The Swedish Head & Neck Surgery Clinic at the Swedish Cancer Institute was inaugurated in October 2009. Since then, it has become a regional, comprehensive, multidisciplinary treatment center for head and neck cancers. The year 2012 marks another successful year of operation, further cementing our commitment to our patients and the community.

In the past three years, we have grown our service line to include virtually all known state-of-the-art therapeutic options for head and neck cancers and beyond. This has been possible thanks to excellent clinical assets from Swedish and the Swedish Cancer Institute. By fostering collaboration from a variety of disciplines, a dedicated Head & Neck Tumor Board was created, to optimize care for each and every patient. We have also extended our community reach with educational events and training opportunities to disseminate new knowledge, not only to other medical providers, but also to our patients. We have increased our community outreach in several venues to increase head and neck cancer awareness.

The Swedish Head & Neck Surgery Clinic is a unique center in the Pacific Northwest, providing multidisciplinary cancer care in a non-academic, tertiary referral center. We have started many new initiatives, such as microvascular surgery, trans-oral robotic surgery, trans-axillary robotic thyroid surgery, and minimally invasive parathyroid surgery. These new initiatives have been successfully sustained and solidified, and we are quietly building a very large database of these cases.

Thanks to the Swedish Cancer Institute’s expansion in the Puget Sound area, our patients now benefit from the convenience of multiple locations. Furthermore, with the strategic alliance between Swedish and Providence, we hope to further facilitate patient access with a larger footprint and better efficiency in the future.

After this third successful year, we are pleased with the positive impact on our patients. We hope to continue improving our service line by providing continued collegial collaboration with other medical providers, and ongoing community outreach to heighten the public’s awareness of these cancers.

 Updates

1. **Multidisciplinary Head & Neck Tumor Board**
   Our tumor board has continued to thrive, with an increasing number of cases with a diverse range of pathology. Community providers have also presented cases in order to utilize the multidisciplinary resources of the Swedish Cancer Institute. Providers are welcome to present any head and neck tumor case for educational purposes. Presentations can be arranged by contacting the Swedish Head & Neck Clinic.

2. **Comprehensive Compassionate Cancer Navigation**
   Thanks to the philanthropic contribution of a former head & neck cancer patient, the Swedish Cancer Institute has been able to hire an oncology social worker to assist patients with challenges in their cancer journey.

(continued on page 2)
3. **Residency Education**
Drs. David Moore and Namou Kim are active teaching staff of the Swedish General Surgery Residency Program. Additionally, since 2010, we have incorporated Madigan Army Medical Center’s otolaryngology residents. The training has now been extended from two months to three months per resident in 2012 due to increasing patient volumes.

4. **Collaborative Multidisciplinary Surgical Cases**
Thanks to the clinical assets at Swedish, we now provide surgical care for patients with very complex problems that require multiple surgical disciplines. The complexity of those cases rival other major academic centers, and have involved neurosurgery and neurotology (skull base surgery), thoracic surgery (major upper digestive tract surgery, complex tracheal diseases), and oral maxillofacial surgery (jaw reconstruction). We have also combined our efforts with community otolaryngologists who desire to stay involved in their patients' surgical care.

5. **Community Outreach**
Mrs. Allison Seamon is thrilled to announce that the first Washington state chapter of the Head & Neck Cancer Alliance is on the horizon. It is a nascent chapter of the national alliance, dedicated to providing advocacy, awareness and education to the community. Mrs. Seamon and highly specialized speech and swallow therapist, Ms. Joanne Fenn, have been appointed to serve on the board of directors.

6. **Seattle Met Best of 2012**
Dr. Kim was recognized as a “Best Doctor Reports” in the Seattle Met’s Top Doctors survey of 2012.

7. **High Patient Satisfaction**
The Swedish Head & Neck Clinic consistently ranks above average in overall patient satisfaction, according to both internal and Press Ganey surveys.

8. **Education, Publications and Posters**
   b. *A Rare Donor Site Complication Following Pec Major Flap*. Annual MG Paul H Streit Memorial Seminar, February 2012.
   d. *HPV and Oropharyngeal Cancers*. Seattle King County Dental Society Fall Meeting, October 2012, Tukwila, Wash.
   f. *Oral Maxillofacial Dinner August 2012* (Seattle) with combined lectures with Dr. Peter Waite, Chair of OMFS at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

9. **2nd Annual Pacific Northwest Head & Neck Cancer Symposium**
This event was co-sponsored with the University of Washington Department of Otolaryngology for the second year in a row. The symposium was a success, with more than 100 attendees. We hosted Dr. Gary Clayman from the MD Anderson Cancer Center as the guest of honor. The 2013 Pacific Northwest Head and Neck Cancer Symposium will be taking place this year on April 19, 2013 at Swedish Medical Center/Cherry Hill, also co-sponsored with UW Medical. The main focus of the symposium will be on skin cancers of the head and neck. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Randal Weber from MD Anderson Cancer Center. For more information please visit www.swedish.org/cme. This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*.

10. **Proctoring Services in Transoral Robotic Surgery**
Dr. Kim has started to provide proctoring services in transoral robotic surgery as a service to our community in the great Seattle area.

11. **TORS/TLM**
We have continued to amass further experience in transoral surgery. We are one of the few centers utilizing the thulium laser routinely in conjunction with Intuitive Surgical’s da Vinci system.

12. **Microvascular Free Flaps**
We first began offering microvascular surgery in October 2009, and our numbers have been consistently growing with an overall success rate of greater than 95%. The repertoire of flaps has included a wide range from fibula flaps to jejunal flaps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Free Flaps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colonel Paul K. (P.K.) White served 30 years as an officer in the US Air Force, 23 of them in the cockpit, flying mostly F-16 Wild Weasel fighter jets. He launched his dangerous career path as a fighter pilot in 1979, just before the F-16 aircraft became operational. The colonel recollects these hard times and laments, “We lost a lot of good pilots in those early days as we tried to harness this new jet that could pull 9-Gs with the snap of a wrist.” As fighter squadron commander, Col. White led a total of four deployments and 71 combat missions in the Iraqi Area of Operations. P.K. had a successful and decorated military career, but was forced to come to grips with mortality during his time in the service. Col. White gave up flying fighters in 2009, but in early 2010 the retired commander was forced back into battle. He was diagnosed with invasive squamous cell carcinoma of the retromolar trigone after a worrisome lesion appeared along the gum line of his lower jaw. Paul and Wendy White speak often of the moment they heard the sobering words oral cancer. Their shock and disbelief were heightened by the fact that P.K. had never smoked or chewed tobacco. They were relieved to find Dr. David Moore, a fellow retired Army officer, and his partner, Dr. Namou Kim. They opted for surgery first with the hope of avoiding adjuvant chemoradiotherapy. Thankfully, surgery alone was successful in removing all the cancer. On May 27, 2010, Col. White underwent an all-day procedure consisting of a composite resection of the mandibular gingival cancer with microvascular reconstruction utilizing a fasciocutaneous free flap from the radial forearm. P.K. bounced back with resilience and was out of the hospital in just over a week. Since that time he has done extremely well, especially considering he required additional procedures to control a smaller, second cancer on the lower jaw on the other side. Now, almost three years later, he shows no evidence of disease recurrence and is enjoying retired life. P.K. is a guitarist in two different bands, community college faculty advisor, church activist, gardener, and entrepreneur among other things. The ex-Air Force pilot stays busy, but not too busy for regular check-ups. The Whites consider everyone in the office “family” at this point. They take great comfort in knowing that the team provides continuous cancer surveillance.

Col. White speaks openly and freely about how his cancer journey has shaped him. However, he considers it to be a “war” in which he has “merely won a few battles.” His 3,300 hours spent as a career fighter pilot have given him the strategic insight to be triumphant. Perhaps most importantly though, P.K. keeps a full arsenal at all times — he feels blessed to have his “warrior” wife of almost 30 years by his side, a strong religious faith to remind him of what’s waiting on the other side, and a dedicated head and neck cancer team to keep vigilant watch.

Patient Spotlight: Colonel Paul K. White

On October 20, 2012 the Oral Cancer Foundation sponsored Seattle’s first Save the Face 5K Walk to raise money for oral cancer awareness and advocacy. Swedish Head and Neck Surgery joined 300 other Seattleites at Seward Park to participate in the walk. The inaugural event was a big success, generating close to $60,000. We had the unique opportunity to literally walk alongside our patients, all head and neck cancer survivors. One patient in particular, Lisa Fickel, had an impressive number of family and friends show their support by joining team “Love for Lisa.”
Services

- Head and neck surgery
- Microvascular (free flap) reconstructive surgery
- Thyroid surgery and diagnostic ultrasonography
- Minimally invasive parathyroid surgery and radio-guided surgery
- Transoral Robotic Surgery (TORS)
- Transoral Laser Microsurgery (TLM)
- Transaxillary robotic thyroid surgery (on hold until further review by FDA)
- Anterior skull base surgery
- Cutaneous cancers of the head and neck
- Salivary gland tumors
- Congenital head and neck reconstructive surgery
- Complex trauma reconstruction to head and neck

Providers

Namou Kim, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Medical degree: Case Western Reserve University
Board certified: American Board of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery
Residency: Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery, Case Western Reserve University
Internship: General Surgery, University Hospitals of Cleveland and Case Western Reserve University
Fellowship: Head and Neck Oncologic and Microvascular Surgery, Mayo Clinic

David W. Moore, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Medical degree: Indiana University Medical Center
Additional education: M.B.A., Syracuse University
Board certified: American Board of Otorhinolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery
Residency: Pre-specialty General Surgery, Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery, Madigan Army Medical Center
Internship: Madigan Army Medical Center
Fellowship: Head and Neck Surgery, Swedish Medical Center

Allison Seamon, M.S., P.A.-C.
Medical degree: Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies - University of Alabama at Birmingham
Certifications: National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, American Academy of Physician Assistants