



Welcome to Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery, a world-class provider of treatment for the full spectrum of neurological disease. We provide state-of-the-art care for adults and children with diseases of the brain and spine, and we offer a wide range of services. For patients who need surgery, there are many advanced, minimally invasive options available.

Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery leads in the utilization of high-tech computerized diagnostic and treatment tools, from stereotactic radiosurgery using a linear accelerator to the use of three-dimensional visualization in the operating room. What was once a world of highly intrusive surgery has evolved into a high-tech environment of small incisions, tiny catheters, and minimally invasive endoscopes. The department also serves as a premier training center for neurosurgeons of the future and has achieved remarkable breakthroughs in research.

To ensure that every patient receives the compassion and dignity they deserve, and to achieve the most successful outcomes, we take a team approach that involves neurosurgeons, neurologists, neuroradiologists, anesthesiologists, nursing staff, patient care coordinators, and social workers. Our overall goals include minimizing pain, shortening hospital stays, and optimizing your recovering. Our neuroscientists are also making extraordinary breakthroughs in research that offer new hope in treating the most challenging neurological diseases of our time. For further information, please visit neurosurgery.weillcornell.org.

If you ever have questions about your treatment, please call your physician's office (there is a directory enclosed for your convenience). We are always happy to answer your questions and make sure we're doing our best for you.

Sincerely,

J Mocco, M.D., M.S.

Professor & Chairman

Weill Cornell Department of Neurological Surgery

Neurosurgeon-in-Chief

*NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical
Center*



Weill Cornell Medicine

Neurological Surgery

ABOUT NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery is one of the country's premier providers of minimally invasive surgery of the brain and spine for both adults and children. But we are so much more than a surgical center: We focus on the whole patient, offering services that don't simply treat disease, but enhance brain and spine health. We treat patients from around the world for the full spectrum of neurological disease, from brain and spine tumors, stroke, aneurysms, and epilepsy to Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders, with pre- and post-treatment services that optimize recovery and enhance quality of life.

With a world-class facility at the forefront of emerging technology, Neurological Surgery offers the latest in high-tech computerized diagnostic tools and treatment approaches, including stereotactic radiosurgery (often called the GammaKnife), endoscopic surgery, and three-dimensional visualization right in the operating room. As part of Ochsner at NewYork-Presbyterian, our spine surgeons practice among an elite group of leading neurosurgeons and orthopedic surgeons. Many of our patients have been featured in news stories that document the success of minimal access surgery; recent examples include spinal surgery to prevent paralysis and giant-sized brain tumors removed through the nasal cavity.

Our neurosurgeons are also researchers who are actively pursuing new frontiers of medicine in the laboratory and bringing their results to the bedside to improve patient outcomes. Recent advancements include the first use of focused ultrasound for treatment of essential tremor; the successful isolation of human stem cells from the human brain, both normal and brain tumor-derived; computer mapping of the brain to cure epilepsy surgically; a cure for eye cancer using tiny catheters; and a cutting-edge approach in pediatric brain surgery to treat hydrocephalus without shunts, sparing children from unnecessary infections. Clinical trials are underway for stroke, aneurysms, spinal fusion, metastatic spine tumors, and rare and inoperable pediatric brain tumors. On the horizon: deep brain stimulation for depression and a biological alternative to mechanical spinal disk replacement.

Our faculty members are also educators who teach medical students, residents, fellows, and physicians, both nationally and abroad. They design and present specialized training courses in skull base surgery, endonasal surgery, leading-edge pediatric surgery, and minimally invasive approaches to spine surgery.

Great new vistas exist for the treatment of neurological diseases of the brain and spine, and the future is happening now, right here at Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery. You are in the very best of hands here.



Weill Cornell Medicine

Neurological Surgery

NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center FACULTY DIRECTORY

Brain Tumor Surgery

Benign and malignant tumors in adults and children

J Mocco, MD, MS 646-962-8383

Philip E. Stieg, PhD, MD 212-746-4684

Rohan Ramakrishna, MD 718-780-3070

Pediatric:

Mark Souweidane, MD 212-746-2363

Jeffrey Greenfield, MD, PhD

212-746-2363 **Caitlin Hoffman, MD**

212-746-2363 **Cerebrovascular Surgery**

Aneurysms, AVMs, carotid occlusive disease

Philip E. Stieg, PhD, MD 212-746-4684

Jared Knopman, MD 212-746-5149

Justin Schwarz, MD 212-746-2821

CSF Leak Repair

Multidisciplinary management of cranial and spinal

CSF leaks

John Park, MD, PhD 718-670-1837

Epilepsy Surgery

Curative and palliative surgical approaches to epilepsy

Caitlin Hoffman, MD 212-746-2363 (pediatric)

Interventional Neuroradiology

Minimally invasive image-guided diagnosis and treatment

Jared Knopman, MD 212-746-5149

Y. Pierre Gobin, MD 212-746-4998

Srikanth Boddu, MS, MRCS, FRCR, MD

212-746-2821

Justin Schwarz, MD 212-746-2821

Neuro-oncology

Comprehensive treatment options for cancers of the brain and spine

Rohan Ramakrishna, MD 212-746-1996

Susan Pannullo, MD 212-746-2438

Rajiv Magge, MD 646-962-2185

Evan Noch, MD 646-962-2185

Neuropsychology

Testing, psychotherapy, and cognitive remediation

H. Allison Bender, PhD, ABPP

212-746-2197

Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman, PhD, ABPP

212-746-3356

Pediatric Neurosurgery

Treatment of the full spectrum of CNS conditions in children

Mark Souweidane, MD 212-746-2363

Jeffrey Greenfield, MD, PhD 212-746-2363

Caitlin Hoffman, MD 212-746-2363

Neil Feldstein, MD 212-305-1396 (Columbia campus)

Pituitary Tumors/Neuroendocrinology

Endoscopic approaches to anterior skull base surgery

Rohan Ramakrishna, MD 718-780-3070

Jeffrey Greenfield, MD, PhD 212-746-2363 (pediatric)

Georgiana Dobri, MD 646-962-3556 (neuro-endocrinology)

Stereotactic/Functional Neurosurgery

Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, and pain

Michael Kaplitt, MD, PhD 212-746-4966

Stereotactic Radiosurgery

Noninvasive treatments for brain tumors and other conditions

Susan Pannullo, MD 212-746-2438

Rohan Ramakrishna, MD 718-780-3070

See reverse for our directory of spine surgeons and our locations in Lower Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens

neurosurgery.weillcornell.org

Och Spine at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

Comprehensive care for spine conditions and injuries

Call for appointment: 888-922-2257 comprehensivespine.weillcornell.org

Roger Härtl, MD, Director of Spinal Surgery

Kai-Ming Fu, MD, PhD

Ibrahim Hussain, MD, PhD

Justiss Kallos, MD

Paul Park, MD, MMS

Daniel Riew, MD

Michael Virk, MD, PhD

WE ARE PROUD TO BE A PART OF NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN, which has been ranked as one of the top hospitals in the country for two decades. In addition to our campus on the Upper East Side, we now offer our world-class neurosurgical services in Lower Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn. Patients come from around the globe for our experience and skill—now you can visit us close to home.

NewYork-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Call for appointment: 646-962-5115

Minimally invasive and complex spine

Kai-Ming Fu, MD, PhD

Ibrahim Hussain, MD

NewYork-Presbyterian Queens Call for appointment: 718-670-1837

John Park, MD, PhD Chief of Neurosurgery

Brain tumors, neuro-oncology

Ning Lin, MD

Cerebrovascular surgery

Srikanth Boddu, MS, MRCS, FRCR, MD

interventional neuroradiology

Caitlin Hoffman, MD

Pediatric neurosurgery (212-746-2363)

Och Spine at NewYork-Presbyterian Queens

Minimally invasive and complex spine

Galal Elsayed, MD

NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Call for appointment: 718-780-3070

Rohan Ramakrishna, MD Chief of Neurosurgery

Brain tumors, neuro-oncology, stereotactic neurosurgery

Michael Ayad, MD, PhD *Cerebrovascular surgery*

Justin Schwarz, MD, *Cerebrovascular surgery*

Martin Zonenshayn, MD

Movement disorders, peripheral nerve conditions

Minimally invasive and complex spine:

Ibrahim Hussain, MD,

Osama Kashlan, MD, MPH

Paul Park, MD, MMS

Dr. Caitlin Hoffman

Pediatric neurosurgery 212-746-2363



Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery

We're With You All the Way

At Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery, our health care team provides compassionate, continuous care throughout your entire patient experience—and that doesn't end when you're discharged from the hospital. We know you've been through a lot, and we're here to help if you need us.

Many patients get back to their lives quickly after surgery. Others need some support after the procedure, which is also quite valid and normal. If you have any questions about your recovery or how you're feeling, please don't hesitate to call your Weill Cornell surgeon's office to speak with the doctor, nurse, or nurse practitioner about your experience. We can answer your questions, ease any anxiety you may be experiencing, and make suggestions about neuropsychological services we offer in the aftermath of surgery.

It's important to realize that when your brain develops a disorder, suffers an injury, or undergoes surgery, that sense of self can be affected in many ways. You may have an emotional reaction to what you've just been through, which is, again, valid and normal. Some feelings may be neurological in origin if your surgery was near parts of the brain that control emotion. Some patients find that they also have cognitive changes after their surgery. For example, you may notice subtle (or not so subtle) changes in your memory, attention span, or language and word retrieval. That is to be expected—after all, you've just had a pretty challenging physical and emotional experience. The good news is that emotional, cognitive, and language challenges can be addressed as you recover, or even long after.

We understand, and we can help.

Our neuropsychologists, Dr. H. Allison Bender and Dr. Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman, specialize in neuropsychological assessment (both before and after surgery) and techniques aimed at improving cognitive and emotional recovery for patients who don't feel quite like themselves after surgery.

Dr. H. Allison Bender offers neuropsychological evaluations, including pre- and post-surgical assessments across the lifespan, from pediatric to older adults. She also offers cognitive remediation (individual and group). Please call Dr. Bender's office at **212-746-3356** to learn more.

Dr. Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman also delivers neuropsychological assessment in older adolescents and adults, as well as short-term interventions, including integrated cognitive remediation and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) (individual and group). Please call Dr. Sacks-Zimmerman's office at **212-746-3356** to make an appointment for a consultation or to inquire about group sessions.

For more information about your condition, your surgery, or the services of Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery, please visit our web site at

neurosurgery.weillcornell.org



Weill Cornell Medicine

Neurological Surgery

Why Don't I Feel Like Myself?

The brain is an amazing organ. Although in one sense it is “just” an organ (like the heart, kidneys, or lungs), in another sense it’s so much more. Unlike other organs, your brain is deeply connected with your sense of who you are. Those many electrical impulses that fire along your neural pathways do more than just keep your body going. They also create your sense of self.



When your brain develops a disorder, suffers an injury, or undergoes surgery, that sense of self can be affected in many ways. You may have an emotional reaction to what you’ve just been through, which is normal. Some feelings may be neurological in origin if your surgery was near parts of the brain that control emotion. You may notice subtle (or not so subtle) changes in your memory, attention span, or language and word retrieval. This is also normal—after all, those processes are all controlled by the brain, which has just been through a difficult time. The good news is that emotional, cognitive, and language challenges can be addressed as you recover, or even long after.

The neuropsychologists at Weill Cornell Medicine Neurological Surgery want to help you complete your recovery, which is why we offer evaluation and testing along with the remediation services you may need to help you regain your sense of self.



Dr. Bender

Dr. Heidi Bender offers neuropsychological evaluations, including pre- and post-surgical assessments. Please call Dr. Bender at **212-746-3356** to request a consultation.



Dr. Sacks-Zimmerman

Dr. Amanda Sacks-Zimmerman provides individual and group cognitive remediation for patients who are experiencing neurocognitive difficulties (including attention, executive functioning, and memory). Dr. Sacks-Zimmerman also offers Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for patients experiencing affective distress (anxiety and depression). Call Dr. Sacks-Zimmerman’s office at **212-746-3356** to make an appointment for a consultation or to inquire about group sessions.

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