Message from the Chairman
As the Mount Sinai Health System becomes more fully integrated, the newly formed Cerebrovascular Surgery Program applies advanced technology to provide quality treatments on vascular and related disorders of the brain and spine.

The Cerebrovascular Surgery Program at Mount Sinai applies advanced technology to provide quality treatments on vascular and related disorders of the brain and spine. A multidisciplinary collaboration of surgeons, physicians, nurses, and support staff specializing in endovascular neurosurgery, interventional neuroradiology, neurosurgery, neurology, stroke, trauma, otolaryngology (ENT), and plastic surgery develop an individually tailored, comprehensive medical care plan for each specific patient—whether children, adults, or the elderly.

Treatment
The Cerebrovascular Surgery Program’s modern, state-of-the-art facility utilizes the most effective and least invasive procedures available, and varying on the condition and involvement required, treatment plans may include minimally invasive endovascular procedures or open microsurgery.

Advanced 3D Neurosurgical Simulators
In Mount Sinai’s pioneering efforts to continue the delivery of exceptional medical care, improve outcomes, and reduce complications with our patients, we utilize advanced, high-end, 3D neurosurgical and endovascular simulators. Highly innovative, simulator platforms allow surgeons to input patient-specific data and brain images, developing a precise 3D rendering of the patient’s brain. Prior to the surgery, our team of skilled surgeons can begin the preparation, planning, and rehearsal of a variety of vascular procedures, including the clipping of aneurysms and resection of tumors. Likewise, our physicians can review endovascular techniques on endovascular simulators to ensure they are appropriate for patient treatment.

Cerebrovascular Procedures
The Program is also prepared to provide emergency, trauma, and urgent care to patients who are affected by cerebral hemorrhages, aneurysm rupture, or ischemic strokes. Time is of the essence in the treatment of many cerebrovascular diseases. Both brain ischemia and hemorrhage require prompt treatment. Intervention must be accurate and swift to prevent temporary or even permanent damage to the brain, resulting in mental, physical, and cognitive disabilities. Our experts diagnose these conditions and determine a strategy to prevent or minimize cerebrovascular complications.

Hemangiomas and Vascular Malformations
The Cerebrovascular Surgery Program provides world-class care in the diagnosis, treatment, management, and research of hemangiomas and vascular malformations. Vascular malformations are approached in a multidisciplinary manner employing endovascular therapy, microsurgery, radiation, and often combinations of the three. The Program employs the latest, state-of-the-art technology, treatment methods and protocols for infants, teenagers, and even adults affected by vascular birthmarks, tumors, and anomalies.

CEREBROVASCULAR SURGERY PROGRAM
Klingenstein Clinical Center, 1-North 1450 Madison Avenue, New York Phone: 212-241-3400 Fax: 646-537-2299 www.mountsinai.org/cerebrovascular

Dr. Alejandro Berenstein, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery, Radiology and Radiological Sciences at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

His clinical interests include stroke, brain aneurysms, subarachnoid hemorrhage, arteriovenous malformations, cavernous malformations, carotid artery stenosis, intracranial stenosis, and brain tumors.

Dr. Mocco received his medical degree from the Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. He completed his Master of Science in Biostatistics from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia. He completed his internship in General Surgery at New York Presbyterian Medical Center, followed by a research fellowship in Neurological Surgery from Columbia University. He then completed his residency in Neurosurgery from the Neurological Institute of New York. Following his residency, he completed his fellowship in Endovascular Neurosurgery from the University of Buffalo.

Dr. Mocco’s research interests focus on translational efforts to treat ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke.

Dr. Alejandro Berenstein is the Director of the Pediatric Cerebrovascular Surgery Program and Director of the Hyman-Newman Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery at Mount Sinai. He received his medical degree from Universidad Nacional Autonoma De Mexico and he did his residency in radiology from Mount Sinai Hospital and his fellowship training in neuroradiology at New York University Medical Center. He is a pioneer in endovascular surgery and established the first comprehensive center for the multidisciplinary treatment of head, neck, and peripheral vascular lesions. His contributions extend from the description of the functional vascular anatomy, understanding and describing the diseases, to the development of multiple medical devises to treat them used throughout the world.

Dr. Berenstein is also the recipient of the prestigious Paolo Raimondi Award from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) for his contributions to pediatric neurosurgical surgery. He is fluent in Spanish.

Dr. Johanna T. Fifi specializes in the endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular disorders including stroke, intracranial and carotid stenosis, brain aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations and fistulas of the brain and spine, pre-operative embolization of tumors, as well as craniofacial vascular lesions in adults and children.

Dr. Fifi is a board-certified neuroendovascular surgeon. She is an Assistant Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Radiology.

Dr. Berenstein received the 2006 Autism Society of America Gold Key Award for his contributions to the field of autism.

Dr. Alejandro Berenstein is the recipient of the 2010 Joseph B. Coyne Research Award from the American Academy of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) for his contributions to the field of pediatric neurosurgical surgery.
Mount Sinai Roosevelt’s Pediatric Surgeries Move to Kravis Children’s Hospital

As part of the merger of Mount Sinai Hospital and Continuum Health Partners (CHP) and the expansion of the Pediatric Neurology and Neurosurgical services, the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the Vascular Malformations and Hemangioma Institute at Mount Sinai Roosevelt has moved surgeries to the new location at the Kravis Children’s Hospital.

Walter J. Molofsky, MD, Director of the Health System’s Division of Pediatric Neurology, is heading a team of 12 neurologists with expertise in areas that include epilepsy, headache, and hydrocephalus. Together with the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery, under Director Saadi Ghatan, MD, and in collaboration with Alejandro Berenstein, MD, Pediatric Cerebrovascular Surgery, Director, Hyman-Newman Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery and Director; and Saadi Ghatan, MD, Director of the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery, Mount Sinai has become world-renowned for epilepsy surgery and interventional neuroradiology techniques in children, and for advancing research into a number of common neurological conditions.

This partnership creates one of the largest pediatric neurology and pediatric neurosurgery services in the City of New York and builds on our commitment to provide a superior, family-friendly environment for infants, children, adolescents and young adults to receive outstanding medical care. Mount Sinai has become world-renowned for interventional neuroradiology techniques and epilepsy surgery in children.

KRAVIS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT MOUNT SINAI

1184 Fifth Avenue, New York

Dr. Berenstein Honored by the American Heart Association at Yankee Stadium

From left: Dr. Richard Hodosh, Atlantic Brain & Spine Institute of Overlook Hospital; Dr. Alex Berenstein, Nancy Brown, Chief Executive Officer, American Heart Association; Maeda San, CEO of Docoma; and, New York Yankees pitcher Chase Whitley. Photo courtesy of the New York Yankees.

For eight years, The American Heart Association (AHA) hosts an event at Yankee Stadium that recognizes people who have made significant contributions to the field of stroke. On August 5, the AHA presented the award to the Department of Neurosurgery’s Dr. Alejandro Berenstein. The award is in recognition of the fact that he has made it his life’s work to help people live longer, stronger, healthier lives – and for his numerous contributions the fields of neurology, neuroradiology, and neurosurgery.

Mount Sinai Health System Vastly Strengthens the Department of Neurosurgery

The Mount Sinai Health System’s Department of Neurosurgery has 36 full-time attending and voluntary neurosurgeons, and cerebrovascular and endovascular surgeons.


By earning “top rankings” in six medical specialties, The Mount Sinai Hospital also achieved “Honors Roll” status in this year’s U.S. News & World Report “Best Hospitals” guidebook.

Saadi Ghatan, MD, a board certified neurological surgeon and pediatric neurosurgeon, has been appointed Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at the Mount Sinai Health System.

Dr. Ghatan’s philosophy of care combines passion for the treatment of pediatric neurological problems with a focus on working with the patient, family, and care team to achieve the best possible outcomes. His clinical interests include the treatment of nervous system conditions in the head, brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves. Specifically, he treats patients with epilepsy, brain and spinal cord tumors, arteriovenous malformations, craniofacial disorders, chiari malformations, syringomyelia, tethered spinal cords, spasticity, and hydrocephalus. He is an expert in minimally invasive neurosurgery with endoscopy and brain mapping with electrophysiological monitoring.

Ronit Gilad, MD, joined the Mount Sinai Health System and practices general brain and general spine surgery, treating all neurological conditions. A board-certified neurosurgeon, Dr. Gilad is based at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Manhattan with office hours at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Brooklyn. Dr. Gilad was previously a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy where she served as the staff physician in the Department of Neurosurgery at the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth. In the Navy, she participated in their combat traumatic brain injury program and headed their tumor board. She is fluent in Hebrew.

Soriaya Motivala, MD, joined the Mount Sinai Health System and practices general brain and general spine surgery, treating all neurological conditions. A practicing neurosurgeon, Dr. Motivala is based at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Manhattan with office hours at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Brooklyn. Dr. Motivala was previously a Chief Resident of Neurosurgery in the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is fluent in French.

Stephan A. Mayer, MD, FCCM, Director of the Institute for Critical Care Medicine at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai was honored by The American Heart Association as a “Heart Stroke Lifesaver.” The award is given to experts for going above and beyond the call of duty in support of the AHA’s mission to build lives free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

“It is an honor to be recognized by the American Heart Association and my peers in New York City who together have been fighting to reduce the burdens placed on patients and our communities by heart attacks and strokes,” says Dr. Mayer. “We are all lifesavers each and every day.” Dr. Mayer joined Mount Sinai in February 2014 as Director of its Institute for Critical Care Medicine at Icahn School of Medicine. He is an internationally renowned neurointensivist renowned for his scientific, clinical, and educational achievements. He developed innovative resuscitation paradigms for patients who suffer massive severe brain injury related to stroke and cardiac arrest. In addition, he has pioneered therapeutic hypothermia and informatics for severe brain injury, and has led clinical trials focusing on therapy for subarachnoid and intracerebral hemorrhage. In 2005, in collaboration with the Greater New York Hospital Association and the Fire Department of New York City, he led a citywide initiative to regionalize cardiac arrest care to centers capable of providing therapeutic hypothermia.