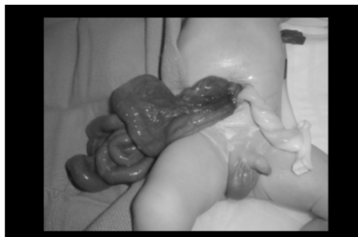


## Less is More: Experience from the UCFC Gastroschisis Quality Improvement Initiative



**Daniel A. DeUgarte, MD**  
Associate Professor



Division of Pediatric Surgery, UCLA and Harbor-UCLA

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## Disclosure



I have no relevant financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) or any commercial product(s) and/or provider of commercial products or services discussed in this CME activity.

I do not intend to discuss unapproved/investigative use of commercial product(s)/device(s) in my presentation.

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## Outline

1. Gastroschisis - Background
2. UCLA – Change is Challenging
3. UCFC – Evidence to Support Change
4. UCFC Gastroschisis “Less is More” Clinical Pathway – Changing Practice through a Quality Improvement Initiative

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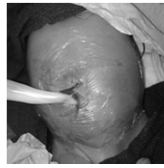
## Audience Questions

1. How many are familiar with gastroschisis?
2. How many at your institution routinely use:

Silos?



Bedside skin closure?




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## Gastroschisis - Epidemiology

Increasing prevalence in the US:

2.3->4.4 per 10,000 births (1995->2005)

Length of Stay (Uncomplicated): 1 month

Treatment Costs: \$200,000

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## Congenital Abdominal Wall Defects: Gastroschisis versus Omphalocele




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### Gastroschisis versus Omphalocele

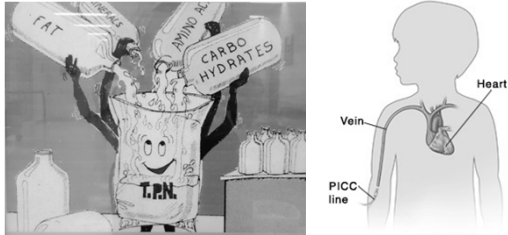
	Gastroschisis	Omphalocele
Covering	No	Yes
Location	Right of Midline	Midline
Etiology	Umbilical Vein Involution	Failure of Midgut Return
Incidence	4:10,000	1:3,000-10,000
Associations	Younger Mothers Low Birth Weight	Genetic Abnormalities Pentology of Cantrell; B-W
Mortality	<5%	<34%
Bowel Motility	Poor	OK
Malrotation	Yes	Yes
Intestinal Atresia	10%-23%	No
C-Section	No	? Severe Cases



### Gastroschisis Matted Bowel



## Nutrition




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## UCLA Experience



Frequent Cesarean-section.  
 Routine intubation/paralysis/narcotics.  
 Routine silo with delayed closure.  
 Prolonged antibiotics.  
 Discharge on methadone not uncommon.

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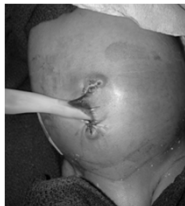
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## Change is Challenging

Minimize Paralysis -> Decrease Ventilator Days  
 Minimize Antibiotics -> Decrease Antibiotic-Resistance  
 Initiate Feeding Protocol -> Reduce TPN/CVC Days  
 Avoid Operating Room -> Bedside Skin Closure!




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University of California Fetal Consortium

5 University of California Campuses

- Davis
- Irvine
- Los Angeles
- San Diego
- San Francisco

3 Disciplines

- Maternal Fetal Medicine
- Neonatology (Pediatric Specialties)
- Pediatric Surgery

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**UCFC 2007-2012 (n=191)**

**Gastroschisis - Adverse Outcomes**



University of California Fetal Consortium

Neonates with adverse outcome	14% (n=27)
Specific adverse outcomes:	
Atresia/Stricture	10% (n=19)
Insertion of G-tube	7% (n=13)
Intestinal Ischemia Before Closure	1% (n=2)
Necrotizing Enterocolitis	1% (n=2)
Death	1.6% (n=3)

Overcash RT, DeUgarte DA, et al for the University of California Fetal Consortium. Factors Associated with Gastroschisis Outcomes. *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 2014 (124): 551-7.

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**Changing Practice**

1. Literature Review (Evidence-Based Practice)
2. Retrospective Review
3. Study Other Institution's Practices
4. Consensus - Best Practices
5. Initiate Quality Improvement Project
6. Prospective Evaluation

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## Changing Practice

1. Literature Review (Evidence-Based Practice)
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## UCFC 2007-2012 Uncomplicated Gastroschisis Practice Patterns and Outcomes



Table 1. Baseline cohort characteristics

	All sites n=168	Site 1 n=42	Site 2 n=13	Site 3 n=29	Site 4 n=36	Site 5 n=48	p value*
Maternal smoking/drug use**	35% (26)	28% (10)	0% (0)	21% (6)	19% (7)	6% (3)	0.05
Gestational age (weeks)	36.5 ± 1.7	36.0 ± 1.4	36.8 ± 1.8	37.3 ± 1.6	36.8 ± 1.7	36.2 ± 1.7	0.67
Birth weight (kilograms)	2.5 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.4	2.6 ± 0.4	2.6 ± 0.5	2.4 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.5	0.67
Male sex	55% (92)	50% (21)	62% (8)	59% (17)	50% (18)	58% (28)	0.85
Other major congenital anomalies	7% (11)	5% (2)	8% (1)	0% (0)	11% (4)	8% (4)	0.38

Lusk LA, Brown EG, Overcash RT, Grogan TR, Keller RL, Kim JH, Poulain FR, Shew SB, Uy C, DeUgarte DA. Multi-institutional practice patterns and outcomes in uncomplicated gastroschisis: a report from the University of California Fetal Consortium (UCFC). *Journal of Pediatric Surgery* 2014 12:1782-6.

## Practice Patterns & Outcomes

Table 2. Practices and outcomes by site (univariate analysis)

	All sites % (n) N=168	Site 1 % (n) N=42	Site 2 % (n) N=13	Site 3 % (n) N=29	Site 4 % (n) N=36	Site 5 % (n) N=48	p value*
<b>Survey Results</b>							
Routing silo placement	-	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	-
Antibiotic prophylaxis following silo reduction **	-	4-7 d	7-14 d	≤3 d	7-14 d	≤3 d	-
Routine intubation prior to silo placement	-	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	-
Routine paralysis during silo reduction	-	No	No	Yes	No	No	-
Opiate use with silo	-	4-7 d	7-14 d	≥14 d	≥14 d	≤3 d	-
Opiate use with primary closure	-	4-7 d	4-7 d	7-14 d	≥14 d	≤3 d	-
<b>Characteristics</b>							
Silo (yes/no)	58% (98)	17% (7)	77% (10)	93% (27)	39% (14)	83% (40)	<0.001
Number of silo days***	4.9 ± 3	6.3 ± 1.3	4.7 ± 2.7	6.3 ± 3.1	5.9 ± 1.6	3.5 ± 2.9	<0.001
Silo 35 days ****	36% (60)	17% (7)	46% (6)	72% (21)	33% (12)	29% (14)	<0.001
Antibiotic days	11 ± 7	10 ± 8	12 ± 8	15 ± 9	12 ± 8	10 ± 5	0.04
Central line days	26 ± 15	26 ± 16	26 ± 18	34 ± 18	26 ± 11	20 ± 10	<0.001
<b>Outcomes</b>							
Length of stay (days)	35 ± 21	33 ± 20	36 ± 30	43 ± 36	38 ± 10	31 ± 13	<0.001
Ventilator days	6.7 ± 6.2	4.2 ± 3.8	5.5 ± 2.9	12.1 ± 9.4	5.4 ± 3.4	6.8 ± 6.1	<0.001
Age at full feeds (days)	29 ± 19	30 ± 15	28 ± 19	39 ± 37	26 ± 10	26 ± 9	<0.001
Cholestasis	21% (35)	12% (5)	31% (4)	17% (5)	33% (12)	19% (9)	0.16
Bacteremia	12% (20)	17% (7)	8% (1)	17% (5)	14% (5)	4% (2)	0.25
Gastrostomy tube	2% (3)	2% (1)	8% (1)	3% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0.15

### Variations in:

- Routine silo placement
- Routine intubation
- Use of paralysis
- Days of antibiotics for prophylaxis
- Opiates

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## Changing Practice

1. Literature Review (Evidence-Based Practice)
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6. Prospective Evaluation

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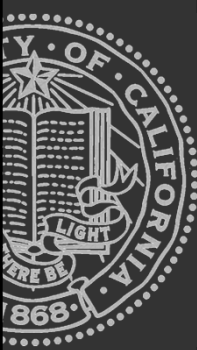
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University of California Fetal Consortium

**A Clinical Care Pathway for  
Gastroschisis**

Standardize and Improve Care

Reduce:

- C-section Rate
- Length of Stay
- Ventilator Days
- Antibiotic Use
- Narcotic Use
- Central Line Days
- Anesthesia
- Cost

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## Less is More

Term Delivery > Preterm Delivery  
 Vaginal Delivery > C-section  
 Reduce Ventilator Days > Routine Intubation/Paralysis  
 Earlier Closure > Late Closure of Defect  
*Non-Operative Closure > Operative Closure*  
 Minimize Antibiotics > Prolonged Antibiotics  
 Judicious Opiate Use > Excessive Opiates  
 Early Removal of Central Lines > Late Removal

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### Maternal Fetal Medicine/Obstetrics Clinical Pathway Guidelines

- Do not recommend routine preterm delivery or induction (<37 weeks).
- Recommend vaginal delivery with Cesarean section only for obstetrical indications.




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### Pediatric Surgery Clinical Pathway Guidelines

- *Primary closure or routine silo placement are acceptable.*
- *Operative and bedside abdominal closure are acceptable.*
- *Silo-assisted immediate closure and suture-less closure are acceptable.*
- If silo is utilized, expeditious closure within 3 days is recommended when clinically feasible.
- Gastric and rectal decompression are recommended as strategies to facilitate reduction.
- Routine intubation and paralysis are not recommended for silo placement or reduction.




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### Neonatology Clinical Pathway Guidelines

- Routine intubation and paralysis are not recommended for bedside silo placement or reduction.
- Recommend discontinuation of antibiotics  $\leq$  48 hours after abdominal closure in the absence of culture-positive sepsis or clinical instability.
- The recommended prophylactic antibiotics for reduction and closure are ampicillin/gentamicin.
- Recommend discontinuation of narcotics  $\leq$  48 hours after abdominal closure.
- Recommend the use of non-narcotic medications (e.g. acetaminophen).




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### Neonatology Clinical Pathway Guidelines

- Recommend early initiation of feedings ( $\leq 20\text{cc/kg/day}$ )  $\leq 48$  hours after gastric output becomes non-bilious.
- Recommend advancing feeds  $\geq 20\text{cc/kg/day}$  as tolerated.
- Recommend utilization of maternal breast milk for feeds if available (avoid pedialyte).
- Recommend oral feeds.

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### Neonatology Clinical Pathway Guidelines

- Recommend peripherally-inserted (PICC) over centrally-inserted venous catheters (e.g., Broviac) for nutritional support.
- Recommend removal of central venous catheters when  $100\text{kcal/kg/day}$  of enteral feeds (or ad lib oral feeds) are tolerated.

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### Treatment 1. Position and Cover

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**Treatment**  
**2. Neonatal Preparation**



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**Treatment**  
**3. Decompression**



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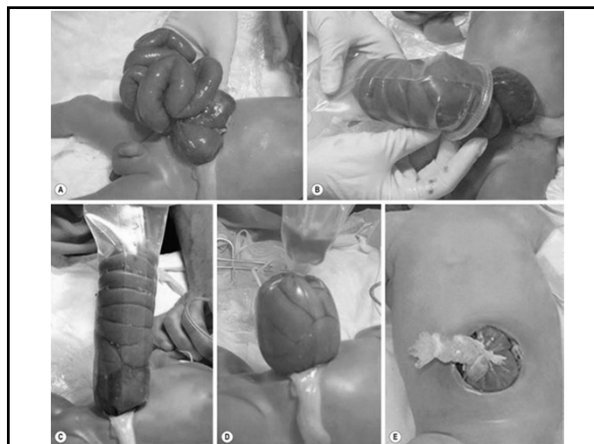
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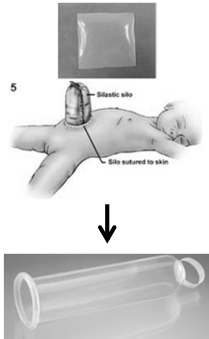
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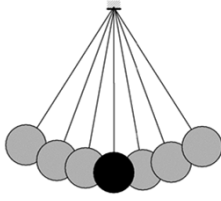
### Treatment Historical Reference



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Elastic silo

Silo sutured to skin



Primary Repair vs. Routine Silo

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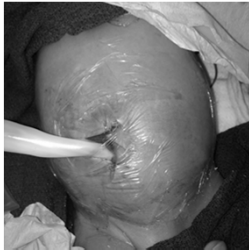
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### Treatment Non-Operative Skin Closure

PRESERVE UMBILICUS!

"Umbilical Flap" "Ward" "Plastic" "Sutureless"

↓General Anesthesia, ↓Abdominal Pressure, ↓Pain, ↑Cosmesis

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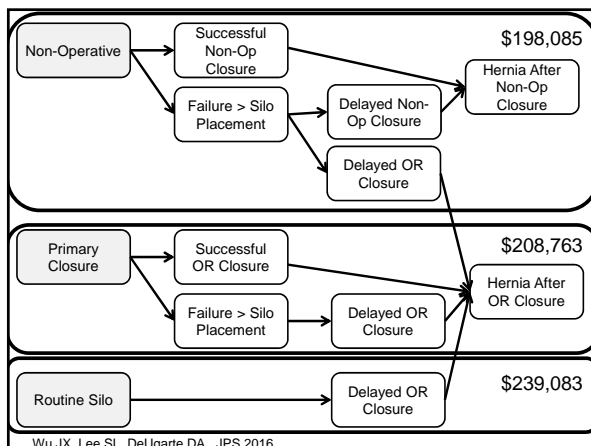
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## Changing Practice

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## Preliminary Results (10/2016)

Adoption (All 5 UC Sites): Early 2015 -> Mid-2016.

Data to Fall of 2016 (n=40)

### Goals:

- 1) Reduce % inborn C-section: 34% -> 25% (34%)
- 2) Uncomplicated cases:  
Reduce mean length of stay:  $35 \pm 21$  -> 30 (35 days)  
Reduce mean ventilator days:  $6.7 \pm 6.2$  -> 5 (2.7)




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## Summary

1. Gastroschisis -> Exemplifies Multi-Disciplinary Care
2. UCLA -> Change is Challenging
3. UCFC -> Buy-In with Evidence, Consensus, and Competition
4. UCFC Gastroschisis "Less is More" Clinical Pathway -> Less Invasive Protocols May Have Lower Costs and Equivalent/Better Outcomes!

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