

# Meet the Editorial Board of GI & HEPATOLOGY NEWS



**Charles J. Lightdale, M.D.**  
*Editor in Chief*

Dr. Lightdale is professor of clinical medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, and director of clinical research in the division of digestive and liver disease, department of medicine, at New York–Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center. Throughout Dr. Lightdale's career, his central focus has been the prevention, early detection, and treatment of gastrointestinal cancer. He has been a leader in the development and advancement of endoscopic methods, most notably endoscopic ultrasonography. His current research is supported by the National Institutes of Health, and concentrates on the diagnosis and treatment of Barrett's esophagus and esophageal cancer. He was editor in chief of the monthly journal *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* from 1989 to 1996, and since 1997, he has been consulting editor for *GI Endoscopy Clinics of North America*. He has written and edited more than 400 publications. Dr. Lightdale is the American editor of the international textbook, *"Gastroenterological Endoscopy"* (Stuttgart/New York: Thieme, 2002). In 1999, Dr. Lightdale received the Rudolf Schindler Award, the highest honor of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. In 2004, Dr. Lightdale was named Physician of the Year at New York–Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center. In 2005, he was a Mentor Honoree of the AGA Foundation.



**Maria T. Abreu, M.D.**

Dr. Abreu is director of the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Center and associate professor of medicine in the division of gastroenterology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. She has just accepted the position of chief of gastroenterology at the University of Miami. Dr. Abreu is a physician-scientist, interested in host-bacterial interactions and, in particular, the role of toll-like receptor signaling in intestinal inflammation. Her translational work has focused on genotype-phenotype relationships in inflammatory bowel disease and prediction of response to medical therapies. She is a reviewer for several journals, including *Gastroenterology*, *Immunity*, *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, and the *American Journal of Physiology*. Dr. Abreu is the author or coauthor of more than 70 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and reviews.



**David A. Brenner, M.D.**

Dr. Brenner is dean of the school of medicine and vice chancellor for health sciences at the University of California, San Diego. Previously, he served as Samuel Bard professor and chair of the department of medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and director of the medical service of Columbia–Presbyterian Medical Center, New York. Dr. Brenner has written more than 180 scientific articles. He was editor in chief of the journal *Gastroenterology* and associate editor

of the *American Journal of Physiology*. He is on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Hepatology*, *FASEB Journal*, and *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. Dr. Brenner's research interests are gene expression and signaling in the liver, including the mechanisms of fibrosis and alcoholic liver disease.



**Robert Stephen Brown Jr., M.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Brown is an associate professor of medicine and surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is chief of the division of abdominal organ transplantation and chief of clinical hepatology at Columbia, as well as medical director of the Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation at New York–Presbyterian Hospital. He chairs the living donor committee of the United Network for Organ Sharing. Dr. Brown serves on the editorial boards

of several scholarly journals and is an author of more than 80 peer-reviewed publications as well as an avid speaker and contributor to textbooks in gastroenterology and hepatology. He is a trained clinical researcher and epidemiologist with a focus on treatment of viral hepatitis and outcomes research in liver failure and transplantation, particularly living donor liver transplantation.



**Douglas K. Rex, M.D.**

Dr. Rex is director of endoscopy at Indiana University Hospital, and chancellor's professor of medicine at Indiana University, Indianapolis. He is a member of the editorial board for *World Journal of Gastroenterology*, *The Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*, *Techniques in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, *Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, and *Medscape Gastroenterology*, and is an associate editor for *GI Journal Watch* and *Reviews in Gastrointestinal Disorders*. Dr. Rex has authored more

than 300 publications, and has given more than 1,000 presentations on gastroenterology and endoscopy.



**Stuart Jon Spechler, M.D., AGAF**

Dr. Spechler is chief of the division of gastroenterology at the Dallas VA Medical Center, and professor of medicine and holder of the Berta M. and Cecil O. Patterson chair in gastroenterology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. He chaired the VA Cooperative Study on gastroesophageal reflux disease, and he has published more than 200 scientific reports, editorials, review articles, and book chapters on esophageal disorders. He is perhaps best known for his work in

the area of Barrett's esophagus. Dr. Spechler has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals including *Gastroenterology*, *Gut*, *Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, and *Diseases of the Esophagus*, and he has served as chair of the gastroenterology teaching project and the esophagogastrroduodenal section of the American Gastroenterological Association.



**Timothy Cragin Wang, M.D., AGAF**

Dr. Wang is the Silberberg professor of medicine and chief of the division of digestive and liver diseases and the tumor microenvironment program at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is an associate editor for *Gastroenterology*, chair of the AGA Institute future trends committee, a member of the NIH gastrointestinal cell and molecular biology study section, and an author of more than 120 peer-reviewed publications. He is a world authority on *Helicobacter* pathogenesis and gastric cancer,

and his area of special interest is genetic and immune mechanisms in cancer. His laboratory, funded by multiple NIH grants, is currently investigating the origin of cancer stem cells.