

Hedy Lee Kindler, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Medical Director, Gastrointestinal Oncology
Director, Mesothelioma Program

**Hedy Lee Kindler, MD**, is an internationally recognized cancer expert who specializes in the medical treatment of pancreatic cancer, gastrointestinal stromal tumors, and malignant mesothelioma (a type of lung cancer caused by asbestos exposure). Her research focuses on the investigation of novel agents for the treatment of these cancers, and she designs and leads many innovative clinical trials for patients with these diseases.

Dr. Kindler is an associate editor of Lung Cancer and has published numerous journal articles, review articles, book chapters, and abstracts. A popular speaker, she has been invited to lecture at hundreds of scientific meetings around the world.

Dr. Kindler is the immediate past-president of the International Mesothelioma Interest Group. She is an active member of several committees and boards, including the Science Advisory Board of the Mesothelioma Foundation, the NCI Pancreatic Cancer Task Force, and the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology.

Repeatedly listed in Best Doctors in America, America's Top Doctors for Cancer, and Top Doctors in Chicago, Dr. Kindler was recently awarded the Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award by the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization.



Mitchell C. Posner, MD
Thomas D. Jones Professor of Surgery
Chief, Section of General Surgery
Chief, Surgical Oncology
Medical Director, Clinical Cancer Programs

Internationally recognized as an expert in the management of upper gastrointestinal cancers, **Mitchell Posner**, **MD**, ranks among the country's best doctors, according to Chicago magazine and the physician rating service Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. Dr. Posner couples his skill as a cancer surgeon with an intense commitment to multidisciplinary care, providing his patients with optimal outcomes. His peers regard him as an authority on all GI cancers,

especially cancers of the esophagus and pancreas.

Dr. Posner's work goes beyond the operating room. In the lab, he focuses on the molecular basis of malignancies, which has enabled him to design and guide groundbreaking clinical trials for cancers of the pancreas, esophagus, colon, stomach, rectum, and liver. With more than 30 years of experience, he has won dozens of awards and published 200 articles, abstracts, and book chapters.

In 1995, after serving as director of the Colorectal and Gastrointestinal Cancer Center at the Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Dr. Posner came to the University of Chicago Medicine as chief of surgical oncology and director of the Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program. In 2005, he was appointed chief of the Section of General Surgery. In 2006, he became vice-chairman of the Department of Surgery, and a year later was named vice-chairman of clinical affairs. In 2011, Dr. Posner was appointed medical director, Clinical Cancer Programs of the University of Chicago. Dr. Posner has won the University's Robert J. Baker Award for Excellence in Teaching, as well as the Basic Science and Clinical Research Award from the Society of Surgical Oncology.

Currently, Dr. Posner serves as chairman of the Gastrointestinal Committee of the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group (ACOSOG), the only national, surgically-focused cooperative group dedicated to clinical trials research. He is also past president of the Society for Surgical Oncology, the largest professional organization of cancer surgeons in the world, and is on the editorial board for esteemed industry journals, including Annals of Surgery, Annals of Surgical Oncology and Journal of the American College of Surgeons.

## **HONORARY CO-CHAIRS**



Irving Waxman, MD

Sara and Harold Lincoln Thompson Professor of Medicine and Surgery Director of the Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics

**Irving Waxman, MD** is a leading authority on endoscopic ultrasound (EUS). His work focuses on state-of-the-art endoscopic procedures for esophageal, gastric, pancreatic, lung and rectal tumors. Because of his expertise and reputation, he is consistently ranked among the country's best doctors in GI and Cancer by Chicago magazine and the physician rating service Castle Connolly Medical Ltd.

In 1991, he joined the faculty of Harvard Medical School where he remained seven years as director of Interventional Endoscopy. In 1998 he was recruited to the University of Texas in

order to develop their endoscopic program where he remained for three years with a joint appointment at MD Anderson Cancer Center. In 2001, he was recruited to the University of Chicago where he currently serves as Professor of Medicine and Surgery and currently serves as Director of the Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics (CERT). Given the remarkable advances in the field of endoscopy during the last decade, CERT was created in 2007 and is one of the first centers of its kind in the country dedicated to advancing patient care through endoscopic discovery. This center focuses on new imaging modalities for the detection of early gastrointestinal cancer; minimally invasive endoscopic resection of superficial gastrointestinal malignancies; and combined endosurgical minimally invasive interventions.

Current areas of clinical research include the therapeutic applications of endoscopic ultrasound in pancreatic diseases. He is also conducting ongoing research on endoscopic minimally invasive therapy for esophageal and colonic cancers.