



that would be painless and safe. No longer would they have to limit themselves to amputations or surgery on the exterior of the body; they could now do anything that their courage, ingenuity and dexterity would permit. It was time for a new generation of surgeons to step forward and redefine their profession. The times required extraordinary individuals who could devise new techniques, new operations and wholly new ways of thinking. Edward J. Ill was a member of that generation and an exemplar of the best of that group of surgeons who followed Lister.

Dr. Ill was born in 1854, nine years after Morton's discovery of anesthesia and 13 years before Lister's discovery of antiseptics. He was the son of a German physician who had immigrated to the United States in 1848. Dr. Ill's father settled in "Stump Town," a poor section of Newark, New Jersey, where

German Hospital) when the trustees of that institution withdrew the privileges of a physician whose patients had trouble paying their hospital bills. In resigning, Dr. Ill asked, "Is it right that honest practitioners whose clientele is among the poor should be thus treated?"

Dr. Ill participated actively in the development of modern surgery, particularly in the field of gynecology. In 1898 he was elected to the presidency of the then newly formed American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), and later he was appointed as a Governor of the American College of Surgeons. His pioneering contributions included the use of the Rubin insufflation test for infertility, study of cellular changes in the cervix in the diagnosis of carcinoma of the cervix (with Papanicalau), histology of cyclic changes in the uterine mucosa, development and use of bowel anas-

EDWARD J. ILL: *His Life, Times and the Award in His Honor*

By Henry H. Sherk, MD

In April 1846 a Boston dentist named William G.T. Morton used ether anesthesia in the operating theatre of the Massachusetts General Hospital. The event was reported in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* about a month later as the first successful use of general anesthesia during surgery. It was a historic occasion rightly celebrated as the essential breakthrough for the application of surgery to the treatment of human beings.¹

The fact was, however, that operations, even though rendered painless with ether anesthesia, subjected patients to the terrible risk of life-endangering infection. As a result doctors still limited their indications for surgery to operations on the appendages of the body such as amputations or removal of infected teeth. Surgeons fully expected their operative sites to become infected, and they even welcomed the

exudation of yellow staphylococcal purulence from their incisions. They called it "laudable pus" as opposed to the thin, watery drainage of impending gangrene. Healthy individuals usually survived staphylococcal infections, but gangrene would kill them.

All of this changed when a Scottish surgeon named Joseph Lister connected the work of Louis Pasteur to his own high surgical mortality rates. Pasteur had shown that microorganisms caused putrefaction of living tissue, and Lister realized that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so. In 1867 Lister reported that he had reduced his amputation mortality rate from fifty percent to zero by using heat-sterilized instruments and lavaging incisions and the surrounding skin with carbolic acid.²

Because of anesthesia and antiseptics, surgeons suddenly possessed the essential requirements for performing surgery

cholera and other diseases occurred as epidemics. The elder Dr. Ill (originally Uhl) worked hard but for little reward, and he had to treat many of his patients without charge. Edward went to the local public schools in Newark. He must have done well academically because he was promptly accepted by the Medical Department of Columbia College, also known as the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. He graduated with a degree in medicine in 1875 at the age of 21 years. He immediately left for Germany and Austria to study surgery at universities in Freiburg, Vienna and Strasbourg. In 1877 he returned to Newark and opened a surgical practice that he continued for 65 years.

Dr. Ill was blessed with prodigious energy. He served on the staffs of multiple hospitals in northern New Jersey, among them were St. Michael's, St. Barnabas, Beth Israel, All Souls' (Morristown), Mountainside and Rahway Memorial. He resigned from the Clara Maass Hospital (formerly the

tomoses and safe hysterectomy with ligation of the uterine and ovarian arteries. These operations seem routine now, but in the early years of modern surgery they were anything but routine, and they seemed radical to most physicians.^{3,4}

Dr. Ill published extensively during his career, and he continued to do so into his eighties. His last paper, published in 1935, was a biography of Moses Maimonides, the Sephardic physician of Cordoba, Spain. Dr. Ill wrote the paper to commemorate the 800th anniversary of Maimonides' birth. Dr. Ill also believed passionately in continuing medical education for physicians. He participated actively in the creation and development of the New Jersey Academy of Medicine, an organization formed for the purpose of providing New Jersey physicians access to libraries, lectures and review courses in medicine.⁵ The Academy convened formally in 1911, but it was actually a continuation of several medical library associations already in existence in the northern counties of the state. Dr. Ill provided the guiding inspiration for the creation of these societies, and at the first meeting of the Academy of

Medicine of New Jersey his colleagues elected him president.

In 1939, three years before Dr. Ill's death at the age of 88, the Academy began the tradition of bestowing the Edward J. Ill Award. A particularly distinguished New Jersey physician would be singled out for special recognition at the annual dinner meeting of the Academy. In a brief award ceremony, that individual's colleagues would acknowledge his or her academic achievement, service in the practice of medicine and contributions to the continuing education of the physicians of New Jersey. The award also implied a degree of gratitude to the recipient for his or her contribution to the greater good, since the first recipient of the award, Dr. Wells Eagleton of Newark, had donated his personal residence (a large, elegant home in a very nice Newark neighborhood) to the Medical Society of New Jersey.

When the Academy of Medicine discontinued operations a few years ago, MDA Advantage Insurance Company of New Jersey stepped in to ensure that this important and longstanding award program would continue. The award ceremony has been broadened to include awards for contributions in other areas as well, such as in education, community service and outstanding performance in hospital administration. The awards program has become its own entity: the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Association, with the raison d'être of recognizing physicians and healthcare leaders. The proceeds from the annual dinner are given to a worthy cause or program in New Jersey that is able to fill a niche or a gap in services to needy New Jersey citizens.

Henry H. Sherk, MD is currently the Editor-in-Chief of MDAdvisor and a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine. He has published a number of articles and books in his field of specialization, including *Getting It Straight; A History of Orthopaedic Surgery in America*, which will be published later this year by the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. ■

¹ Bigelow, H.J. "Insensibility during surgical operations by inhalation." *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* 35 (Nov.18, 1846).

² Lister, J. "On a new method of treating compound fractures." *Lancet* (I, 1867; II, 1867).

³ Eagleton, W.S. "A tribute to Dr. Edward J. Ill." *Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey* 36 (1939): 700.

⁴ Wood, G.W. "Edward J. Ill: The versatile man." *Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey* 31 (1934): 361.

⁵ Ill, E.J. "The function of the Academy of Medicine." *Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey* 31 (1934): 368.



The **Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards™** are awarded annually to honor those exemplary physicians and leaders whose dedication to education, research and public service has significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in New Jersey and around the nation. This event debuted in 1939 at the annual meeting of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and has been sponsored by MDA Advantage Insurance Company of New Jersey since 2004. The awards are named after Edward J. Ill, MD, a New Jersey physician who was a pioneer in promoting continuing education in ways that set the national standard.

This year's awards dinner will be held on May 7, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. Profits from the awards dinner are donated to a charitable organization in New Jersey. The 2008 recipient will be the Hunterdon County Medication Access Partnership. For additional information on the awards program and this year's honorees, please visit our website at www.EJlawards.org.

To order tickets, place an ad in this year's awards journal or make a contribution to this year's event, please contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Association, Inc. at 609-803-2350 or at jpuro@EJlawards.org.

Edward J. Ill
Excellence in Medicine Association, Inc.

2008 EDWARD J. ILL EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AWARDS™

EDWARD J. ILL PHYSICIAN'S AWARD™

Presented to a New Jersey physician who merits recognition for distinguished service as a leader in the medical profession and in the community.



Walter J. Kahn, MD, FACS

Walter J. Kahn, MD is an ophthalmologist in full-time, private practice in Red Bank, New Jersey, and is presently department director of ophthalmology at Riverview Medical Center. While serving as medical staff president, he was instrumental in a four hospital merger that resulted in the Meridian Health System. He served for nine years on the board of Meridian Health System.

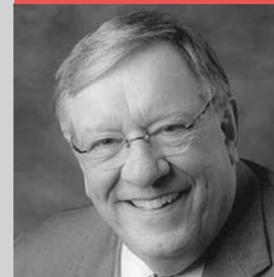
For the past 23 years, Dr. Kahn has traveled to developing countries to perform the latest techniques in ophthalmic surgery. He has shared his knowledge and skill as a volunteer ophthalmologist for Orbis International, a not-for-profit humanitarian

organization dedicated to saving sight worldwide through public health education, technical assistance to improve access to quality ophthalmic services and hands-on training for eye care professionals. He has trained more than 1000 local ophthalmologists who continue the valuable work of saving sight.

Dr. Kahn has taken leadership roles in the Medical Society of New Jersey, serving as president in 2000-2001. He presently serves as chair of the New Jersey Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) and was elected to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws, where he has served in the past as its chair.

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL EDUCATOR AWARD

Presented to a medical educator who has made an outstanding contribution to graduate or undergraduate medical education in New Jersey.



Joel A. DeLisa, MD, MS

Joel A. DeLisa, MD is a widely recognized leader in physical medicine and rehabilitation and an experienced senior investigator, administrator and medical educator. Dr. DeLisa is president of the Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Center and professor and chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, UMDNJ – New Jersey Medical School. His research interests include spinal cord injury, health delivery systems outcomes and the evaluation of physician clinical competencies, as well as undergraduate and graduate medical education.

Dr. DeLisa is a proficient author with a bibliography comprising 135 published articles, 59 abstracts and 42 chapters and books. He was the editor of the *Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine* from 1999 to 2005.

An active member of numerous professional organizations, he has had wide-ranging experience as chairman, board member and committee member. He is currently the vice chair of the American Board of Medical Specialties. He is chair-elect of the Council of Academic Societies of the Association of American Medical Colleges. He is the vice president of the International Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He served on the board of the Education Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, where he was chair from 2005 to 2006. Dr. DeLisa has received numerous awards for his service to the medical community and has been an invited speaker and keynote speaker for many national and international organizations.



Deepak V. Patel, MD, MSc Orth, MS Orth, D Orth, FCPS Orth

Deepak V. Patel, MD is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon who was trained across three continents – Asia, Europe and North America. Currently, Dr. Patel is a professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, director of Orthopaedic and Musculoskeletal Research, and associate director of the Orthopaedic Residency Program at St. Joseph's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Paterson and Seton Hall University in South Orange.

Dr. Patel has been awarded numerous scholarships and prizes and is a member of several

international societies such as SICOT (World Orthopaedic Congress); he is an associate member of the International Arthroscopy Association and a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. To date, he has given more than 100 podium presentations and has published 85 papers on various aspects of orthopaedic surgery in peer-reviewed national and international journals and textbooks. Dr. Patel is a talented and respected medical educator.

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL EXECUTIVE AWARD

Presented to an executive in a medically related organization or field who is usually, but not necessarily, a layperson and who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the enhancement of patient care and medical practice in New Jersey.



Judith Burgis

Judith Burgis is the senior vice president for Corporate Services at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH). Her current executive functions include strategic planning, government affairs and technology assessment. A 600-bed academic medical center, RWJUH is the principal hospital for the UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. RWJUH is nationally recognized for its quality patient outcomes and safety. The hospital was recently ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 50 hospitals in the nation for clinical excellence.

Ms. Burgis has more than 30 years of management experience in corporate and healthcare settings. She has been long concerned about New Jersey's reputation for healthcare as a corridor state sandwiched between Philadelphia and New York City and is a passionate advocate for patients. Ms. Burgis and the RWJUH hospital team have been credited for gaining

state approvals to provide services not previously available in central New Jersey and for reducing out-of-state patient migration. During 2009, RWJUH anticipates introducing the state's first Proton Beam Radiation Therapy System to treat adults and children.

Appointed a Leadership New Jersey Fellow, Ms. Burgis is also a past chairman and currently serves as a member of the board of the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network. She also serves on the executive and finance committees of the board of New Brunswick Tomorrow. She served on the health policy transition teams for Governors Corzine, McGreevey and Whitman. She participates in professional organizations including the Association of American Medical Colleges and recently served as co-chair of the Strategic Advisory Council of the New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals.

Dr. Moynihan served as president of her county medical society from 1998-1999 and as president of the Medical Society of New Jersey in 2005-2006. She is currently an alternate delegate to the AMA on behalf of the Medical Society of New Jersey and is chair of the Committee on Rheumatologic Care for the American College of Rheumatology. The American College of Rheumatology awarded Dr. Moynihan the distinguished Paulding Phelps Award in 1998 for her service to clinical rheumatology and its practitioners.

Eileen Moynihan, MD maintains a solo practice in rheumatology in Woodbury, New Jersey. She served as medical director of Medicare for traditional fee-for-service, Part B, New Jersey, for Prudential, Xact Medicare and Empire Medicare in succession. In 2007, Dr. Moynihan became the advisor to the Relative Value Update Committee of the AMA for the American College of Rheumatology, and she reviews proposed relative values of medical services and their components.



Eileen Moynihan, MD

SPECIAL AWARD

Presented to Steven E. Ross, MD and Robert F. Ostrum, MD for the extraordinary trauma care provided to Governor Jon Corzine.



Steven E. Ross, MD

Steven E. Ross, MD is the acting chief of the Department of Surgery and the head of the Division of Trauma at Cooper University Hospital, as well as director of the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship. He is also professor of Surgery at UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Camden. Dr. Ross is active in the education and training of surgery and emergency medicine residents. His clinical and research interests include trauma systems, pre-hospital trauma care, emergency resuscitation, operative intervention and intensive care management and rehabilitation. He has more than 100 refereed publications and numerous book chapters in these fields. His work in trauma systems development and care of the injured has been recognized by a number of EMS agencies, the American College of Surgeons, the New Jersey Brain Injury Association, the B'Nai Brith Foundation, the Camden Police Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Robert F. Ostrum, MD is director of Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery at Cooper University Hospital and professor of Surgery at UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Camden. He is actively involved in research, has lectured extensively and authored more than 30 chapters and articles. In 2007, Dr. Ostrum was recognized for his teaching practice when he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has been selected by New Jersey and Ohio magazines as a "Top Doctor" and was selected by Woodard and White as a "Top Doctor in America."

Drs. Ross and Ostrum see critically injured patients in Cooper's Level 1 Trauma Center, and led the team that provided life-saving trauma care to Governor Jon Corzine after injuries sustained in an April 12, 2007, motor vehicle accident.



Robert F. Ostrum, MD

COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADER AWARD

Presented to an organization that demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to improving the health and welfare of the citizens of New Jersey; and to an individual representing that organization who has personified, led and/or provided the vision for that organization.



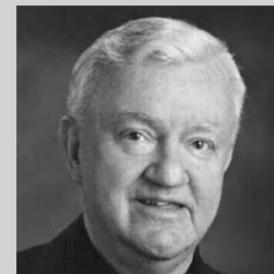
Henry Acosta, MA, MSW, LSW
On behalf of the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health

Henry Acosta is a nationally and internationally known expert on Hispanic mental health issues and is currently the executive director of the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health. In his role as executive director, Mr. Acosta aims to address the nationwide lack of availability of, access to and the provision of quality mental health services for Hispanics, and to heighten awareness, acceptance and understanding of mental illness among the Hispanic population.

Mr. Acosta is also the deputy director of the New Jersey Mental Health Institute, Inc. As a New Jersey licensed social worker, Mr. Acosta has more than 16 years of direct service and administrative experience working with children and families in both clinical and social service settings. He currently serves on the New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma and on the State of New

Jersey Board of Social Work Examiners, where he serves as the board's vice chairman. He was appointed by Governor Corzine to the New Jersey Health Care Access Study Commission.

Mr. Acosta has served as a volunteer in many capacities, including as a mentor for teenage inner-city youth, as a local coordinator for the 2000 Million Mom March and as a firefighter who assisted with search and recovery efforts at Ground Zero after the World Trade Center terrorist attacks. He has received numerous awards and recognitions, including most recently a 2007 Advancing Minority Mental Health Award from the American Psychiatric Foundation and a 2007 "Forty Under 40" Award from *NJBIZ* magazine. Mr. Acosta is currently pursuing a doctorate in Social Work in Social Policy Analysis and Administration at Rutgers University.



Monsignor William J. Linder
On behalf of the New Community Corporation

Monsignor William J. Linder is currently the pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Newark. After the Newark civil disorders of 1967, Msgr. Linder founded New Community Corporation (NCC) to begin to replace the destroyed housing and to rebuild the local economy. NCC is the most comprehensive and the largest community development organization in the United States. NCC employs more than 1,600 individuals and provides urban dwellers with housing, day care, alternative education, social services, job training, employment services and healthcare. Through its many services and programs it touches the lives of 50,000 Newark and Essex County residents every day.

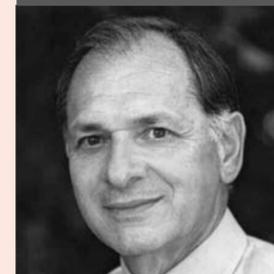
Msgr. Linder lectures all over the world to community groups, bankers and others who are interested

in the community development movement. NCC has hosted global entities interested in learning from Msgr. Linder's model of community development, including groups from Northern Ireland, Kenya, Japan, Germany, South Africa, Russia and Tanzania.

Msgr. Linder holds an MA and PhD in sociology from Fordham University and honorary degrees from ten institutions of higher learning. He is an adjunct professor at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. In the past ten years, he has received numerous honors, including Person of the Week from ABC World News Tonight, MacArthur Foundation Fellows Award, Governor's Gold Medal (NJ) and the 2007 Project of the Year Award from HOPE.

PETER W. RODINO, JR., CITIZEN'S AWARD™

Presented to a citizen or group of citizens of New Jersey who merits recognition for distinguished service in advancing and promoting the health and well-being of the people of our state.



Senator Peter A. Inverso

Senator Peter A. Inverso was a member of the New Jersey State Senate from January 1992 through January 2008. Senator Inverso represented the 14th Legislative District, which covers parts of Mercer and Middlesex counties. During his tenure as a state senator, he served as assistant majority leader, chairman of the State Government Committee, vice chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, co-chairman of the Law and Public Safety and Veteran Affairs Committees and as deputy minority leader. During his time in the Senate, he authored many pieces of hallmark legislation, including Megan's Law and the FamilyCare health insurance initiative.

Senator Inverso serves as president and CEO of

Roma Financial Corporation. He holds an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from The College of New Jersey. Senator Inverso is the immediate past chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Health Care Corporation at Hamilton. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Rider University. He has been honored by many community and charitable organizations, including Catholic Charities, the Central Jersey Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America, the New Jersey Broadcasters Association, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey Naval Militia Foundation and the American Cancer Society.