up, and generally wore scrubs, a scrub hat, and black Converse All Stars to clinic.

Dr. Brakstad never managed to type with more than two fingers on each hand, but survived the conversion to electronic medical records in 2015, mostly through working 14+ hours a day plus weekends, and also with Dragon voice recognition and eventually a scribe. Mark rounded nearly 365 days/year, with the exception of just a few weeks a year when he was

either at a hernia or trauma conference in Las Vegas, or vacationing with family in Montana. Mark loves to hunt and fish, as well as collect coins. He is now walking six miles every day, rain or shine. He was a wonderful teacher and mentor, and is greatly missed already for his friendship, partnership, mentorship, teaching and wisdom. We wish him a very healthy and happy retirement.

Alison L. Perrin, MD  
Clinical Associate Professor  
Division of General Surgery

---

## PREVENTING MEDICATION-RELATED PROBLEMS IN CARE TRANSITIONS TO SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES



In September, [Giana Davidson](#), MD, MPH, and her team launched a 5-year cluster randomized [trial](#) funded by the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality. This R01 will test the effectiveness of a new healthcare transition program focused on reducing medication-related problems and improving patient- and caregiver-reported measures of the quality-of-care transitions for patients transitioning from hospitals to skilled nursing facilities (SNF).

The team has focused on improving care coordination for people discharged to skilled nursing facilities following hospitalization given the unique challenges for patients and their caregivers during this time. These patients are at particularly high risk for poor outcomes given they are often medically complex, have had an unexpected hospitalization, and/or require a healthcare team that can be fragmented and include primary care teams, subspecialists, and the SNF and rehabilitation teams, often none of whom share a common electronic medical record. This work has brought together a team with a range of expertise focused on addressing the gaps in transitions of care that ultimately exposes some of our most vulnerable patients to complications, emotional distress, and costly medical errors. Importantly, this team is also focused on better understanding how care transitions may be experienced differently by some people (e.g., those that are minoritized, do not speak English, lack social support, or have low health literacy) and will examine equity in outcomes of the intervention across the health system.

In addition to Dr. Davidson, this team includes [Elizabeth Austin](#), MPH, Research Scientist, Department of Health Services; [Zachary Marcum](#), PharmD, PhD, MS, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy; [Thuan Ong](#), MD, MPH, geriatrician, palliative care physician and the Medical Director for UW Medicine Post-Acute Care; [Edwin Lindo](#), JD, critical race scholar and Assistant Dean of Social and Health Justice; [Oleg Zaslavsky](#), PhD, MHA, BSN, Associate Professor, School of Nursing; [Bryan Comstock](#), MS, Senior Biostatistician in the Center for

(continued on page 8)

# Surgery

## News

Biomedical Statistics; [Sarah Monsell](#), MS, Biostatistician in the Center for Biomedical Statistics; [Mariam Hantouli](#), MD, Research Fellow, Department of Surgery; and [Margo Godersky](#), Project Manager, Department of Surgery.

## 2020 FACULTY PROMOTION



### Dr. Patrick Healey

Professor  
Section Chief of  
Pediatric Transplantation  
Division of Transplant Surgery

**D**r. [Patrick Healey](#) is a transplant surgeon at Seattle Children's Hospital (SCH). He oversees the Kidney Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, and Intestine Transplantation Programs at

SCH, and is Seattle Children's Transplant Center point person to United Network for Organ Sharing. Dr. Healey is also the Director of the Living Donor Kidney Program, and has solidified our community presence by offering this procedure to our transplant candidates and their families, with great outcomes and an increase in access. In this role, he has provided mentorship to faculty, fellows, and general surgery and urology residents since the inception of the living donor team in 1999.

Dr. Healey introduced the donor paired exchange program, which identifies, screens, and manages multiple donors from ours and other institutions to facilitate donation from incompatible donors. His ongoing vision and strategic planning continues to increase living donor awareness, providing the most favorable outcomes for the recipients.

Dr. Healey developed critically important non-transplant programs for children of the Pacific Northwest which include hepatobiliary surgery for tumors, vascular anomalies of the liver, and portal hypertension surgery. His clinical, surgical, innovation, mentorship, and program development skills have resulted in nationally recognized expertise and excellent outcomes in these areas.

## 2021 NEW FACULTY



### Dr. Lyubomyr Bohuta

Associate Professor  
Pediatric Cardiac Surgery  
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

**D**r. Bohuta's specialty is pediatric cardiac surgery with a focus on neonatal surgery and surgery in low-weight patients. Originally from Ukraine, he graduated from Lviv State Medical University, and after completing his training in

general surgery spent over 10 years at Ukrainian Children's Cardiac Center in Kyiv. Over this period, he was able to progress from junior fellow to a leading surgeon and department head. During his training, Dr. Bohuta spent 18 months as a fellow at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. He obtained his PhD in the Ukraine performing clinical research focused on anomalous pulmonary veins. In 2015, Dr. Bohuta moved to Denmark, where he worked for two years at Aarhus University Hospital. Following that, he joined the world-famous Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, UK, where he served for three and a half years as a consultant surgeon and one of the leaders in complex neonatal cardiac surgery. Dr. Bohuta is excited to join University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital to contribute his knowledge and extensive experience to the program. He also enjoys being so close to the beauties of the Pacific Northwest with his family.

## DIVERSITY IN DOS



**T**his month the Department of Surgery Anti-Racist Reading Group has been discussing the book "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Seattle area author Ijeoma Oluo. We've had a series of fantastic small group meetings that have been powerful and thought provoking. Although the book is not explicitly about health care, there are many lessons that we can all learn about race and the impact of

(continued on page 9)