

## June 2009

### Referring a Patient

To refer a patient or arrange a consultation:

[Arizona Referrals](#)

866-629-6362 (toll-free)

[Florida Referrals](#)

800-634-1417 (toll-free)

[Minnesota Referrals](#)

[Neurology](#)

507-284-1588

[Neurosurgery](#)

507-284-8008

[Other Consults](#)

800-533-1564 (toll-free)

### Clinical Trials

Clinical Trials Open to Patient Recruitment for [Brain and Nerve Disease Research](#)

### Continuing Medical Education

Mayo School of Continuous Professional Development  
[Neurology and Neurologic Surgery Course Offerings](#)

### Comments?

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

### Pass It On

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## Patient Care

### Management of Cavernous Malformations

At Mayo Clinic, surgery is recommended if a cavernous malformations (CM) is symptomatic and in an accessible location. If not, the CM is observed closely unless intractable seizures, repeat hemorrhage or worsening focal symptoms develop.

[Learn more.](#)

### Advances in the Management of Spinal Cord Tumors

Spinal cord tumors can be broadly classified by location relative to the spinal cord and the dura mater. Those outside the dural sac and cord are called extradural extramedullary tumors. Because of their location within the dural sac and cord, intradural intramedullary tumors were considered inoperable as recently as a decade ago. Mayo Clinic neurosurgeons were among the first to resect such tumors and, today, improved imaging and microsurgical techniques continue to advance surgery for tumors of this type.

[Learn more.](#)



## Research

### Posterior Fossa Exploration Surgery Provides Better Pain Relief for Trigeminal Neuralgia

A new Mayo Clinic study found that posterior fossa exploration surgery provided significantly better pain relief than stereotactic radiosurgery for patients with trigeminal neuralgia. This study was presented at the 2009 American Association of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting. [Learn more and watch video](#) of Bruce Pollock, M.D., explaining the study.

### Surgical Treatment of Spinal Arteriovenous Fistulas: Safe, Effective

A Mayo Clinic study found that surgical treatment of spinal arteriovenous fistulas is safe and effective. Newer techniques such as endovascular embolization have not yet been demonstrated to be as effective and, therefore, must be studied further in order to be recommended over traditional surgery. This study was presented at the 2009 American Association of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting. [Learn more and watch video](#) of Giuseppe Lanzino, M.D., discussing the study.

### Anemia May be Associated with Development of Parkinson's Disease

Results of a Mayo Clinic study support an association between anemia experienced early in life and the development of Parkinson's disease many years later. The findings were presented at the 2009 American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting.

[Learn more and watch video](#) of Walter Rocca, M.D., discussing the study.

## **Agents that Speed Up Destruction of Proteins Linked to Alzheimer's Disease**

Taking a new approach to the treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's disease, a research team led by investigators at Mayo Clinic's Florida campus has shown that druglike compounds can speed up destruction of the amyloid beta (A-beta) proteins that form plaque in the brains of patients with the disorder.

[Learn more.](#)

## **Education**

### **Watch Mayo Clinic Grand Rounds Presentations**

Starting this month, a select number of Mayo Clinic [Grand Rounds presentations](#) will be available online. Visit the Medical Professionals section of the [mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org) Web site for the listing (under Education). New presentations will be posted regularly and new additions will be highlighted in this newsletter.

### **Mayo Clinic Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disease Review**

Sept. 11-13, 2009

This course will provide attendees with an update across all major areas of clinical interest in stroke and vascular neurology. Lectures will cover the latest in management of acute ischemic stroke and brain hemorrhage, as well as asymptomatic vascular lesions including arteriovenous malformations, cavernous malformations, cerebral aneurysms, and carotid stenosis. The course will also cover the latest diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to brain attack. Lectures will be supplemented with highlights of images in clinical vascular neurology.

Location: Ritz Carlton, Amelia Island, Fla.

Contact: 1-800-462-9633 (toll-free) or [cme@mayo.edu](mailto:cme@mayo.edu)

[Brochure](#)

[Register](#)

[See all Neurology and Neurologic Surgery Continuous Professional Development courses](#)

## **Staff/Trainee Updates**

Mayo Clinic physicians were honored to receive the following awards from their colleagues at meetings of the American Academy of Neurology, the American Association of Neurologic Surgeons, and the Society of Neurological Surgeons.

### **A.B. Baker 2009 Teacher Recognition Award**

[Allen Aksamit Jr., M.D.](#), FAAN

### **A.B. Baker 2009 Award for Lifetime Achievement in Neurologic Education**

[Jasper Daube, M.D.](#), FAAN

### **Jon Stolk 2009 Award in Movement Disorders for Young Investigators**

Christian Wider, M.D., Research Fellow

### **Recipient of an AAN Clinical Research Training Fellowship**

Dan Claassen, M.D.

### **Distinguished Service Award**

[David Piepgras, M.D.](#)

### **Stryker Award for Neuro-oncology**

Andrew Foy, M.D., Fellow

### **Cloward Award**

Marie-Noelle Hebert-Blouin, M.D., Fellow

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