Med**lines**

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Ronald C. Merrell, MD



VCUHS Surgeons Launch Journal on "New Surgery"

In another example of the VCUHS's rally to the cry of innovation, two surgeons are leading the charge of defining 21st-century surgery in a new journal: New Surgery—Molecular Basis of Surgical Disease and New Technology. Written for physicians, it will contain information about technology, medical challenges, and ethics in this century of ever-evolving scientific discoveries and medical practice. Telemedicine, robotics and other new developments will feature prominently in the content.

"The 20th century could be argued as the best century for surgery in all history," writes Editor-in-Chief Dr. Ronald C. Merrell in the journal's first issue. "Aggressive minds must now redefine the operating room in terms of robotics and information access."

Merrell is Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Director for the Medical Information and Technology ApplicationsConsortium (MITAC) - a NASA commercial space center at VCU. Dr. Rifat Latifi, trauma and general surgeon and MITAC's Director of Education and Distance Learning, is Editor. The journal has been released in print and web formats this month. For more details, visit www.landesbioscience.com.

Free Health Seminar for Osteoporosis

Did you know that walking for 30 minutes a day reduces the chance of osteoporosis? Did you know that you need at least 1,000 to 1,500 mil-ligrams of calcium and 400 interna-

tional units of vitamin D daily? Learn more about healthy bones by attending the free Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment Seminar on Tuesday, April 17, 6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. at MCV Physicians in the Park at Stony Point.

In celebration of VCU Health System Week, Dr. Robert Downs, an endocrinologist and Co-director of MCV Physicians Program for Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment, and several other health care providers will lead discussions on topics such as risks, causes and treatments of osteoporosis. Proper exercise and diet will be addressed as well.

Wellness education and health screenings are also provided and will include a blood sugar and blood pressure check, postural training, osteoporosis risk assessment and more. Drawings will be held for a free bone density scan, nutrition consultation and an introductory exercise session that includes the book "Strong Women Stay Young." Calcium rich refreshments will be served and the health care team will be available to answer questions.

Call 560-8996 to register for this free seminar, health screening and wellness education. Seating is limited, so reserve your space early.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (804) 828-6284.

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