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TBHC Podiatry Runs 24/7

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To chedule an appointment with the Dept. of Podiatry please call 718 250-8753

You may not notice as you go through your daily routine, but there is a great deal of activity up on the 8 th floor in the Maynard Building at The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC). In addition to General and Orthopedic Surgery (featured in the last issue of Heartbeat magazine), you will find the Division of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery.

Reorganized as a Division under the Department of Surgery over one year ago, Podiatry has grown to become a 24-hour-per-day, 7-day-a-week service, providing consultative services to the ER, Inpatient Floors, Outpatient Clinics and Private Practice patients in the Maynard Building.

Dr. Bryan Makower assumed the responsibilities of Chief about a year and a half ago, and has seen utilization of his Divisions services expand over five-fold. "We have been exceptionally busy in the operating room and in the clinics," Dr. Makower explained.

With over 20 years of practice experience, Dr. Makower came to Brooklyn Hospital as a Podiatrist, Board Certified in Podiatric Surgery as well as in Podiatric Orthopedics and Medicine. He has recently joined TBHC staff from Downstate Hospital in Brooklyn , where he developed and ran a post-graduate training program leading to Certification in Podiatric Medicine and Podiatric Surgery. As Chief of the Division and Residency Director at University Hospital of Brooklyn, Dr. Makower built up a great volume of patients. Between his responsibilities as clinician and educator, he was able to open the community's eyes to the need for preventative and proactive Podiatric Care.

"Brooklyn has one of the highest concentrations of diabetic patients in the country. Podiatric preventative care, as well as patient education, has been shown in numerous studies to decrease the number of non-traumatic lower extremity amputations. Prevention of foot ulcers is one of our major responsibilities", he adds. "We as Podiatrists are in a unique position to be able to understand the forces on the foot in conjunction with a diminished neurovascular status. We develop strategies, including shoes and braces, to redistribute weight bearing to prevent abnormal, excessive forces."

Dr. Deanna Duran has recently joined the Podiatric staff. She has extensive experience in dealing with abnormal biomechanics and forefoot reconstructive surgical procedures. Dr. Duran has practice experience in New Mexico , where she worked on Indian Reservations to help diminish lower extremity amputation rates.

"Wound care is a new, complex and rapidly changing field", says Dr. Duran. "We utilize medical, surgical and nursing principles to resolve previously untreatable wounds. This is an area where multiple specialties can come together to salvage feet and legs where in the past the only answer was amputation".

Another of Dr. Duran's interests is Sports Medicine. "By optimizing the biomechanics of the foot, we can improve performance and prevent injury. Evaluation of the child's foot at an early age is also of extreme importance," adds Dr. Duran.

In addition to diabetic preventative foot care, Dr. Makower has an active practice treating common foot ailments and deformities, including heel spurs, bunions, corns, hammertoes and ingrown nails. Flatfoot deformities are addressed, as they often lead to serious arthritic conditions, preventing normal and pain-free walking later in life.

Dr. Makower is also very happy to have recruited Dr. David Gordon, who has recently completed one of the most rigorous and well-respected training programs in New York . Dr. Gordon, who has already developed a method of joint replacement that will be used in the treatment of osteoarthritis across the country and the world, has extensive training in reconstructive rear foot surgery and in trauma of the foot.

Dr. Makower and his staff are on call to the adult and Pediatric Emergency Rooms on a 24/7 basis. They each have extensive experience in dealing with a variety of situations, from ingrown nails and lacerations to complex fracture dislocations. Along with advanced technologies available at The Brooklyn Hospital Center, traumatic injuries can be fully evaluated with imaging modalities, stabilized, reduced and repaired. Severe limb-threatening infections can be evaluated, and our team is capable of initiating limb salvage.

Appointments for Podiatry can be made through the four off-site clinics, as well as the OPD at The Brooklyn Hospital Center. Private patients are seen at 240 Willoughby Ave. (8 th floor Maynard Building) three days per week by calling 718 250-8753. Consults may be called through the Operator at TBHC or through the private practice number, 718 250-8753, which is covered 24/7. All insurances are accepted, and appointments are suggested.

In addition, Dr. Makower would like to add that he is going to be available for patients to visit at the clinic in the evening hours.

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