The Swedish Head and Neck Surgery program at the Swedish Cancer Institute has just completed its second year of successful clinical operations. Inaugurated in October 2009, we have continued to offer head and neck cancer patients the latest treatment modalities in a multidisciplinary approach.

We have become a unique program, literally encompassing every surgical and non-surgical treatment option for head and neck cancers. We have been able to harness the multitude of clinical assets and talents at the Swedish Cancer Institute, and offer an unparalleled treatment experience, very seldom seen in a non-university based program.

In the past year, we have expanded our clinical options to include Trans-Axillary Robotic Thyroidectomy. We have continued to grow our Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery program as well. In fact, Swedish now houses more da Vinci systems than any other health-care organization in Washington state, with multiple operating rooms and built-in robotic integration.

We hope to continue serving our community in the future and providing educational opportunities for head and neck cancer patients and their providers. We will also thrive to maintain our collaboration with the medical community in the region.

The Team

Namou Kim, M.D., FACS
Dr. Kim has expertise in Head and Neck Oncologic and Microvascular Reconstructive surgery. He also offers Transoral Laser Microsurgery (TLM) and Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery (TORS). He attended medical school at Case Western Reserve University and trained at the same institution and completed his fellowship with Richard Hayden, M.D., at the Mayo Clinic Arizona.

David W. Moore, M.D., FACS
Dr. Moore has amassed one of the largest series of thyroid and parathyroid case logs in the entire Pacific Northwest. He recently expanded his scope of practice to include Trans-Axillary Robotic Thyroidectomy. He attended medical school at Indiana University and completed his Head and Neck fellowship with Al Novack, M.D., at Swedish.

Allison Seamon, PA-C
Ms. Seamon has become an essential part of the care team for our head and neck cancer patients. She has been the ultimate patient advocate and has been part of multiple ancillary support initiatives to help patients. She is also a superb clinician, both in the surgical and inpatient settings. She attended Furman University and completed her Master of Science degree at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Trans-Axillary Robotic Thyroidectomy

David Moore, M.D., spearheaded this program at Swedish in 2011, and since then has successfully performed many robotic thyroidectomies. Patient satisfaction from this minimally invasive surgery has been tremendous, and for select cases, this technique is becoming the first option to minimize hospital stay and eliminate visible scarring.

(continued on back)
Highlights of 2011

(continued from front)

Expansion of the Multidisciplinary Head and Neck Tumor Board
Our tumor board consists of members from surgery, radiation oncology, diagnostic radiology, medical oncology, pathology, speech and swallow therapy, social work, cancer-care coordinators and dentistry. Due to the increased numbers of new head and neck cancer cases, we have expanded our tumor board from a monthly to twice-a-month frequency. This tumor board is open to any provider wishing to present a case and discuss potential treatment options.

New Convenient Locations
Swedish has expanded its cancer treatment centers into the Eastside, with the opening of Swedish/Issaquah. All cancer services are now offered through the Swedish Cancer Institute at Swedish/Issaquah. The Radiation Treatment Center offering tomotherapy is now operational at Swedish/Ballard, and the Swedish Cancer Institute is now integrated within Swedish/Edmonds.

TLM and TORS
We continue to offer Transoral Laser Microsurgery (TLM) and Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery (for select oral, oropharyngeal and laryngeal cancers. These techniques allow patients a much faster recovery from surgery, most often without requiring a tracheotomy, and with oral food resumption within a few days. Safe oncologic outcomes are well-documented, and in many instances, patients only need a single modality treatment. When post-operative adjuvant therapy is needed, de-escalation of adjuvant therapy offers patients better swallow outcomes. We now have one of the largest series of TLM and TORS cases in the state of Washington.

Reconstructive Surgery
We have been offering microvascular surgery since 2009, both for cancer and non-cancer related reasons (such as osteoradionecrosis). During our two years of operation, we have averaged greater than 40 such cases per year, with greater than 95 percent success rate.

Educational Outreach
• We co-hosted the first Annual Pacific Northwest Head, Neck and Thyroid Cancer Symposium with the University of Washington. We hosted more than 100 audience members in April 2011, fielding from numerous regions and disciplines.
• We are continuing to provide dedicated training to general surgery residents from Swedish and otolaryngology residents from Madigan Army Medical Center. Namou Kim, M.D., was honored as Teacher of the Year for 2010-2011 by Swedish.
• Publication in Archives of Otolaryngology
• Participation in the 25th Annual Madigan Head and Neck Surgery Symposium in August 2011.

Future Plans

Education
Due to the overwhelmingly positive response of the Pacific Northwest Head, Neck and Thyroid Cancer Symposium, we will be hosting the second Annual Symposium on April 6, 2012, again co-hosted with the University of Washington. Please mark your calendar!

Access
Continue to improve access at satellite Swedish Cancer Institute locations, such as Swedish/Issaquah and Swedish/Edmonds.

Extended Collaboration
We continue to explore options to extend our collaboration, not only within Swedish, but also within the medical community in the region. We have completed combined surgical cases in conjunction with other providers, both with Swedish surgeons and with surgeons from the community.