



OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

SEMINAR REPORT

NEUROSURGERY (SPINE)
OMI MEX WEILL CORNELL
SEMINAR

November 14-16, 2022

Medical Education Beyond Borders



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OMI MEX WEILL CORNELL SEMINAR IN NEUROSURGERY (SPINE)

November 14-16, 2022

26 fellows from Mexico
4 faculty members from the USA and Mexico
11 lectures given by faculty
16 interesting case presentations by fellows
1 excellent case presentation by a fellow

Group Photo of Faculty and Fellows



SCHEDULE

OMI MEX Weill Cornell Seminar

Neurosurgery (Spine)

Monday, November 14 – Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Monday, November 14, 2022

07:30 – 08:30	Registration & Breakfast	
09:00 – 09:15	Opening Ceremony	
09:15 – 09:45	Pre-Seminar Test	
09:45 – 10:30	Spinal Surgery and Evidence-Based Outcomes	Claudius Thomé, MD
10:30 – 11:15	Basic Instrumentation Techniques	Claudius Thomé, MD
11:15 – 11:35	COFFEE BREAK	
11:35 – 12:20	6 Ts of Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery	Roger Härtl, MD
12:20 – 13:05	Decision Making in MISS	Roger Härtl, MD
13:05 – 14:05	LUNCH	
14:05 – 14:50	Lateral Approaches to the Spine	José Antonio Soriano Sánchez, MD
14:50 – 16:50	Fellows' Case Presentations	

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

07:30 – 08:30	Registration & Breakfast	
09:00 – 09:45	Thoraco-Lumbar Trauma	Claudius Thomé, MD
09:45 – 10:30	Management of Cervical Trauma	Rodrigo Navarro-Ramirez, MD
10:30 – 10:50	COFFEE BREAK	
10:50 – 12:50	Fellows' Case Presentations	
12:50 – 13:50	LUNCH	
13:50 – 15:50	Fellows' Case Presentations	

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

07:30 – 08:30	Registration & Breakfast	
09:00 – 09:45	Spinal Tumors	Claudius Thomé, MD
09:45 – 10:30	Navigation and Robotics in Spinal Surgery	Roger Härtl, MD
10:30 – 10:50	COFFEE BREAK (Faculty Lunch)	
10:50 – 12:50	Adult Deformity Correction	Claudius Thomé, MD
12:50 – 13:20	Post-Seminar Test	
13:20 – 14:20	Lunch Closing Ceremony & Awards	



OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE

FACULTY BOOKLET

NEUROSURGERY (SPINE)
OMI MEX WEILL CORNELL
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November 14-16, 2022

Medical Education Beyond Borders





Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD

Director, Open Medical Institute
American Austrian Foundation

Associate Dean and Gerhard Andlinger Professor
for International Medicine & Distance Learning
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Urology
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Reproductive Medicine
Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics
**Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia**

Associate Professor of Urology
Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria

Wolfgang Aulitzky, MD is the Medical Director of the American Austrian Foundation. He is Associate Dean for International Medicine and Distance Learning, Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Urology and Adjunct Prof. of Clinical Reproductive Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. In 2016, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics in the Associated Faculty of the Perelman School of Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He is also Associate Prof. of Urology at the Medical University of Innsbruck and Visiting Professor at the Medical University of Vienna. Amongst others he is a member of the American, German and Austrian Societies of Urology and was awarded the Zuckermandlpreis of the Austrian Society of Urology in 1989. In 1995 he received the Silver Medal, in 2007 the Golden Medal for Merits to the Republic of Austria and in 2014 the cross of honor of the Land Salzburg. As Director of the Medical Program of the American Austrian Foundation he has initiated the Open Medical Institute, a scientific and educational collaboration of Weill Cornell and the NewYork Presbyterian Hospital, the Children Hospital of Philadelphia, Duke University, Columbia University, the Cleveland Clinic and leading hospitals in Austria. Dr. Aulitzky earned his medical degree at the University of Innsbruck in 1977, was a research associate at the University of Uppsala, Sweden and the Rockefeller University, New York. He received his training as an urologist at the University of Innsbruck and the General Hospital of Salzburg. He is the author of more than 140 publications on Urology, Andrology and Health Care issues and is co-author of books on basic and clinical urology/andrology.



**Roger Härtl, MD
(Course Director)**

Hansen-MacDonald Professor of Neurological Surgery
Director of Neurosurgery Spine, Weill Cornell Medicine
Director, Weill Cornell Medicine Center for Comprehensive
Spine Care
Founder, Weill Cornell Global Neurosurgery Initiative in
Tanzania
525 East 68th Street, Box 99
New York, NY 10065
USA

Phone: +1-212-746-2152
Fax: +1-212-746-7732

Roger Härtl, MD is the Hansen-MacDonald Professor of Neurological Surgery and Director of Neurosurgery Spine at the Weill Cornell Brain and Spine Center in New York. In addition, he is the Founder and Director of the Weill Cornell Medicine Center for Comprehensive Spine Care as well as Weill Cornell's Global Neurosurgery Initiative in Tanzania. He also serves as the official neurosurgeon for the New York Giants Football Team. Dr. Härtl's clinical interest focuses on simple and complex spine surgery for degenerative conditions, tumors, and trauma as well as biological approaches for disc repair and regeneration. He is a world-renowned pioneer and leader in minimally invasive spinal surgery and computer-assisted spinal navigation surgery and augmented reality. He is actively involved in improving neurosurgical care in emerging countries as the leader of Weill Cornell's Global Neurosurgery Initiative in Tanzania. In order to achieve the very best in patient outcomes, Dr. Härtl's practice emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to spinal disease. He collaborates closely with other specialists such as neurologists, pain specialists, sports medicine doctors, and physical therapists. His patients come from all over the globe and include many physicians, surgeons, and even other neurological spine surgeons. He has been repeatedly named to the lists of New York Super Doctors, America's Top Surgeons, America's Best Doctors, and has been included on the list of New York's Best Doctors in New York magazine. He has authored more than 250 scholarly articles in peer-reviewed journals and is the editor of four books on minimally invasive spinal surgery and biological disc repair and regeneration. He is the 2022 recipient of the AANS Humanitarian Award, one of the highest honors bestowed by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. Dr. Härtl has provided commentary for numerous television shows on ABC, NBC, and CBS in addition to national radio shows. His expertise has been sought through interviews in the New York Times, The New York Post, The New York Daily News, and other media outlets.



**Claudius Thomé, MD
(Co-Course Director)**

Professor
Director and Chairman
Department of Neurosurgery
Medical University of Innsbruck
Anichstrasse 35
6020 Innsbruck
Austria

Phone: +43-512-504-27452
Fax: +43-512-504-27453
Email: claudius.thome@tirol-kliniken.at

Claudius Thomé, MD completed his medical education at the Ludwig-Maximilian-Universitaet Munich, Germany and at Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford/Ca., USA followed by his residency in the Department of Neurosurgery, University of Heidelberg, Campus Mannheim (Chairman: Prof. Dr. P. Schmiedek) (1995-2001). He completed several fellowships: 2nd Institute of Physiology, University of Heidelberg; Dept. of Orthopedics, Klinikum Karlsbad-Langensteinbach; Department of Neurosurgery, Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix, USA; and, Department of Neurosurgery, Mayfield Clinic, University of Cincinnati, USA. His thesis was entitled "Evidence-based spine surgery: Evaluation of new surgical techniques using randomized studies" (2005). Dr. Thomé's surgical specialties are: cerebrovascular surgery, skull base surgery and complex spine surgery, and his main research fields are: cerebrovascular diseases, neuromonitoring in brain injury (TBI, SAH) as well as evidence-based and minimally invasive spine surgery and regenerative medicine in spinal disease. After his position as Professor and Vice-Chairman at the Dept. of Neurosurgery, University of Heidelberg, Campus Mannheim from 2007 to 2009, he was appointed Full Professor and Chairman of the Dept. of Neurosurgery, Medical University Innsbruck, Austria in 2010. Dr. Thomé has served several years as Chairman of the Spine Section of the German Society of Neurosurgery and as Past-President of the Austrian Spine Society, as Past-President of the Austrian Society of Surgery and as Past-President of the Austrian Society of Neurosurgery. Dr. Thomé's commitments in the societies focus on education as recent Chairman of the Training Committee of the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies, as Past-Education Officer of AOSpine Europe and as Past-Member of the education committee of the German Spine Society and the Spine Society of Europe. He currently serves as Scientific Liaison Chair of the EANS.



Rodrigo Navarro-Ramirez MD, MSc

Consultant, Associate Surgeon
Department of Neurological Surgery
45000 San Pablo Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32224
USA

Phone: +1-904-956-3435/+1-718-613-9627
Fax: +1-904-953-7233
Email: NavarroRamirez.Rodrigo@Mayo.edu

Rodrigo Navarro-Ramirez, MD, MSc is a Neurosurgeon/Spine Surgeon with neurosurgery and orthopedics spine training who specializes in complex spine surgery and MISS. Dr. Navarro-Ramirez completed his Neurosurgery Residency at "Hospital General de Mexico" in Mexico City. After graduating, he became part of Dr. Roberto De Leo's group at the ABC Hospital during 2014-2015 before continuing his career in Montreal, Canada and New York, USA. Dr. Navarro's research interests are clinical/radiological outcomes and surgical innovation. He completed a two-year fellowship in Adult and Pediatric Scoliosis at the Orthopedics Department of McGill University in Montreal, Canada and an Instructorship in Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery at Weill Cornell Medical College, Neurosurgery Department, New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. Dr. Navarro has published over 50 peer-reviewed publications, several book chapters, and just published his first book "Essential Step-by-Step Techniques for Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery" as co-editor with Dr. Roger Härtl. Dr. Navarro-Ramirez is currently a Consultant and Associate Surgeon at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida.



José Antonio Soriano Sánchez, MD

Neurosurgeon
The American British Cowdray Medical Center, I.A.P.
Av. Carlos Graef Fernández N. 154
Col. Tlaxala, Cuajimalpa de Morelos
Mexico City 05300
Mexico

Phone: +52-55-16-64-71-08
Email: neurojass@hotmail.com

José Antonio Soriano Sánchez, MD is a neurosurgeon at The American British Cowdray Medical Center, I.A.P in Mexico City, Mexico. He is a member of the Mexican Academy of Surgery and an honorary member of the Neurosurgery Societies of Spain, Chile, Venezuela, Paraguay, and Dominican Republic. He is the Chief of Spine Surgery at the ABC Medical Center, a member of the Spine Committee of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies (WFNS), and the President Elect of the Mexican Council of Neurological Surgery. Dr. Soriano Sánchez is the President of the Latin-American Federation of Neurosurgery Societies (FLANC) and the pioneer of Tubular Spine Surgery in Latin America. He has more than 18 years of experience in minimally invasive surgery.



Becky Aguilar-Álvarez de Sáenz

Executive Director | AMSA

- Bachelors degree in economics, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)
- Banking and financial career for 15 years
- Member of the Board Civic Committee, Ford Motor Company Mexico
- Treasurer of the Board of Trustees UNETE (Unión de Empresarios por la Tecnología en la Educación)
- Member of the International Women's Forum
- Member of the Mexican Council for International Affairs
- AMSA's Executive Director since 2010



Gerardo Legorreta Creel

President of the Board | AMSA

- Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Alianza Médica para la Salud, A. C. (AMSA)
- Studied at the London Business School and Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)
- CEO of UBS (Union Bank of Switzerland)
- Member of the Board of Directors of Bepensa, SA de CV
- Founder and Managing Director of LG & A

Fellow Booklet

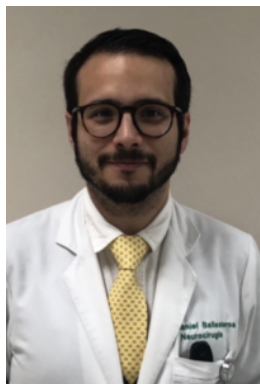
OMI MEX Neurosurgery (Spine)



Brandon Alejandro Acosta Lucero, MD
UNAM
Department of Surgery
Félix Cuevas 540, Col del Valle Sur. Benito Juárez, 03104
03104 Mexico City
Mexico
b.alejandroacostal@gmail.com



Carlos Aparicio-García, MD
Medical Center ABC Santa Fe
Department of Neurosurgery
Vasco de Quiroga 154
05348 Mexico City
Mexico
carlos.aparicio.nc@gmail.com



Daniel Ballesteros Herrera, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía "Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Insurgentes Sur 3877
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
dr.dballesteros@gmail.com



Carlos Betancourt Quiroz, MD
Hospital Central Sur de Alta Especialidad PEMEX
Department of Neurosurgery
Anillo Periférico 4091
14140 Mexico City
Mexico
cbetancourtquiroz@gmail.com



Aurora Castro Ruiz, MD
Centro Médico Nacional de la Raza
Department of Neurosurgery
Calzada Vallejo y Paseo de las Jacarandas S/N, Colonia La Raza
02990 Mexico City
Mexico
aurora_castro-91@hotmail.com



Ricardo Cazares-Mejia, MD
Centro Médico Nacional "20 de Noviembre"
Department of Neurosurgery
Nueva York 115
03810 Mexico City
Mexico
cazares@neuroquirurgicos.com



Mariana Daniela Fabila Lezama, MD
National Autonomous University of Mexico
Félix Cuevas 540
03104 Mexico City
Mexico
marianafale13@gmail.com



Ricardo Garcia Iturbide, MD
Hospital de Especialidades Centro Medico
Nacional Siglo XXI
Department of Neurosurgery Cuauhtemoc
Avenue 330, Col. Doctores 0670 Mexico
City
Mexico
ricardo.garcia.iturbide93@gmail.com



Rubi Esmeralda García Vargas, MD
ABC Medical Center
Department of Neurosurgery
Vasco de Quiroga 154
05348 Ciudad de Mexico (Mexico City)
Mexico
ruby_malone@hotmail.com



Oscar Garcia-Galaviz, MD
Centro Medico ABC
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Vasco de Quiroga Num 154, Contadero
Cuajimalpa
05348 Mexico City
Mexico
osnogaga55@hotmail.com



Jimena Gonzalez Salido, MD
SALLE
Av. Benjamín Franklin 45, Colonia Condesa,
Cuauhtémoc
06140 Mexico City
Mexico
jimenagonzalezsalido@gmail.com



David Hernández Álvarez, MD
Centro Médico Nacional "20 de Noviembre"
Department of Neurosurgery
Felix Cuevas
03100 Mexico City
Mexico
daer_15@hotmail.com



Victor David López García, MD
Medical Center ABC Santa Fe
Department of Neurosurgery
Avenida Carlos Graef 154, Colonia Tlaxcala
Santa Fe, Cuajimalpa
05300 Mexico City
Mexico
vdavid0697@gmail.com



Germán López-Valencia, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía
"Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Insurgentes Sur 3877
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
gelova.7@gmail.com



Silvia Eugenuia Mamani Fernandez, BSc
ABC Medical Center
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Carlos Graef Fernández 154, Col. Santa Fe
05348 Mexico City
Mexico
silvymadez8@gmail.com



Ernesto Martínez de la Maza, MD
Hospital Ángeles del Pedregal
Department of Neurosurgery
Camino a Santa Teresa 1055
10700 Mexico City
Mexico
drmartinezdelamaza@gmail.com



Edgardo de Jesús Mateo, FACC
National Institute of Neurology and
Neurosurgery "Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Avenida Insurgentes Sur
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
edgardomateo22@hotmail.com



Michel Mondragón-Soto, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía
"Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Avenida Insurgentes Sur 3877
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
mmondragon@innn.edu.mx



Marco Antonio Munuzuri Camacho, MD
National Institute of Neurology and
Neurosurgery "Maneul Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Insurgentes Sur 3728, Tlalpan
14070 Mexico City
Mexico
mmunuzuri@gmail.com



Jorge Daniel Perez Ruiz, DrPH
Centro Medico ABC
Department of Neurosurgery
Vasco de Quiroga 154, Contadero, Cuajimalpa de
Morelos
05348 Mexico City
Mexico
jorgecls123@hotmail.com



Jose Miguel Ramos, MD
Centro Médico Nacional "20 de Noviembre"
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Felix Cuevas 540
03100 Mexico City
Mexico
jmiguelrd1@gmail.com



Luis Rodriguez-Hernandez, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía
"Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Insurgentes Sur 3877
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
luis_albertorh@hotmail.com



Ángel Octavio Soto Hernández, MD
Centro Médico Nacional "20 de Noviembre"
Department of Neurosurgery
Felix Cuevas
03300 Mexico City
Mexico
a.octavio.sohe@outlook.com



Luis Alberto Urcid Garcia, MD
Instituto de Seguridad y Servicios Sociales de los
Trabajadores del Estado Issste
Department of Neurosurgery
Colector 13 1669, Revolución IMSS, Gustavo A.
Madero
07300 Mexico City
Mexico
laug_urcid_1988@hotmail.com



Rodrigo Uribe-Pacheco, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía
"Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Av. Insurgentes 3877
14269 Mexico City
Mexico
rodrigouribe@neurocirugia-innn.com



Rafael Vazquez, MD
National Institute of Neurology and
Neurosurgery "Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Calle Moneda No.15
14000 Mexico City
Mexico
rafaelvazquezgregorio@gmail.com



Ricardo Cazares-Mejia, MD
Centro Médico Nacional "20 de Noviembre"
Department of Neurosurgery
Mexico City
Mexico

Monday, November 14, 2022

The first day began with registration for the seminar and a breakfast of fruit, coffee, and bread. Later, we had the inauguration of the event with the national and international faculty members, AMSA staff, and ABC Medical Center staff. The academic sessions began with Dr. Claudius Thomé, who presented evidence in spinal surgery. Next, Dr. Roger Härtl presented on the 6Ts of minimally invasive spine surgery. Later, Dr. Soriano Sánchez gave us a presentation on the lateral approach, a session of excellent quality as well. During lunch we were able to share tables with faculty members and colleagues from the seminar. We finished the day with the first half of fellows' case presentations, which were very interesting. The majority presented in English, which also helps in English language training of the fellows.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

The sessions today dealt with traumatic pathology. Dr. Thomé presented on the topic of thoracolumbar spine trauma, a complex topic that he explained in a very simple way, offering us tips for our clinical practice. Later, it was Dr. Navarro-Ramirez's turn to present, with the topic of cervical spine trauma, another complicated topic that he explained to us in depth, giving us pearls for the treatment of this pathology. Then, it was again time for fellow's case presentations, and I had to present my case. At first, I felt very nervous because I had not presented many clinical cases in English before, but the faculty kept me motivated. At the end of the clinical cases we continued with lunch, and this time I had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Rodrigo Navarro-Ramirez.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

We had very interesting sessions today. Dr. Thomé began with the topic of sagittal balance and later Dr. Härtl presented a session on minimally invasive spine surgery, navigation, augmented reality, and the use of robots. Next, Dr. Thomé presented on the topic of spinal cord tumors. At the conclusion of the seminar, we received farewell remarks from the international faculty members and received our certificates. I appreciate this opportunity and am very grateful to the OMI, AMSA, and the ABC Medical Center for this high-quality seminar. I hope to continue participating in the future.



Silvia Eugenia Mamani Fernandez, BSc
ABC Medical Center
Department of Neurosurgery
Mexico City
Mexico

Monday, November 14, 2022

The first day was a day of emotions. The opening ceremony allowed us to get to know the great faculty members and we took a group photo together. Then, we began the lectures, which were wonderful. We received the slides of the presentations, which served as support for us. At lunch we were able to meet other members of the seminar.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

The second day began punctually with two presentations, then fellows presented their clinical cases. The expectations from the faculty were high, but I think we did well and there were relevant clinical cases. The most important part of the day was the round table, where we all talked about each pathology.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

The third and last day of the seminar included presentations on spinal tumors, and I love that topic. The round table was quite extensive, there were many questions that monopolized our time. We all took the opportunity to take pictures with the faculty members at the closing ceremony. I would like to cordially thank the people in charge of the organization, who provided us with this opportunity that contributed to our knowledge, so that we can contribute to society in an adequate manner.



Michel Mondragón-Soto, MD
Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía
"Manuel Velasco Suarez"
Department of Neurosurgery
Mexico

Monday, November 14, 2022

I was eager to listen to the very distinguished faculty who would share their knowledge and experience with us today. One of my fellow residents had participated in one of the seminars before and had very positive comments about his experience. The ABC Medical Center staff and the faculty welcomed us, and then we proceeded to have a very intense academic day. After covering the basics of spine surgery, the fellows proceeded to present clinical cases. I was second to go, and although I was nervous, the experience was incredible. The faculty was very friendly, receptive, and their feedback was invaluable.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

On day two, there was a thorough discussion about thoracolumbar trauma, the management of cervical trauma, and the nuances of conservative and surgical treatment. The sharing of the faculty members' personal experiences and their remarkable professional values was something that continued to amaze me, because the way they teach is through their own cases. Being humble and explaining their own learning curve and mistakes is an extraordinary feature and are traits of a true master. I really appreciated their input. Next, we continued with the fellows' case presentations, sharing experiences with the rest of the fellows and faculty.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

On the last day, I kept reflecting on my own experiences as a resident and concluded that I still have a very long way to go, but this time with a different vision. This morning, the discussions included adult deformity correction, navigation and robotics in spinal surgery, and spinal tumors. Dr. Thomé presented a very controversial case about a pediatric patient with a tumoral lesion that required conservative management with chemotherapy. That made me reflect on how sometimes it is better to not operate but find new and creative solutions for our patients' problems. After the end of the sessions and a nice meal, we were able to say goodbye to our faculty members. Thank you very much to Dr Härtl, Dr. Thomé, and Dr. Navarro-Ramirez, and Dr. Soriano Sánchez for your time, the effort to travel to Mexico and attend the seminar, and especially for your knowledge and wisdom. This experience was enlightening for me, and I will continue to pursue the path of medical excellence.