

**Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Residency Program, 2006**

WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Training Program at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and its affiliated hospitals. Our program has a distinguished history of excellence and innovation in the field of Plastic Surgery. This includes research and education, as well as clinical practice.

The program is a “combined” plastic surgery residency covering a six-year period. The first three years are spent in the Department of General Surgery under the direction of Drs. Michael Marin, the Chairman, and Celia Divino, the Program Director. Residents are exposed to a wide variety of surgical disciplines and retain a strong connection with the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery through rotations at Mount Sinai as well as through conferences.

The Mount Sinai Hospital, a 1,171–bed tertiary care center on Manhattan’s Upper East Side, is one of the nation’s oldest and largest voluntary teaching hospitals. Our educational process and training program have evolved throughout our history.

Our program emphasizes strong mentoring. We believe that positive role models are critical to ensuring residents’ long-term success. We foster mentoring not only from attending physicians to residents, but also among the residents themselves. We feel this lays the foundation for sound decision-making, while building a strong support system.

Alumni from the program have gone on to highly sought after Fellowships and practice opportunities around the country in some of the nation’s most prestigious institutions.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Mount Sinai Hospital admitted patient No.1 on June 8, 1855, three days after opening its doors. **Dr. Israel Moses** operated on L.S., a 42-year-old male with a fistula-in-ano, who went home five days later in good condition. The Department of Surgery has played a key role in the evolution and success of the institution ever since.

Prior to the existence of an organized Plastic Surgery service, **Dr. John H. Garlock** was a prominent member of the Mount Sinai surgical faculty. He was a founding member of the American Board of Surgery and later the American Board of Plastic Surgery. He published numerous studies on the use of full-thickness skin grafts, hand surgery, and the release of burn contractures. With his help, the Division of Plastic Surgery at the Mount Sinai Hospital was begun in 1952.

Dr. Arthur J. Barsky was appointed as the first Chief of Mount Sinai's Plastic Surgery service. During his tenure in the military during World War II, Dr. Barsky established the first independent hand service in the U.S. Army. He was a charter member of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand and served as its first President in 1965. Upon his appointment as the Chief of Plastic Surgery, Dr. Barsky established the residency training program. In 1955, he and his partners participated in the Hiroshima Maiden Project, the rehabilitation of twenty-five Japanese women who had suffered severe burn deformities as a result of the atomic bomb blast in 1945. In the ensuing years, Mount Sinai surgeons went to Japan and provided training in Plastic Surgery, leading to the introduction of the specialty in Japan. Dr. Barsky co-founded Children's Medical Relief International (CMRI) during the Vietnam conflict in order to establish a Children's Reconstructive Surgery Center in Saigon. During the time that this Center operated, many local surgeons were trained in plastic surgery and more than 10,000 surgeries were performed.

In 1965, Dr. Barsky's partner **Dr. Bernard Simon** took over administration of the Division. Dr. Simon served as Chief of Plastic Surgery at Mount Sinai until his retirement in 1979 but continued to teach until his death at the age of 87.

In 1982, **Dr. Saul Hoffman** replaced Dr. Simon as Chief of the Division. Born and raised in Canada, Dr. Hoffman joined Dr. Simon's practice in 1964 after a three-year residency and one year fellowship at Mount Sinai. He served as Chief for six years eventually returning to private practice in New York.

Dr. Lester Silver became the first full-time Chief of the Division in 1988. He previously worked at Beth Israel Hospital in New York and served as Director of Professional Services for CMRI, spending considerable time on-site in Saigon. During his term, he has expanded the full-time faculty, increased both the clinical

and the research output of the Division, and added strength and stability to the training program.

References:

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FACULTY

Lester Silver, M.D., M.S. *Chief*



Dr. Silver has served as Chief of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and as Program Director since 1988. He is well-known nationally for his devotion to the training of residents and internationally for surgical missions to disadvantaged countries. His main area of subspecialty interest is pediatric plastic surgery.

Jin Chun, M.D.



Dr. Chun graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He trained in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Albany Medical Center. He has also completed Fellowship training in hand surgery and microsurgery. Dr. Chun is board certified in Plastic Surgery and is a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons. He has an active clinical practice specializing in breast reconstruction and body contouring surgery.

Harvey Himel, M.D.



Dr. Himel graduated from the New York University School of Medicine. He completed training in General Surgery at Boston University, and Plastic Surgery at the University of Southern California. He has extensive clinical and research experience in burn and wound care. He is board certified in General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Surgery of the Hand, Critical Care Medicine and Hyperbaric Medicine.

Ernest H. Kirchman, M.D.



Dr. Kirchman attended Harvard Medical School and went on to complete a residency at Mount Sinai Medical Center in General and Plastic Surgery. He is now Chief of the Plastic Surgery service at Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens, one of New York City's Health and Hospital Corporations facilities, working with the residents to manage a challenging variety of patients and conditions.

Peter J. Taub, M.D., *Associate program director*



Dr. Taub graduated medical school from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He initially trained in General Surgery at Mount Sinai, Dr. Taub completed a second residency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles. He went on to study Craniofacial Surgery at UCLA with Dr. Henry K. Kawamoto, Jr., M.D., D.D.S. He initially served as the Chief of Pediatric Plastic Surgery at the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital in Valhalla, New York and returned to Mount Sinai to serve as the Associate Residency Program Director and continue the medical center's tradition in the care of children born with clefts of the lip and palate as well as other craniofacial anomalies.

Jess Ting, M.D.



A classical double-bassist by training, Dr. Ting received Bachelors and Masters Degrees from the Juilliard School of Music. After a change in career, he enrolled at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he graduated Alpha Omega Alpha and first in his class. He stayed on at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center for his training in General Surgery and then moved to The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center for a residency in Plastic Surgery. After returning to New York City for a Fellowship in Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery, he joined the Division of Plastic Surgery at Mount Sinai in September 2001. His clinical practice consists of a mix of hand surgery and general plastic surgery.

AFFILIATE INSTITUTIONS

In addition to Mount Sinai Medical Center, The Residency Program has affiliations with several premiere healthcare institutions in the New York metropolitan area. Each partner excels in distinct specialties, creating a unique program that offers broad-based experience in a VA facility, a city hospital, and a more suburban hospital. These different environments complement the tertiary-care experience gained at Mount Sinai.

Bronx Veterans Affairs Hospital

As the oldest VA facility in New York, the Bronx VA has served veterans for more than 75 years. Today, it is a multilevel healthcare Center of Excellence, accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The hospital has over 300 inpatient beds and a 120-bed nursing home care unit. The outpatient service includes dozens of specialties and sub-specialties. The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Service is under the direction of Dr. Jay Meisner.



Elmhurst Hospital Center

Elmhurst Hospital Center serves as the major tertiary-care provider in the borough of Queens. The 525-bed hospital is a Level I Trauma Center and has one of New York City's busiest Emergency Departments. Designated as an American Cancer Society teaching hospital, the center serves an ethnically diverse community of approximately one million people and offers a range of multicultural services. The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Service is under the direction of Dr. Ernest Kirchman.



Westchester Medical Center

Westchester Medical Center is located north of New York City and serves residents in Westchester and the lower Hudson River Valley. The hospital has a Level I trauma center equipped for Stat-Flight helicopter service and an ABA-accredited burn unit. There is a children's hospital and a sub-acute and chronic care facility on the grounds. The Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Service and burn unit are under the direction of Dr. Roger Salisbury.



RESIDENT WORK HOURS

Mount Sinai strictly adheres to the resident work hour guidelines mandated by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and New York State law. Specific limitations on resident work hours can be found at www.acgme.org under “resident duty hours.”

In general, the following guidelines apply to residents’ schedules:

- Residents will not be at the hospital more than 80 hours per week.
- All residents will receive one day off per week.
- Call periods will not exceed 24 hours.
- Residents will have call no more than once per 72-hour period.

These guidelines apply to all resident levels.

Call schedules vary by affiliate site and surgical service. Call typically varies from once every three days to once every six days. Most plastic surgery call is not in-house, but, of course, the on-call resident remains available as needed.

During the general surgery years at Mount Sinai, physician assistants and nurse practitioners are available to assist the residents with routine patient care, which maximizes operating and learning opportunities for the residents. During the plastic surgery years, the residents are assisted by rotating junior-level general surgery residents and medical students.

ROTATIONS

General Surgery (PGY 1 through 3)

The first two years offer a broad introduction to the art and science of surgery. Residents learn to diagnose a wide range of surgical problems within General Surgery and the surgical sub-specialties. While the curriculum emphasizes pre- and postoperative management of surgical problems, residents also gain surgical experience under the direct guidance of an attending surgeon.

The rotations vary among the affiliate hospitals:

- General Surgery at Mount Sinai, Elmhurst, the Bronx VA, and Englewood Hospital in New Jersey
- Vascular Surgery
- Surgical ICU
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- Urologic Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Cardiac Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Renal Transplant
- Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Surgery
- Surgery in the Dominican Republic

During their first three years, residents are expected to learn general surgical principles as well as begin to investigate issues more relevant to plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (PGY 4 through 6)

After completing three years in the General Surgery program at Mount Sinai, residents enter the three-year Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery component of their training. They rotate through each of the affiliated institutions and are expected to attend the mandatory didactic lectures and conferences.

Fourth Year; Residents in their fourth year begin the rapid transition from general surgeon to plastic surgeon. Frequently, they move from junior resident on a service to the senior-most resident on a plastic surgery service. Their rotations include Mount Sinai Medical Center, Elmhurst Hospital Center, the Bronx VA, and Westchester Medical Center.

Fifth Year: Residents in their fifth years rotate among most of the affiliate hospitals serving as either the chief or as a senior resident. Their rotations

include Mount Sinai Medical Center, Elmhurst Hospital Center, the Bronx VA, and Westchester Medical Center. Time is also available to visit clinical faculty in their offices to gain insight into office-based procedures and general office management.

Sixth (Chief) Year: Residents in their chief year spend most of their time directing the services at two locations, Mount Sinai Medical Center and Elmhurst Hospital Center. The chief resident at Mount Sinai attends all clinics and schedules his/her own cases with the faculty of their choice. The chief residents serve administrative duties in preparing conferences and reviewing material for the more junior residents.

EDUCATION

Conferences

Throughout each month, several mandatory scheduled conferences have been created for the benefit of the faculty and residents of the program. Each Wednesday morning is reserved for a rotating schedule of lectures and didactic teaching:

- Indications conference, allowing residents to present cases and their planned solutions.
- Cor-Quest review in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery as a means of preparation for the yearly In-Service examination and ultimately the written board examination taken at the completion of the residency program.
- Journal club, allowing residents to review selected abstracts from either *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* or other peer-reviewed journals.
- Faculty lectures in his/her area of expertise.
- Ancillary informational activities such as statistics, bioethics, medico-legal, office management, etc.

The Grand Rounds and Morbidity and Mortality conference is held one evening per month in the new Icahn Research Institute on the campus of the Medical Center. It is attended by the full-time and voluntary faculty. The residents from each of the various clinical rotations are asked to present complicated cases from the previous month. Dinner is provided.

Mount Sinai Cleft & Craniofacial Center

The Cleft & Craniofacial Center is the oldest team in the New York area established for the diagnosis and management of children with clefts of the lip and palate as well as other craniofacial anomalies. It is co-directed by Dr. Silver and Dr. Taub and staffed by a multidisciplinary team of physicians and clinicians experienced in the care of such patients.

Mount Sinai Vascular Anomalies Center

The Vascular Anomalies program was created to manage children and adults in the New York area with a variety of vascular lesions, including hemangiomas and vascular malformations. It is run by a multidisciplinary team of physicians, including hematology/oncology, pediatric dermatology, and interventional radiology.

RESEARCH

Selected Faculty Publications (1995 to present)

1. Choi M, Hirigoyen MB, Zhang W, Weinberg H, **Silver L**, **Chun J**. Increased patency of artificial microvascular grafts using arteriovenous fistula loops: a two-stage procedure for lengthening the pedicle of free-tissue transfer. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery*, Vol. 12, No. 5, July 1996: pgs. 283-290.
2. Trelles MA, Baker SS, **Ting J**, Toregard BM. Carbon dioxide laser transconjunctival lower lid blepharoplasty complications. *Annals of Plastic Surgery* 1996 Nov;37(5):465-8.
3. Hirigoyen MB, Blackwell K, Zhang W, **Silver L**, Weinberg H. Continuous tissue oxygen tension measurement as a monitor of free flap viability. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* Vol. 99 #3, Mar. 1997, 763-773.
4. Sclafani A, Romo T III., **Silver L**. Clinical and histologic behavior of exposed porous high density polyethylene implants" *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* Vol. 99, #1, Jan 1997, 41-50.
5. **Taub PJ**, Marmur JD, Zhang WX, Senderoff D, Urken ML, **Silver L**, Weinberg H. Locally administered vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) cDNA increases survival of ischemic experimental skin flaps. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* 102: 2033-2039, 1998.
6. **Taub PJ**, Marmur JD, Zhang WX, Senderoff D, Urken ML, **Silver L**, Weinberg H. Effect of time on the viability of ischemic skin flaps treated with vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) cDNA. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery*. 14 (6): 387-390, 1998.
7. **Chun JK**, Benhaim AB, Pottino P, Cohn C. Use of the umbilicus in reconstruction of the vulva and vagina with a rectus abdominis musculocutaneous flap. *Annals of Plastic Surgery* 1998 Jun;40(6):659-63.
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9. Li QF, Reis ED, Zhang W, **Silver L**, Fallon, JT, Weinberg H. Accelerated Flap Prefabrication with Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery* Vol 16, NO. 1 January 2000.

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11. **Taub PJ**, **Silver L**, Weinberg H. Plastic surgical perspectives on gene therapy for angiogenesis. *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery* 105: 1034-1042, 2000.
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13. **Chun JK**, Margoles SL, Birnbaum JW. Radial forearm free flap for salvage of Achilles-tendon repair wounds. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery* 2000 Oct;16(7):519-23.
14. Cunningham JD, **Silver L**, Rudikoff, D. Necrotizing Fasciitis – A plea for early diagnosis & treatment. *Mt Sinai J Med* Vol. 68, nos. 4/5, Sept/Oct 2001, pgs 253-261.
15. Buka R, Friedman K, Phelps R, **Silver L**, Calero F, Rudikoff D. Childhood Longitudinal Melanonychia: case reports and review of the literature, *Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine*, vol. 68, nos 4/5, Sept/Oct 2001, pgs 331,335.
16. **Taub PJ**, Bradley JP, Kawamoto, Jr. HK. Closure of an oronasal fistula in an irradiated palate by distraction osteogenesis. *Journal of Craniofacial Surgery* 12(5): 495-9, 2001.
17. **Chun JK** and Sterry TP. Latissimus dorsi musculocutaneous flap based on the serratus branch with microvascular venous augmentation. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery* 2001 Feb;17(2):95-8.
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34. Stebbins WG, Fan C, **Silver L, Chun JK**. Effect of VEGF on tail artery interpositional loop (TAIL) flap: a rodent model for flap prefabrication. *Journal of Reconstructive Microsurgery* 2005 Oct;21(7):477-82.
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SALARY, BENEFITS, HOUSING and AMENITIES

Salary and Benefits

The Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Medical Center offers a competitive salary and benefits package, which includes medical and dental insurance, malpractice coverage, and paid vacation. For more information on current pay scales, benefits, contracts, and other residency information, please log on to: www.mssm.edu/gme.

Housing

Many residents live in Mount Sinai-owned apartments on Manhattan's Upper East Side, within walking distance of the hospital. They can choose from several different buildings with a range of layouts and amenities – from studios to two-bedroom apartments, some with doormen, balconies, and on-site parking.

Residents also have access to subsidized housing in the Jane B. Aron Residence Hall, located across the street from the Medical Center. Amenities include a 24-hour doorman, a fitness room, an entertainment lounge, and on-site laundry facilities. For more information, residents should contact the Mount Sinai Real Estate office at (212) 659-9630.

A small percentage of residents live in other areas of Manhattan, the outer boroughs of New York, New Jersey, or Westchester County. The Medical Center is blocks from the 96th Street subway station, and the local bus system is extensive, making public transportation convenient. Residents who drive can take advantage of discounted garage parking near the facility.

Amenities

The recreation office offers additional fringe benefits, such as discounts on sporting events, theater tickets, movies, and health-club memberships.

ALUMNI (1994 to present)

John Ko, M.D. (2005) is in private practice in Queens and remains an integral part of the Division providing assistance and expertise to the residents who rotate through Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens.

Elan Singer, M.D. (2005) completed a Fellowship in aesthetic surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York. He is currently in private practice in New Jersey.

Justin Sacks, M.D. (2004) took a research fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh under the direction of W.P. Andrew Lee, M.D. His research has focused on hand and soft tissue transplantation. He has continued his training as the hand and microsurgery fellow at Pittsburgh.

Michael Christy, M.D. (2003) completed a Fellowship at USC and is now on the faculty at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland. He works at the Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore.

Richard J. Mackool, M.D. (2003) went on to complete a Fellowship in Craniofacial Surgery at NYU Medical Center under the direction of Dr. Joseph G. McCarthy and is continuing his training in ophthalmology.

Matthew Lynch, M.D. (2002) completed a Fellowship in Microsurgery at M.D. Anderson in Texas. Currently, he is in private practice in New Jersey.

Malik Kutty, M.D. (2002) is in private practice in Putnam County, New York.

Thomas Sterry, M.D. (2001) is currently in private practice in New York City and remains an active member of the Division.

Steven Kronowitz, M.D. (2000) completed a Fellowship in microsurgery at M.D. Anderson in Texas where he has remained on the attending staff.

Anthony LaBruna, M.D. (2000) completed a training program in otolaryngology prior to his plastic surgery training. Currently, he is on the full-time faculty at the New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center in New York City.

Fernando Calero, M.D. (1999) is in practice in Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

Sandra Margoles, M.D. (1999) is in practice in Stamford, CT.

Harvey Bluestein, M.D. (1998) completed a Hand Fellowship at Yale and is in practice in Fairfield, CT.

Karl Hekimian, M.D. (1997) completed a Fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, AZ and is in practice in Tucson, AZ.

Douglas Senderoff, M.D. (1997) is in practice in New York City.

David Friedman, M.D. (1996) is in practice in New York City.

Benjamin Cooper, M.D. (1996) completed a Fellowship in hand surgery in Tampa, FL and is currently in a group practice in Newark, DE.

Mihye Choi, M.D. (1995) completed a Fellowship in hand surgery at N.Y.U. where she has remained on the attending staff.

Leo Keegan, M.D. (1994) is in private practice in New York City and remains an active member of the Division.

Lloyd Landsman, M.D. (1994) is in private practice in Long Island, New York.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Mount Sinai Hospital Website

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Mount Sinai Surgery Residents Page

www.mssurg.net

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Page for Information
on Resident Work Hours

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Revised 11/12/06