

## Clinical Program Highlight

then undergo repair of their diaphragmatic defect within the first 24 hours on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO). Further, we have developed novel protocols for use of bivalirudin in newborns on ECMO, early initiation of pulmonary hypertension treatment under the guidance of Dr. [Delphine Yung](#), Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Cardiology, and have achieved longer, safer ECLS runs as a result of our standardized pathways.

Once patients are out of the NICU and on the ward they undergo intensive feeding therapy and oxygen weaning based on standardized pathways developed by our multidisciplinary team. All patients with CDH are followed in our long-term multidisciplinary clinic which is run by Dr. Stark, Dr. [Bre Kinghorn](#), Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Pulmonology, and [Carrie Foster](#), ARNP, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Program, SCH.

All babies are enrolled in a national registry, the CDH Study Group (CDHSG), which includes over 80 institutions and allows for meaningful research evaluating ways to improve outcomes for these babies. Current experience tells us if these patients survive the neonatal period outcomes are excellent in terms of quality of life and overall morbidity is low. Overall survival is 70% nationally and 85% at SCH, and survival in the mild to moderate cohort is nearly 100%. The vast majority of deaths occur in the severe group of patients and specifically in those requiring ECLS, thus innovations in the care for these babies largely target this severe group. For example, recent work demonstrated that fetal tracheal occlusion (FETO) significantly improves outcomes for babies with severe CDH without unacceptable morbidity to mom or fetus; we anticipate bringing this technology to our burgeoning Fetal Intervention Program which is a joint venture between UW Medicine and SCH, also lead by Dr. Stark with Drs. [Martin Walker](#) and [Bettina Paek](#), Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine. Through this pioneering work and ongoing refinements of multidisciplinary care, we anticipate that we will be able to offer ongoing improvements in survival and quality of life to these critically ill newborns and their families.



# save the dates

## Annual Peter K. Buehler Visiting Professorship in Plastic Surgery Lecture

April 1st, 2022

### GUEST LECTURER



### Dr. William Y. Hoffman

University of California, San Francisco  
Professor of Surgery, Chief, Division of Plastic  
and Reconstructive Surgery,  
Stephen J. Mathes, MD, Endowed Chair in  
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Please contact [psurged@uw.edu](mailto:psurged@uw.edu) for information

## Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery Annual Visiting Professor

May 12th & 13th, 2022

### GUEST LECTURER



### Dr. Chris Caldarone

Professor and Chief, Division of Congenital  
Heart Surgery Baylor College of Medicine  
Program Director, Congenital Cardiac Surgery  
Residency Baylor College of Medicine,  
Chief, Congenital Heart Surgery: Texas Children's Hospital

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