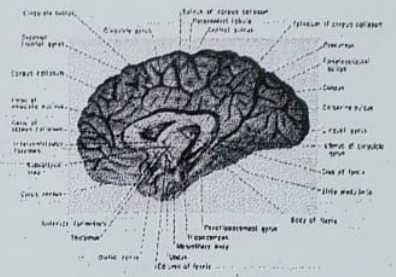


# The Commisurre

Jacobi Medical Center  
&  
North Central Bronx Hospital



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## Teleradiology and the Urban Neurosurgeon

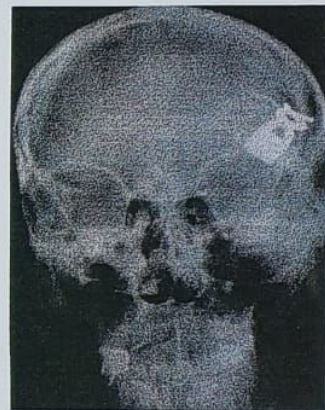
According to Bill Gates in "Business at the Speed of Thought" medicine will undergo dramatic changes due to digitalization.

This will streamline the field and generalize from a local to a global standard of care, making distance irrelevant. The Department of Neurosurgery is now incorporating digital images in our plan of care between 3 boroughs - Brooklyn (Coney Island Hospital), Bronx (Jacobi Medical Center), and Manhattan (NY Presbyterian Hospital), coverage to include a catchment area of over 60 miles.

In 6 months we have remotely managed over 80 telemedicine consults having the images move to the surgeon prior to triage. Thus, we have expanded our Neurosurgery coverage web outside the geographical boundaries of our primary institute. This has led to increased patient volume and afforded neurosurgical coverage to underserved hospitals.

The transfer of digital radiology will no doubt be commonplace in the future. Telemedicine remains at a stage of development consistent with what the internet was 5 years ago, bandwidth being the limiting factor.

## Incognitus Hint: Shiloh



## Baclofen Intraspinal Pump

On June 29, 1999, The Neurosurgery Department conducted its first successful implantation of the Spinal Baclofen Pump for the intraspinal administration of Baclofen, an antispasmodic drug. The pump allows patients to stop taking medications PO by delivering the drug directly into the subarachnoid space. Thereby diminishing the systemic side effects of oral administration.

The Department looks forward to expanding the program to include other patients with spasticity related to head injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis, and children with cerebral palsy. Implantation of these devices can also be used in the treatment of intractable pain conditions. This heralds the beginning of the New Anesthesia-Neurosurgery Advanced Pain Therapy and Spinal Implantation Service.

## Neurosurgery at NCBH

The NCB Neurosurgery Clinic is held on **Tuesday beginning at 1:00pm in 3J**. This clinic represents the first on site neurosurgical presence at NCB in 23years.

The clinical focus will be on low back pain, degenerative spine disorders, sciatica, carpal tunnel syndrome, radial/ulnar nerve disorders and other neurological diseases.

Patients referred by NCB clinics can have the appointments made directly from the clinic site. Patients referred from JMC can have appointments made by calling 519-3969 (Mon-Tue) and 519-4940 (Wed-Fri).

## The Neurosurgery Staff

- ◆ **Kathryn Ko, M.D., Chief.** Completed residency at Mt Sinai Hospital. Associate Clinical Professor Columbia University.
- ◆ **Modesto Fontanez, M.D., J.D.,** Completed residency at the University of Puerto Rico. Attending Coney Island Hospital.
- ◆ **James Tait Goodrich, M.D., PhD.,** Pediatric Neurosurgery. Completed residency at Columbia University. Professor Albert Einstein College of Medicine.
- ◆ **P. Mark Li, M.D., PhD.,** Completed residency Cornell University. Assistant Professor Cornell University.
- ◆ **Arthur Williams, M.D.,** Complex Spine Neurosurgery. Completed residency a Yale University and Spine Fellowship at Sloan Kettering Hospital.
- ◆ **Joe DeJesus PA-C,** Physician Assistant. NCBH liason.
- ◆ **Joan Cruickshank,** Department Coordinator.

## The Commissure

The Commissure is a quarterly publication connecting the Biomedical Neurosciences of the North Bronx Healthcare Network. Further issues will feature the Departments of **Neurology, Neuropathology, Neuro-radiology, and Psychiatry**. All correspondence should be directed to the Neurosurgery Physician Assistant, [ujdejesus@pop.nychhc.org](mailto:ujdejesus@pop.nychhc.org)

