



Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons

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President's Message

Daniela Andrich, MD, MSc, FRCS



It gives me great pleasure to announce the forthcoming GURS symposium on 6 May 2016 "What We've Got & What We Really Need In Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgery".

In putting the program together we are trying to look into the future of reconstructive urological surgery and where we may see fundamental change in what we can offer patients in way of treatment. With that in mind we will review where we are at the moment with the surgical options available, and from there lead on to discuss how novel developments in tissue engineering and nanotechnology are helping to provide potential alternatives. The reconstructive surgeons' principle enemy is infection and the problem of increasing antibiotic resistance is well acknowledged.

Even if new antibiotics would be easy to develop, the very nature of natural selection in the microbiological world is a perpetuating problem. Pathogens evolve, and they do so very rapidly! Little wonder then that antibiotics lose efficacy over time. We urgently need fresh ideas and big-picture thinking and discuss how insights from the field of evolution biology and ecology can and should inform future strategies for infection control.

New concepts of preventing recurrent infection by stimulating the host's innate immune system have been developed, but in our over-regulated world, doctors often do not appreciate "what it takes" to translate a good academic idea into a commercially available new treatment for our patients.

I hope you will find the programme interesting and stimulating, and I look forward to seeing you in San Diego.

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[Nairobi Workshop/Service Trip](#)

GURS members, Dr. Tony Mundy, Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni, Dr. Miroslav Djorkjevic, and Dr. Sean Elliott enjoyed a few days of academic exchange at the University of Nairobi Medical School and surgical instruction at Kenyatta National Hospital and Aga Khan Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. The idea for the trip was conceived and the visit coordinated by Drs. Daniela Andrich in London and Patrick Mburugu and Saeed Smanakay in Nairobi.



Over the course of three days, the team performed 24 surgeries and delivered four lectures. Lecture topics included hypospadias, adult anterior urethral stricture disease management, etiology and management of pelvic fracture urethral injury, and surgical management of male stress urinary incontinence. Surgeries performed included 10 repairs of urethral disruption after pelvic fracture (many of them re-do surgeries) and 6 hypospadias repairs; the remainder included anterior urethroplasties, AUS placement and enterocystoplasty.

[View more photos from the trip.](#)

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[Fellowship Match Program](#)

Jill Buckley, MD, FACS
Chair of Fellowship Committee



Fellowship training in Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgery has boomed over the past decade and has captured national recognition among residents and training programs. Interest is at an all time high making the GURS fellowships one of the most competitive and sought after sub-specialty in our field. The GURS Fellowship Committee was established to define minimum standards to obtain and maintain a GURS recognized fellowship, reflect the diversity of the various fellowships and provide transparency to potential applicants. A special thank you goes to the Fellowship Committee, Dr. Daniel Rosenstein and Dr. Kurt McCammon, for volunteering their time and their tireless efforts thus far. Also, thank you to each of the Program Directors for their willingness to participate in the GURS match, and support of the overriding mission to

[provide the best training programs possible for future reconstructive urologists.](#)

The GURS Fellowship Committee reviews all applications for a new fellowship and each approved program annually to verify that a matched fellow receives quality instruction, participates in academic endeavors, and has a robust clinical experience. Unique to our sub-specialty is the diversity of the various fellowships. Six core categories were created that encompass the breadth of reconstructive urology with the mandate that two of the six categories (one must be urethroplasty) be met each year in addition to academic merit and GURS membership. Case Logs are required and reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

Congratulations to all those who completed the 2015 Fellowship over the summer. We welcome you and look forward to your participation in the society. I am pleased to announce that the GURS Fellowship Committee has verified two additional institutions since the inaugural Match year:

- **University of Alberta Reconstructive Urology Fellowship** (approved in 2014)

Program Director: Dr. Keith Rourke

- **University of Utah (approved in 2015)**

Program Directors: Drs. Jeremy Myers and William Brant

GURS will have 18 verified institutions that will participate in the [2017 Match Process](#). The 2017 Match Process is set to open in November 16, 2015. We look forward to another successful year.

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Membership Update

Currently, GURS has 306 members; however, there are approximately 13 members who have not paid their 2015 membership dues. If you are unsure of your membership status, please visit the [GURS website](#). **Please note:** Invoices for 2016 membership dues will go out in January 2016.

Membership Type	Paid	Unpaid
Member-Active	242	13
Members-Senior	51	0
Totals	293	13

As GURS members, we encourage you to reach out to your colleagues and ask them to consider to join GURS. If you have questions on how to get more involved in participating in GURS membership, please contact us at info@societyGURS.org.

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