Barbara Daiker, RN, MA, MS, PhD - Neurosurgery
Daiker was nominated as a finalist for the Mpls St. Paul Magazine’s 2017 Outstanding Nurse Awards in the Administrative Leadership division. Nominations were assessed on a seven-point rubric that included: professionalism, bedside manner, patient interaction, credentials and experience, impact on an organization, leadership, and an “it” factor exemplifying kindness, compassion and empathy. Outstanding Nurses Award winners will be announced August 8.

Paramita Das, MD - Neurosurgery
A neurosurgical resident’s reflections about her time at the U. Neurosurgery Department

Bernadette Gillick, PhD, MS, PT - Rehabilitation Medicine
Gillick has been named to the Global Professional Education Committee for the International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability.

Lucien Gonzalez, MD - Psychiatry
Few youths receive medication for opioid addiction, study finds. Boston Globe

Daniel Guillaume, MD, MS - Neurosurgery
Fighting hydrocephalus. Health Talk

Dorothy Hatuskami, PhD - Psychiatry
Eight words in the Tobacco Control Act to help FDA, courts. USAGNet, Pennsylvania Ag Connection

Cornelius Lam, MD, PhD - Neurosurgery
Fighting hydrocephalus. Health Talk

Amanda LaLonde, PT, DPT - Rehabilitation Medicine
LaLonde successfully obtained her Geriatric Clinical Specialist Certification. The specialist certification program provides formal recognition for physical therapists with advanced clinical knowledge, experience, and skills in a special area of practice. There are currently 48 Geriatric Clinical Specialists in MN, two among the Rehab Medicine faculty.

Benjamin Miller, MD - Neurology
What are the signs and symptoms of a stroke? M Health

Mark Mahowald, MD - Neurology
REM sleep cells linked to brain disorders. Huffington Post

Katharine (Kaz) Nelson, MD - Psychiatry
#eyesUP: Texting’s effect on the brain. KARE-TV, WFMY News 2

Last minute funding for Canvas Health Crisis Hotline. News on Views with Roshini Rajkumar. WCCO-Radio

Middle-aged white men at higher risk for suicide; how you can help. MinnPost

Ann Parr, MD, PhD - Neurosurgery
Brian Jaye, a spine surgery patient of U of M Neurosurgeon chronicled his spine surgery journey through blog posts. You can follow the steps he took here: https://bajaye.wordpress.com/

Michael Park, MD, PhD - Neurosurgery
University of Minnesota Health: On the forefront of movement disorder treatment, management and research. MD News

Matthew Petrucci, PhD - Neurology
Petrucci received the Mentored Clinical Research Award from the Parkinson’s Study Group.

Uzma Samadani, MD, PhD - Neurosurgery
At CHOP, helping to see a better way to diagnose concussions. Philly Voice

Former Viking great struggles with memory loss after years of hard hits. KMSP-TV

Neurosurgeon working with NFL develops novel eye-tracking device to diagnose injury following a concussion. The Good Men Project

UMN researcher develops method to detect high skull pressure in space. Minnesota Daily

Carlos Schenck, MD - Psychiatry
REM sleep cells linked to brain disorders. Huffington Post

When sleep problems turn into relationship problems. NY Mag

Ramachandra Tummala, MD - Neurosurgery
Letter: BA/MD program brings new opportunities for students. Minnesota Daily

Jerry Vitek, MD, PhD - Neurology
Deep Brain Stimulation System is rare technology advance. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Spotlight: Vitek is driven by the thrill of a new discovery. M Health

The Department of Neurosurgery
Family, friends, faith - and a UMMC care team - help a patient recover. Neurosurgery Department

The Department of Psychiatry
Minnesota’s NAVIGATE program showing early success in treating first-episode psychosis. MinnPost

The Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
The Division of Physical Therapy was named a Bronze Award Winner of the 2017 Circle of Excellence Awards Program by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The Division was recognized for its 75th Anniversary and All-Class Reunion Weekend.
The following doctors were named to the *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine* 2017 “Top Doctors” list in their respected fields. Each individual named to the list of “Top Doctors” was nominated by their peers across the metro area for their exceptional care.

**Neurology** - Thomas Henry, MD, Paul Tuite, MD, John Tulloch, MD, David Walk, MD

**Neurosurgery** - Daniel Guillaume, MD, Stephen Haines, MD, Matthew Hunt, MD, Ramachandra Tummala, MD

**Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation** - Dennis Dykstra, MD, PhD

**Psychiatry** - Gail Bernstein, MD, Sheila Specker, MD

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NAMI Walk**

**Date:** Saturday, September 23, 2017  
**Check In:** 11:30 am  
**Start Time:** 1:00 pm  
**Distance:** 5K  
**Location:** Minnehaha Park, Minneapolis, MN

The department of Psychiatry invites you, your friends, and family to participate in the annual National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) walk with them. When you walk with NAMI, you join a celebration of people living with mental illnesses and their families.

The event will feature a resource fair and other activities including a kid’s tent and live music.  

[Register Here](#). Questions? Contact Laura Cabral at 612-273-9881.

**Psychiatry Review 2017**  
*The Complex Puzzle of Addiction, Neuroscience Frontiers*

**Dates:** October 26-27, 2017  
**Time:** 8:00 am - 4:00 pm (both days)  
**Location:** The Commons Hotel, University of Minnesota

This year’s Psychiatry Review conference will provide a guide to the diagnosis, epidemiology, risks, and management of substance use disorders and other psychiatric disorders that commonly co-occur with substance use disorders.

The Psychiatry Review conference is designed for psychiatrists and other physicians, nurses and nurse practitioners, psychologists, social workers, and other healthcare professionals who manage and treat patients with substance use and other behavioral health conditions.

CME credit available.

For more information and to register: [Read More](#).

On Monday, August 14, 2017, **Clark Chen, MD, PhD,** will begin his role as head of the University of Minnesota Department of Neurosurgery. Dr. Chen comes to us from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where he is the Chief of Stereotactic and Radiosurgery and Vice-Chairman of Neurosurgery. He is also the co-Principal Investigator of the UCSD Center for Theoretical and Applied Neuro-Oncology (CTAN).

Dr. Chen is a nationally recognized brain tumor specialist with a dedicated interest in oncology, radiosurgery, skull base surgery, and minimally invasive neurosurgery. He is an NIH RO1 funded investigator with research focused on developing novel diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for brain tumor patients. He is also a leader in the study of DNA repair and genetic alterations in brain tumors.

In 2015, Dr. Chen received the Presidential Award of Achievement from the President of Taiwan, Ma Ying-jeou. The award is given annually by the Taiwanese government to ten individuals of Taiwanese heritage who have made exceptional contributions to their profession.

Dr. Chen received his B.S. in biology from Stanford University, his M.S. in epidemiology from Columbia University, and his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard Medical School. He subsequently completed his neurosurgery training at the Massachusetts General Hospital, including a clinical fellowship in radiosurgery and a second fellowship on stereotactic neurosurgery.

Dr. Chen is a strong and innovative academic leader with both research and clinical expertise. His leadership will be instrumental in continuing the Medical School’s tremendous legacy in academic neurosurgery. Dr. Chen, his wife, and four children are looking forward to becoming a part of the University of Minnesota community.
New Study Participant Payment Method

The University recently launched a program for paying study participants featuring reloadable prepaid MasterCard debit cards. There is no fee for departments to use or issue cards to study participants. Cards can be used with merchants, online, or at cash machines. Departments control loading and issuing cards. This eliminates the need to issue checks, hand out cash, or purchase gift cards. See prepaid.umn.edu for more information.

Use eduroam WiFi Network

Faculty and staff are encouraged to use eduroam, the preferred secure WiFi network for the University of Minnesota. To log in, choose “eduroam” from your WiFi network options and enter your full University email address and password. The eduroam network is available at all campuses. Learn More.

4th Street Parking Ramp Discontinues Early Bird Discounted Parking

Effective Aug. 15, the discounted Early Bird parking rate will no longer be available for public parkers at the 4th Street Parking Ramp. The Early Bird program offers parking for $6 in select University parking locations when drivers arrive before 7 a.m. and exit before midnight. Learn more about other locations and alternatives.

ROSA, A ROBOTIC SURGERY ARM

University of Minnesota Health Experts Using Robot-Guided Laser Surgery to Eliminate Brain Tumors

University of Minnesota Health neurosurgeon Matthew Hunt, MD, (pictured, right), recently performed University of Minnesota Health’s first laser ablation surgery on a brain cancer patient with assistance from ROSA, a robotic surgery arm.

Laser ablation surgery uses light to heat and destroy cancerous tumors or other lesions. For years, the technology has been used to successfully treat cancers on other parts of the body, including prostate cancer and skin cancer. But only recently have medical advancements like the ROSA robotic arm made it possible for surgeons to tackle brain cancer with laser ablation.

Brain surgery has a thin margin for error, and tumors are often located near important areas of the brain that control a vital body system or function. For this reason, many patients with brain cancer are not always eligible for open surgery because the risk of a complication is too high.

But the ROSA device, implemented last year at University of Minnesota Medical Center, improves precision and helps guide surgical teams during brain surgery, enabling surgeons to make use of laser ablation techniques.

“[The ROSA arm] allows us to be confident with the trajectory and extremely precise,” said Hunt.

During a laser ablation procedure, the surgical team drills a small hole in the patient’s skull and inserts a probe at the location of the tumor. The team then uses magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to monitor the positioning of the probe and the temperature of the tissue targeted by the laser ablation.

Laser ablation heats the area. Once it reaches the appropriate temperature, the cancerous cells are destroyed with a minimal impact to nearby healthy brain tissue.

University of Minnesota Health neuro-oncologists make use of Visualase® technology, produced by Medtronic.

“The technology is so precise. When it gets to the necessary temperature, it stops,” said Hunt. “This technology is especially important when we are dealing with hard-to-reach locations. Being able to do that without exposing the brain in open surgery makes life easier for the patients.”

Good News for Patients

Traditional brain surgery is invasive and often requires a two- to three-day hospitalization period following the procedure. Laser ablation is much less invasive, because the surgical team is only required to make a small incision—less than a quarter-inch in diameter—in the skull. Hunt hopes this will reduce recovery times.

“When you are talking about cancer patients, time spent in the hospital matters. If we can use a treatment that keeps them out of the hospital, that’s great,” said Hunt.

Not only does this technology allows doctors to reach more tumors, it can also minimize the risk of damage to healthy areas of the brain, making recovery easier and allowing patients to return to a “normal” life free of complications.

Though laser ablation brain surgery is available to University of Minnesota Health patients, it’s considered an emerging technology and is not widely available. Hunt and colleagues are now exploring other ways to leverage the technology beyond brain surgery.

“We’d like to be able to treat more with this technology. The opportunities this opens are promising,” said Hunt.

First published in M Health E3 Update: 4.12.2017
Advances in Deep Brain Stimulation Offer Relief for Parkinson’s Patients

Refinements in deep brain stimulation (DBS), including new systems and imaging technology, are improving the quality of life for patients affected by Parkinson’s disease. The chronic neurodegenerative disorder—characterized by tremor, slowed voluntary movements, impaired gait and balance, and muscle rigidity—affects a reported 0.3% of the population, and its prevalence increases among older populations.

DBS can ameliorate medication-related side effects of treatment and improve the movement symptoms associated with Parkinson’s disease. In the procedure, neurosurgeons, guided by advanced imaging techniques, and neurologists specializing in brain mapping place leads with electrodes in the subthalamic nucleus (STN) or globus pallidus internus. The leads connect to a pulse generator, which is implanted in a following procedure and programmed to send electrical signals that modulate the brain signals causing the movement problems and drug-induced side effects.

DBS is not a cure, and some Parkinson’s-related conditions such as balance problems and cognitive decline are not likely to improve with stimulation. The procedure, however, can markedly improve tremor, stiffness, and slowness of movement; reduce medication requirements; and improve the response to carbidopa-levodopa as well as ameliorate many motor complications associated with its long-term use. Advanced 3D imaging technology and newly approved directional leads have also enabled more refined targeting of therapy.

Appropriate patient selection and optimal electrode placement are key to improved outcomes with DBS. Patients who continue to respond to medication, even if only intermittently, or who have tremor or dystonia not responsive to medication are good candidates. Screening prospective patients for their suitability for DBS requires a team-based approach, employing neurologists, neuropsychologists, radiologists and neurosurgeons.

In September 2016, University of Minnesota was designated a Udall Center of Excellence for Parkinson Disease Research, one of only nine in the United States. Led by University of Minnesota Health neurologist Jerrold Vitek, MD, PhD, the center includes a multidisciplinary team of neurologists, neurosurgeons, neuroscientists and biomedical engineers.

Read more via Consult.mhealth.org or through the June issue of MD News.

First published in M Health E3 Update: 6.22.2017

University of Minnesota Health Comprehensive Epilepsy Center Again Recognized with Highest 2017 National Accreditation

The National Association of Epilepsy Centers (NAEC) recognizes the University of Minnesota Health MINCEP Epilepsy Care program as a Level 4 Comprehensive Epilepsy Center. NAEC designates programs in this category as having the professional expertise and facilities to provide the highest level medical and surgical evaluation and treatment for patients with complex epilepsy.

NAEC is a non-profit association with a membership of more than 230 specialized epilepsy centers in the United States. The Association develops and promotes standards of care and works with epilepsy centers through its accreditation program. NAEC educates public and private insurers, policymakers and government officials about the complexities of and need for patient access to specialized epilepsy services.

MINCEP was the first comprehensive epilepsy center in the United States and served as a model for epilepsy centers through the world since 1964. Learn more via MHealth.org.

First published in M Health E3 Update: 4.12.2017
MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

Clinical Neurosciences at the Minnesota State Fair

Date: Sunday, September 3, 2017
Time: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Location: U of M Health Zone, Crossroads Building

Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Minnesota includes specialists in neurology, neurosurgery, memory, psychiatry, epilepsy, stroke care, and neuromodulation. We offer a full spectrum of care for your brain and nervous system and will have experts on hand to talk about these services. We have activities for the whole family so stop by our exhibit to see and learn more, including a real human brain! Don’t forget to take your chance spinning our prize wheel! University of Minnesota Health Cares for Your Brain!

Interested in volunteering for the event? We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up and/or man the exhibit tables (Brain, Children’s, Epilepsy, Stroke, Udall Center, Neuromodulation, and Prize Wheel). We ask for two hours of your time and volunteers do not need to have a medical background/experience if staffing the prize wheel table. We do ask that volunteers are age 16 or older and arrive 15 minutes prior to the shift for instructions/questions.

Each volunteer will receive complimentary admission to the fair (stay for the whole day, before or after your shift) and a t-shirt to be worn while volunteering. Contact Trisha Horsmann at horsmann@umn.edu for more information.

DON’T FORGET! - MAROON & GOLD DAY

Sunday, September 3rd is also Maroon and Gold Day at the State Fair! Show your spirit by wearing school colors and be sure to catch the State Fair Parade at 2:00 pm.

WELCOME NEW UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES!

Our newly hired Faculty, Fellows, Residents, Staff and Students who started in June and July 2017.

CNC
Karen Davis
Seyi Oyenekan

NEUROLOGY
Mona Al Banna
Brent Berry
Malik Ghannam
Adam Lipschultz
Kendall Nichols
Stephanie Reeder
Emily Vollbrecht
Hafsa Mohamed
Ethan Marshall
Elizabeth Sachse
Sarah Holloway
Tapan Mehta
Jared Clapper
Eliott Johnson
Kalyan Chekravarthy Sajja
Subin Jang
Michelle Chu
Megan Somers
Oladi Belho, MD, MS

NEUROSURGERY
Truong Huy Do
Youssef Hamade

PSYCHIATRY
Ryan Bonner
Thomas Briese
Ryan Carlson
Brook Cole
Felicia Hansell
Glen Rebman
Laura Sloan
Lucas Hansen
Akshay Patke
Kristine Matson
Sara Whitehouse
Alexander Herman
Dana Mowsli Carroll, MPH
Raghu Gandhi
Diksha Srishyla
Victoria Espens-Sturges
Adnan Ahmed, MD
Sarah Coleman

REHABILITATION MEDICINE
Danielle McIntosh
Amanda Day
Christopher Meserve
Michael Nguyen
Robert Sjoholm
Brett Johnson
James Porter, PhD, LP
Tanveer-E-Fatema Hassam
Mehreen Iqbal
Ashish Kumar
Lisa Page

UMN FARMERS MARKET

UMN Farmers Market
The University Farmers Market returned Wednesday, July 12 to the Gateway Plaza, just outside the McNamara Alumni Center. The Farmers Market takes place every Wednesday, rain or shine, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, until September 27, 2017. Get your fresh produce, grab lunch at the UDS grill or one of the many food trucks, enjoy live music, and be sure to grab your free reusable bag at the Wellness booth!

Pictured, l-r, Michael Park, MD, PhD and Trisha Horsmann educate fairgoers at the brain table during the 2016 Minnesota State Fair.

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