



# BSC "Medical Times"

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS, SURGEONS, PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS

FALL 2004

## About BSC

**Barranca Surgery Center (BSC)** is a free-standing surgery center in Irvine. BSC is a center of excellence in ambulatory surgical care for:

### Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery

- Tonsillectomy

### Snoring, sleep apnea, and sinus problems

### Ophthalmic Surgery

### Orthopedics (focused on hand, wrist and foot)

### Gastrointestinal

- Esophageal, stomach and intestinal disorders

- Colonoscopy

- Screening and therapeutic

### General Surgery

- Hernia repair, gall bladder

- Breast

- Soft tissue tumors

### Questions?

Contact Maria

Heropoulos, M.D.,

Medical Director and

Chief Operating Officer,

(949) 552-6266

## Renowned eye surgeon joins BSC

**B**arranca Surgery Center (BSC) is proud to announce that **Gregg Feinerman, M.D.**, a board-certified and fellowship-trained eye surgeon, has joined the surgery staff.

Dr. Feinerman specializes in cataract and refractive eye surgery. He is among an elite group of surgeons specializing in the correction of presbyopia (farsightedness necessitating reading glasses) and has written books instructing eye surgeons on the new technique.

"I'll never have to wear glasses again," says Edward Sebastian, a Newport Coast resident who recently underwent the CRYSTALENS procedure and is very pleased with the results. "I read the stock market section of the newspaper and other fine print with no problem." The Crystalens virtually eliminates dependence on glasses and contact lenses, giving the patient both distance and near vision.

Dr. Feinerman is a graduate of The George Washington University School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology training at the University of California, Irvine and his refractive surgery fellowship at the internationally

recognized Gimbel Eye Center. There he was trained in advanced ocular surgical techniques (cataract surgery, LASIK, PRK, Intacs® corneal ring segments and other specialties).

BSC offers the most technologically advanced equipment for ocular surgery. The

Alcon INFINITI vision (phaco) system gives the surgeon tremendous advantages when performing cataract removal.

"With high-tech equipment, an excellent nursing staff and a patient-centered environment, BSC is an ideal ambulatory surgery center for patients seeking a variety of ophthalmic surgery solutions," said Dr. Feinerman. "It is a pleasure to work with the highly

qualified staff and physicians at BSC."



Dr. Gregg Feinerman (right), a board-certified and fellowship-trained eye surgeon, specializes in cataract and refractive eye surgery.

**If you would like to make an appointment or talk to someone about our ophthalmology procedures, please call 949-552-6266 (patients and/or physicians).**

## Advanced, minimally invasive hernia repair at BSC

**A**t Barranca Surgery Center (BSC), patients receive the most advanced surgical care from William Davis, M.D. and Tennison S. Dong, M.D., both leaders in the field of hernia repair. Our general surgeons use the most advanced minimally invasive (laparoscopic) techniques to treat all types of

hernias, from complex cases (recurrent hernias) to more routine cases (ventral or incisional hernias)

A ventral or incisional hernia occurs when part of an organ (usually the bowel or intestine) protrudes through a weak point or tear in the thin muscular wall that holds the abdominal organs in place. Prior surgical incisions can lead to ventral hernias. Ventral hernias can increase in size with time; can cause pain, nausea, vomiting; and can interfere with bowel movements.

BSC surgeons use specialized instruments, small incisions, a laparoscope and television monitors to locate the hernia, remove any scar tissue and insert butterfly or surgical mesh into the abdomen. The surgical mesh reinforces the weakened area of the abdominal wall and prevents the hernia from recurring.

There are many advantages to this approach, including quicker recovery as well as a significantly reduced risk of infection and recurrence. The rate of recurrence is much less with the laparoscopic approach (less than 10%), compared to the 20-40% recurrence rate with traditional hernia procedures. Patients report less pain and quicker return to normal activity.

**Barranca is accredited by the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) surveyors, with the distinction of Medicare-deemed status.**

### Directory of BSC Physicians

Physician Name	Specialty
Maria Heropoulos, MD	Anesthesia
Ed Stanley, CRNA	Anesthesia
Carlos Saad, MD	Gastroenterology
Gail T. Schoenau, MD	Gastroenterology
William F. Davis, MD	General Surgery
Tennison Dong, MD	General Surgery
Gregg Feinerman, MD	Ophthalmology
Robert R. Beltran, MD	Ear, Nose and Throat
Bernard deBerry, MD	Ear, Nose and Throat
Victor Strelzow, MD	Ear, Nose and Throat
Eddie A. Ramirez, MD	Ear, Nose and Throat
Nicholas Grumbine, DPM	Podiatry

## BSC provides endoscopy and colonoscopy screenings

The American Cancer Society and the American Gastroenterological Association recommend annual colorectal screenings for people who are 50 and over with average risk for colon cancer. They recommend screenings at an earlier age for those with a family history of cancer.

Barranca Surgery Center (BSC) has a fully equipped, state-of-the-art endoscopy suite for upper endoscopy and colonoscopy examinations. BSC provides routine screening and diagnostic testing for ulcer disease, hiatal hernia, gastroesophageal reflux disease, colitis, colon polyps and colon cancer. These examinations are highly sensitive, specific and effective in diagnosing intestinal problems. If a problem is diagnosed, BSC provides appropriate therapeutic interventions, such as esophageal dilation for patients suffering from strictures and difficulty swallowing; biopsies for tissue sampling; and polyp removal.



Dr. Gail Schoenau

According to recent studies published by the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, a colonoscopy is far more reliable in detecting polyps than any other diagnostic method. The detection and removal of polyps can prevent cancer from developing.

"Prevention, diagnosis and intervention are keys to good health," says **Gail Schoenau, M.D.**, gastroenterologist at BSC. "We specialize in diagnosing and treating a variety of gastrointestinal conditions and disease. Through proper diagnosis and treatment, we can prevent diseases and conditions from becoming serious and even life-threatening."

With highly qualified, board-certified gastroenterologists, a well-trained staff, and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities, BSC provides colonoscopies and upper endoscopies in a comfortable, stress-free environment. Call (949) 552-6266 for more information or to schedule an examination.

## BSC Medical Director puts patients first

When Maria Heropoulos, M.D. left a busy hospital-based anesthesia practice at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana to join Barranca, she had a clear vision of how a surgery center and operating room should function.

"After serving as chairman of anesthesiology and vice chair of surgery in a large hospital with more than eight operating rooms, I witnessed first-hand the inefficiencies and lack of personalized patient care in the typical hospital environment," said Dr. Heropoulos, Barranca's medical director and chief operating officer.

Since Barranca's inception, her philosophy has been to put the patient first, emphasizing patient comfort and safety during the entire pre-, intra-, and post-operative stay. As medical director, Dr. Heropoulos is involved in perioperative patient screening and the credentialing of surgeons and anesthesiologists, as well as overseeing the OR (operating room) team (nurses and technicians). She works closely with the Director of Nursing on quality assurance (QA) to ensure continuous and effective monitoring of the incidence and

treatment of pain and nausea in perioperative patients. The results and patient feedback are impressive.

"Studies at Barranca Surgery Center indicate that our patients' pain levels are minimal; when present, pain is treated effectively and immediately," Dr. Heropoulos said. "The incidence of nausea is less than 1%--far below the national average."

After completing an anesthesiology residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Dr. Heropoulos served as assistant professor at the University of California at Irvine, before going into private practice. She is board-certified and actively participates in the California Society of Anesthesiologists.



Dr. Maria Heropoulos,  
Medical Director and Chief  
Operating Officer

## Highly qualified nurses provide quality patient care

Barranca Surgery Center is fortunate to have highly qualified nurses committed to providing patients with the best care. Don't take just our word for it...listen to what our patients say:

*Thursday, August 26, I had cataract surgery at your facility and would like to comment on two of your outstanding nurses.*

*Both RN Kathy and RN Nancy were assigned to prepare me for surgery and take care of me afterward. Both were exceptional in their care and professionalism. They are a credit to their chosen profession and reflect favorably on the Barranca Surgery Center. Please pass my thanks on to them.*

— Dennis Painter

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