

Colorectal Surgical Associates (CSA) specializes in the application of minimally invasive approaches for the diagnosis and treatment of colon and rectal diseases. Non-invasive methods, such as colonoscopy, endo-anal ultrasound, anorectal physiology, defecography, and echodefecography are routinely utilized for the diagnosis of various colorectal disorders. Innovative minimally invasive surgery (MIS), such as single-incision laparoscopic surgery (SILS) and robotic-assisted laparoscopic surgery (RALS), in addition to standard techniques and non-invasive modalities, such as pelvic muscle rehabilitation (PMR), are offered for intervention.

In addition to our clinical care, CSA is dedicated to expanding medical and scientific knowledge through clinical research in the field of minimally invasive surgery and pelvic floor disorders. To promote this goal, we have established a **post-doctoral clinical research fellowship program** which aims to train qualified healthcare professionals as physician-scientists committed to promoting and improving the standards of patient care through **“outcomes”-driven clinical research**. Outcomes research aims to understand the results following specific healthcare practices, such as diagnostic methods or interventions, and to explain their significance to patient care. Accordingly, outcomes research represents an important means to developing improved methods to monitor and enhance overall quality of care and promote best practices.

Our research program is partially funded from participation in clinical trials and support from industrial and scientific grants. However, the majority of our financial support comes from the generous contributions and donations of individual and corporate philanthropic patrons. Financial support is essential for the support and education of our research fellows and to maintain our mission in the development of best practices:

- **Post-doctoral research fellow stipend (interim) or salary (full-time):** Our fellows include both domestic and international medical students and physicians. Fellows spend 1-2 years in our program involved with project conception and design, obtaining IRB regulatory approvals for clinical trials, data acquisition and analysis, drafting and revising abstracts and manuscripts, and presenting at local and national meetings. Through our program, we are able to offer these aspiring physician-scientists the means to develop their ambitions and to engage in meaningful clinical research.

Recommended Contribution: \$42,000 per fellow per year

- **Meetings:** We submit abstracts for presentation at annual national and international scientific meetings and symposiums. This is our means of disseminating important findings and new technologies to our peers around the world. Meeting sponsors include the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES), American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS), and Clinical Robotic Surgery Association (CRSA), Minimally Invasive Robotic Association (MIRA), and others.

Recommended Contribution: \$20,000

- **Publications and processing fees:** In addition to presenting our research at meetings, publications in peer-review journal are essential for promoting outcomes research. We strive to submit upwards of 10 journal articles each year to various surgical journals including *Surgical Endoscopy*, *Diseases of the Colon and Rectum*, *Techniques in Coloproctology*, and the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*, among others.

Recommended Contribution: \$10,000

- **Equipment, travel and hotel accommodations:** This includes laptops and computer software for fellows, consultants such as a statistician and research coordinator, and travel/hotel accommodations for scientific meetings, surgical courses, and didactic presentations.

Recommended Contribution: \$7,500

Unrestricted educational grant donation levels: Unrestricted educational grant is a grant used by the research team to promote all areas of their clinical research. The grants are used for a specific research project. Further details will be offered depending on the time and amount of the donation level.

Levels of Donation

- Silver \$10,000
- Gold \$50,000
- Platinum \$100,000
- Lifetime Donor greater than \$100,000

If interested in donating funds to further our clinical research program, please contact **Natasha Kriston / Sandra Compton** at nkriston@houstoncolon.com or sowens@houstoncolon.com. Or call (713) 790-0600 for additional information.

Eric M. Haas, MD, FACS, FASCRS
Chief, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, University General Hospital
Program Director, Minimally Invasive Colon and Rectal Surgery Fellowship, The University of Texas Medical School at Houston

Colorectal Surgical Associates, Ltd, LLP
7900 Fannin St, Suite 2700, Houston, TX 77054
Office: (713) 790-0600
Fax: (713) 790-0616
E-mail: ehaasmd@houstoncolon.com