

Director: Zoher Ghogawala, MD

**Special Thanks to  
Jean and David  
Wallace for their  
generous \$200,000  
donation in support  
of the Cervical  
Spondylotic  
Myelopathy Study.**

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**Updated Patient  
Enrollment For  
Clinical Trials:**

SLIP Study: 100

Carotid Study: 54

Cervical Spondylotic  
Myelopathy Study: 68

Duragen Study: 19

TLIF Study: 3

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**Thank you to Mr. and  
Mrs. Lawrence Flinn  
for their continued  
generous support of  
spine research. They  
have recently  
donated \$10,000 to  
the Wallace Trials  
Center.**

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## The Waldron Cup Golf Tournament

On October 15, 2008, Dr. Ghogawala was the honored guest at the First Annual Waldron Cup golf tournament held at Glen Arbor Country Club, Bedford Hills, NY. This was a grass roots effort by Mr. John S. Gray, one of our Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy study participants, to raise money for spine research at the Wallace Clinical Trials Center. Over \$3,000.00 was raised and a great time was had by all! The



*Left to right: Tim Schieffelin, Mike Salvator, Peter Van Duyne, Zoher Ghogawala, John Gray, David Torino, Bill Elder, Geoff Smith, Gene Pressman, and Fridolf Hanson*

Wallace Clinical Trials Center together with Greenwich Hospital provides a unique opportunity to understand outcomes from complex spine

surgery. This money will help us continue towards our research goals.

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*For more pictures,  
see page 2*

## Olive C. Watson Memorial Research Grant

Lucinda B. Watson has sponsored a new clinical trials grant entitled the "Olive C. Watson Memorial Research Grant," which will be awarded to a clinical neurosurgeon practicing at Greenwich Hospital who designs a clinical trial judged meritorious to be performed at the Wallace Clinical Trials Center. This award will

be for \$50,000 and will provide the necessary seed money to support an independent investigator to collect preliminary data to apply for external funding for a larger clinical trial. This represents an enormous contribution to develop new investigators in clinical neurosurgery.

## The Waldron Cup Golf Tournament



*Top Left from left to right: Gene Pressman, John Gray, Peter van Duyne, and David Torino*

*Bottom Left: Peter van Duyne*

*Top Right: The winners of the tournament, Gene Pressman, 61 Net & Jonathan Green, Low Gross 81*

*Bottom Right: Mike Lehrhoff takes a swing*



## NIH RO1 Grant Submission Update

In June, Dr. Ghogawala, serving as the principal investigator, submitted an RO1 grant application to the National Institutes of Health. The grant entitled “Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy” was recently reviewed by NIAMS (National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases). In the late Fall, we received our critique from the

NIH grant review committee. We are currently in the process of resubmitting the grant with changes. If awarded, the grant will help fund a multi-center randomized clinical trial looking at “front” vs. “back” spine surgery outcomes for patients with Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy (arthritis of the cervical spine).

## WTC Presentation: San Diego

Dr. Ghogawala was in San Diego, California on February 18, 2009 at the International

**Dr. Grahame Gould, a 5<sup>th</sup> year neurosurgery resident, joined us in January as part of the Yale Spine Institute collaboration. He has been a valuable assistant in the OR as well as participant in our research in the WTC.**

Stroke Conference for his podium presentation entitled, *"The Effect of Carotid Endarterectomy on Cerebral Blood Flow."* The information presented stems from the preliminary results of the Carotid Outcomes Study.

## WTC Meeting: Florida

Dr. Ghogawala was invited to the Impulse Monitoring Meeting on November 8-9, 2008 to discuss research programs to study the potential impact of neurological monitoring in the operating room.

## WTC Meeting: Maryland

Dr. Ghogawala was in Bethesda, Maryland on October 29, 2008 at the National Institute for Neurological Diseases for the National Institutes of Health's Impact

Meeting. He was a participant in the discussion of future NIH funding to increase the focus on clinical trials that have the potential to improve health care in America.

## WTC Publication

Dr. Ghogawala will be speaking to the Spine Section of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons in March, 2009. He will be discussing major clinical trials affecting the spine at a plenary session talk.

## WTC Publication

Drs. Zohar Ghogawala and Khalid Abbed along with our Yale Neurosurgery resident, Dr. Grahame Gould, recently co-authored an article with Dr. Joseph

T. King of the Section of Neurosurgery, VA CT Healthcare System and Dr. Edward C. Benzel of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. The article

entitled, *"Cervical Spine Re-Operation Rates and Hospital Resource Utilization following Initial Surgery for*

*Degenerative Cervical Spine Disease 12,644 Patients in the United States"* was submitted to Neurosurgery, a peer reviewed journal in January.

## Charitable Donations

Our success here at the Wallace Trials Center is made possible only through the generous donations of individuals as well as private foundations. Please consider making a **fully tax-deductible** donation to:

**Wallace Trials Center**  
**Or**  
**Greenwich Lumbar Stenosis SLIP Study Fund**

**Send donations to:**

c/o Marita O'Hare  
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The Wallace Trials Center Newsletter is published twice a year. Look for the next update in Fall 2009.



**We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.greenwich-neurosurgery.com/research.shtml](http://www.greenwich-neurosurgery.com/research.shtml)