Dr. Robert Zhen Zhong was born in Shanghai, China on January 16, 1946. He graduated from Shanghai No 1 Medical University and was then assigned by the government to work as a general surgeon in a community hospital. Dr. Zhong attended a seminar led by Dr. Sun Lee – considered to be the founding father of experimental microsurgery – and whom he would later credit to be one of the most important mentors of his life. Dr. Zhong arrived in Canada first as a research fellow under the supervision of Drs. John Duff and Calvin Stiller in 1984. His persistence and vision led to a full-time appointment and microsurgical animal models that would be applied in human transplantation clinical practice.

Recognizing that molecular biology and transplant immunology were critical to the future of transplantation, Dr. Zhong began his study of these fields in Canada to become one of the world’s leading experts in transplantation and microsurgery. He went on to become a Tier One Canada Research Chair in Transplantation and Experimental Surgery in 2004 and was appointed a full Professor in the Departments of Surgery, Pathology, and Microbiology & Immunology at The University of Western Ontario. Dr. Zhong was a scientist at the Robarts Research Institute; Director of the Microsurgery Laboratory at LHSC; and a scientist at the Lawson Health Research Institute.

Dr. Zhong’s influence into the fields of transplantation and microsurgery were profound and far-reaching. He was Past President of the International Society of Experimental Microsurgery; a member of the Canadian Society of Transplantation, American Society of Transplantation; and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons. Dr. Zhong was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Canadian Society of Transplantation posthumously in 2007. Dr. Zhong published over 180 peer-reviewed publications and achieved millions of dollars in research grant funding. He supervised more than 70 graduate students and fellows and trained over 70 microsurgeons worldwide during his 21- year career at Western. His superb leadership and vision were recognized as having created an internationally renowned program in experimental transplantation. A brilliant scholar, teacher, and mentor, Dr. Zhong is also remembered as a man of great humility, kindness, and respect.

Dr. Robert Zhen Zhong passed away in London, Ontario on September 8, 2006.

Learning Objectives

1. To understand the outcomes following various modalities to treat intra-abdominal aneurysms.
2. To evaluate gender trends in surgery.
3. To understand the mechanisms behind rotator cuff injury.
4. To understand the economic impact of outpatient myringotomy tube placement.
5. To evaluate the downstream molecular targets following congenital tracheal occlusion.
6. To learn about the utility of image guided interventional surgery.
7. To evaluate the role of vaccination in breast cancer prevention.
8. To understand the relationship between handover of anesthetic care following major surgery and patient outcomes.
9. To explore the impact of surgical quality based metric research.

(25% of this program is dedicated to participant interaction)

CME Credits

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and approved by Continuing Professional Development, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University. You may claim a maximum of 4.5 hours.

Each participant should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent participating in the educational program.

Please note: To obtain your Certificate of Attendance for your CME credits, you must complete the Research Day evaluation form at the end of Research Day. Forms will be collected after closing remarks.
7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Registration/ Coffee
7:15 – 8:30 a.m. Poster Session
8:30 – 8:50 a.m. Opening Remarks: Dr. Emil Schemitsch
Richard Ivey Professor & Chair/Chief, Department of Surgery

Award Winning Resident / Fellow Research Papers

8:50 – 9:00 a.m. Dr. Oonagh Scallan
Division of Vascular Surgery
“Long-Term Outcomes Comparing Endovascular and Open Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair in Octogenarians”

9:00 – 9:10 a.m. Dr. Matt Valdis
Division of Cardiac Surgery
“What Happens to the Aortic Root Graft with Time? A Comprehensive Longitudinal Assessment of Valve Sparing Aortic Root Replacement”

9:10 – 9:20 a.m. Dr. Patrick Murphy
Division of General Surgery
“Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Use to Decrease Surgical Nosocomial Events in Colorectal Resections (NEPTUNE): A Randomized Controlled Trial”

9:20 – 9:30 a.m. Dr. Leandra Stringer
Division of Urology
“Assessing Gender Trends in Urology”

9:30 – 9:40 a.m. Dr. Kitty Wu
Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
“Characterizing Breast Capsular Contracture: A Translational Study of Primary Fibroblast Behavior”
9:40 – 9:50 a.m.  Dr. Supriya Singh  
Division of Orthopaedic Surgery  
“A Cadaveric, Biomechanics Study Comparing the Subacromial Balloon Spacer to Superior Capsular Reconstruction in the Treatment of Massive, Irreparable Rotator Cuff Tears”

9:50 – 10:00 a.m.  Dr. Khrystyna Ioanidis  
Division of Paediatric Surgery  
“A Cost and Efficiency Analysis of Performing Myringotomy with Tube Insertion Procedures in the Minor Procedure Room Compared to the Operating Room”

Presentation by Award Winning MSc Student Colloquium Presentation
10:05 – 10:15 a.m.  Dr. Martina Mudri  
MSc in Surgery Candidate  
“The Effects of Tracheal Occlusion on Wnt Signaling in a Rabbit Model of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia”

10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Break amongst Posters & Sponsor Booths

Node Presenters
10:45 – 10:55 a.m.  Dr. Alp Sener  
Division of Urology  
Overview of Node Plan

10:55 – 11:15 a.m.  Dr. Aaron Fenster  
Fundamental Sciences & Surgical Innovation Node Speaker  
“Development of Image-Guided Interventional Systems”
11:15 – 11:35 a.m.  
**Dr. Sayra Cristancho**  
Surgical Education Node Speaker  
“Untangling Surgical Complexity and its Implications for Surgical Education”

11:35 – 11:55 a.m.  
**Dr. Muriel Brackstone**  
Patient Centered Research Node Speaker  
“Single Dose Preoperative Breast Radiation (SIGNAL) Trial: Clinical Outcomes and Translational Research Opportunities for Immune Priming/In Situ Vaccination in Breast Cancer”

11:55 – 12:15 p.m.  
**Dr. Kelly Vogt**  
ICES/Big Data Node Speaker  
“Association between Handover of Anesthesia Care and Adverse Postoperative Outcomes among Patients Undergoing Major Surgery”

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch/Node Breakout Sessions

**Invited Speaker**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
**Dr. David Urbach** “Missing the Forest for the Trees? Upstream Thinking in Surgical Quality”

Dr. David Urbach is Chief of Surgery and Director of Perioperative Services at Women’s College Hospital, and Professor of Surgery and Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at The University of Toronto. His clinical practice focuses on minimally invasive surgery, particularly gastrointestinal, hernia, adrenal and obesity surgery. He is a Senior Fellow at the Women’s College Hospital Institute for Health System Solutions and Virtual Care (WiHV), and Senior Scientist at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES).

His research program focuses on surgery-related health services research, including measurement of the quality and outcomes of surgical care, and methods for the evaluation of surgery and other health technologies.
Group Interactive Session

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.  **DEBATE:** Merits of Surgeon Specific Outcomes and their Impact on Clinical and Teaching Practices
Dr. Michael Chu and Dr. Patrick Colquhoun
Moderator: Dr. Neil Parry

Awards & Closing Remarks

3:00 – 3:05 p.m.  Dr. Emil Schemitsch

Evaluation Forms

3:05 – 3:15 p.m.  **Completion of Participation Evaluation Forms**
Forms can be handed in at the front of the auditorium in the box provided.
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