

## December 2010

### Refer a Patient

[Arizona Referrals](#)  
866-629-6362 (toll-free)

[Florida Referrals](#)  
800-634-1417 (toll-free)

[Minnesota Referrals](#)  
800-533-1564 (toll-free)

[Online Referrals](#)

### Grand Rounds Online

See videos of select Mayo Clinic Grand Rounds presentations.

### Physician Update Video Blog

[View videos and abstracts](#)

### Clinical Trials

[Clinical Trials](#) Open to Patient Recruitment

### Continuous Medical Education

[Mayo School of Continuous Professional Development](#)

### Comments?

We're interested in your [feedback](#) about this newsletter.

### Pass It On

Invite a friend to [subscribe](#) by forwarding this newsletter.

## Patient Care

### System tracks total radiation doses over time

The DICOM index tracker centralizes information from tests such as mammography, CT scans, cardiac catheterization and nuclear medicine. Information can be sorted to assess radiation dose and number of procedures. Built-in alerts ensure dosages are within limit guidelines. [View video.](#)

### Orthopedic Surgery integrates PM&R services and adds subspecialty staff

A new green screen virtual reality motion trainer allows patients to work on range of motion and other exercises in a simulated setting. Additional staff adds depth to orthopedic subspecialties and Level 1 Trauma Center care at Mayo Clinic. [Read more.](#)

### Surgical robot application avoids neck incisions for thyroidectomy

Robotic thyroidectomy is not minimally invasive, but allows total thyroidectomy while avoiding neck incisions. The technique was pioneered in South Korea, where the population has a high incidence of keloid formation and social stigma is associated with neck scars. [Read more.](#)

### Testing helps determine presence, severity, distribution, and localization of autonomic dysfunction

Using a 10-point composite autonomic severity score that they developed, Mayo neurologists found that sudomotor testing is highly sensitive in identifying clinical distal small-fiber neuropathy in patients who have normal or unrelated abnormalities on electromyographic testing. [Read more.](#)

## Research

### Carney complex research continues

More than 25 years ago, research into a connection between PPNAD and cardiac myxoma resulted in identification of a new syndrome: Carney complex. Approximately half of patients with PPNAD have Carney complex. Mutations in two genes have been associated with the disorder. [Read more.](#)

### Pathway to anti-obesity may lead through the gut

Research conducted at Mayo Clinic indicates that the path to an anti-obesity drug may be through the stomach. Researchers study how hormones released when people eat can transmit signals to control the process of digestion, primarily by regulating pancreatic secretion. [Read more.](#)

### mRNA study provides insight into prostate cancer detection

Researchers from Mayo and the University of Minnesota began searching for biomarkers of aggressive types of prostate cancer six years ago. Their efforts spawned five additional studies that should provide insight into understanding changes that lead to prostate cancer. [Read more.](#)

## Grand Rounds

New [Grand Rounds presentations](#) are available online.

## Education

### Arrhythmias & the Heart

January 31-February 3, 2011

Explore approaches to the diagnosis, management and prevention of common rhythm disorders, including minisymposiums on atrial fibrillation and ventricular arrhythmias. One day is devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of patients with congestive heart failure and associated arrhythmias.

Location: Kohala Coast, Island of Hawaii

Contact: 800-323-2688 (toll-free) or [email](#)

[View brochure](#)

[Register now](#)

**Pain Medicine: A State-of-the-Art Course in Pain Management for the Non-Pain Specialist**

February 28-March 4, 2011

This course addresses the integration of pain services across disciplines to improve pain control in acute-, chronic- and cancer-pain populations. Updates on critical issues in the management of chronic, non-cancer, and cancer pain are included.

Location: Koloa, Kauai, Hawaii

Contact: 800-323-2688 (toll-free) or [email](#)

[View brochure](#)

[Register now](#)

**Multiple Sclerosis 2011: Update and Practical Management Strategies**

March 4-5, 2011

Practical management strategies, evidence-based clinical guidance, and explanations of the latest research advances help physicians optimally care for patients with multiple sclerosis.

Location: Scottsdale, Arizona

Contact: 480-301-4580 or [email](#)

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Health Update**

March 10-12, 2011

Innovative educational program addresses topics relevant to women's health across the life span, including breast cancer, thromboembolic disease, chronic anemia, and lipid-lowering therapy. Participants gain insight to recent initiatives and explore a basic approach to addressing common health concerns for women.

Location: Scottsdale, Arizona

Contact: 480-301-4580 or [email](#)

[View brochure](#)

[Register now](#)

[See all Continuous Professional Development courses](#)

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## New Staff

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**Avni Y. Joshi, M.D.**

Allergic Diseases and Pediatrics in Minnesota

**Valerie Lemaine, M.D.**

Breast Clinic and Plastic Surgery in Minnesota

**Timothy J. Nelson, M.D., Ph.D.**

General Internal Medicine in Minnesota

**Kharmene L. Sunga, M.D.**

Emergency Department in Minnesota

**Andrew I. Vaughn, M.D.**

Preventive, Occupational, and Aerospace Medicine in Minnesota

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