Yale School of Medicine
Department of Surgery

Section of Otolaryngology

Building a South African Exchange Program: Update and Future Goals
Spring 2017
Highlights from the November 2016 Trip

- Continued academic and humanitarian work - Dr. Barnes, Dr. Toman, Dr. Spock, Dr. Porterfield, Dr. Michaelides and Dr. Choi (Harvard) participated in this trip.

- Founded the biannual UKZN-Yale Research Symposium – widely attended two day conference featuring presenters from Yale, the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and other institutions [http://ndaba-online.ukzn.ac.za/UkzndabaStory/1166/ukzn--yale-partnership](http://ndaba-online.ukzn.ac.za/UkzndabaStory/1166/ukzn--yale-partnership)

- Expanded resident global health elective exchange. Dr. Todd Spock (Yale PGY 3) spent four weeks in South Africa learning about provision of exceptional care in a resource limited setting

**Main Ongoing Goals:**
1. Partnership in Clinical Care
2. Educational Exchange
3. Research Initiatives
**Mission:**
We are partnering with local South African ENTs to develop a sustainable, bilateral exchange of training and ideas to benefit educational, patient care and research initiatives.

**Our Partners**
- The Department of Otolaryngology at the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine in Durban, South Africa.
- The ENT Department at Edendale Hospital (tertiary referral hospital) in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.
- These relationships substantially enhance our ability to integrate with the robust health care and academic infrastructure that already exists in South Africa.

**March 2017 Trip**
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} Biannual UKZN–Yale Research Symposium focusing on Head and Neck Cancer: Surgical Management, Adjuvant Therapy and Reconstruction Options
- Surgical Demonstration by Dr. Judson (ablation) and Dr. Kejner (reconstruction)
- Microvascular Anastomosis Lab
- 3\textsuperscript{rd} Resident Exchange (Dr. Ashley Dunn, Yale PGY 3 & Dr. Ken Bagwell, Yale PGY5)

**Equitable and Bilateral Exchange:**
- Hosting South African Residents at Yale - first visit in April 2017
Cancer is an increasing cause of morbidity and mortality in the developing world. There are some reports that estimate the by 2030, deaths from cancer will surpass those of infectious disease in these parts of the world.

As part of our partnership with the Department of Otolaryngology at the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine, and in keeping with the health goals published by the South African Ministries of health, in March 2017 we are launching a head and neck cancer awareness and screening campaign throughout the province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
We are continuing to develop research projects in conjunction with the ENT Department at UKZN, focusing on diseases of public health importance in the region. This pairs residents and faculty from both institutions and supports first author publications for South African residents who require them for graduation. This relieves a bottleneck to training South African physicians.

**Chronic Otitis Research Project**
- World Health Organization estimates between 65 and 330 million people are affected
- Up to 20% of children in developing world
- Between 40 and 90% of children will develop some degree of permanent hearing loss
- Thought to cause ~80% of acquired hearing loss globally

- We have concluded the small pilot study in Tugela Ferry
- In March we are launching a province wide study of the impact of chronic ear infections. The results of this study will help guide empiric therapy and management

**Additional Ongoing Projects**
- Conducting the largest retrospective reviews of ototgenic and rhinogenic intracranial sepsis in the literature from cases in KwaZulu-Natal over the last 15 years
- Developing a retrospective/prospective study of HIV effects on head and neck cancer