



# NYCOMS NEWS

The New York Center for Orthognathic and Maxillofacial Surgery

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## Surgeons

Stephen A. Sachs, DDS  
Michael H. Schwartz, DDS  
Stephanie J. Drew, DMD  
Jay M. Neugarten, DDS, MD

## Staff

Ruth Hand  
*Practice Administrator*

Dana-Jeanne Downer, MPA  
Priscilla Drew  
Kerry Wichart  
*Financial Administrators*

Pamela D'Amato  
*Surgical Coordinator*

Judith Esposito  
Christine Harty  
Cathy Lucatuorto  
Joanne Simone  
*Reception*

Sharon Marshall  
Colleen Glasgow  
Michelle Umana  
Sherry Rose Anderson  
*Surgical Assistants*

Joseph Robinson  
*Project Coordinator*

## Office Locations

2001 Marcus Avenue, N-10  
Lake Success, NY 11042  
(516) 775-1818

474 Montauk Highway  
West Islip, NY 11795  
(631) 376-1560

41 East 57<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 1002  
(516) 775-1818

## FAST-TRACKING ORTHOGNATHIC REFERRALS

**We heard you. We heard you. We heard you.**  
In a recent NYCOMS survey, many orthodontists indicated that the bureaucratic process of getting a patient in to see a NYCOMS doctor is at times frustrating and difficult. Indeed, the timely response to referrals is something that we wish to readdress and improve upon. For this reason, we are requesting that when one of your patients is scheduled for an orthognathic consultation that you indicate to the staff whether or not this patient should be "fast-tracked". If so, the patient will be seen within three weeks, and the necessary consultation reports and/or insurance filings completed. In order to facilitate this matter, we would appreciate it if patients referred would come with pre-surgical orthodontic study models. This, coupled with whatever records you might provide and those that we can augment at the time of this visit can greatly facilitate this matter. A fast-tracked form will be mailed to you in a couple of weeks.

This will be an ongoing process. Please bear with us, but we hope to be able to make a necessary adjustment to improve our response to your well-appreciated referrals.

## ORTHODONTIC ANCHORAGE

Last month, Dr. Sachs attended a full day conference on orthodontic anchorage, given as a part of the Boston University Implant Symposium. In this conference, American, Asian and European orthodontists addressed the versatility and effectiveness of using extra-skeletal pins as anchorage for routine orthodontic movements. It seems once again that the Europeans and Asians have been a step ahead of the Americans in new advances. Exciting and effective protocols were presented at this meeting. Indeed, many primary care orthodontists in these facilities place their own orthodontic anchors. There are several protocol variations, but all seem to be consistent with the placement of multiple orthodontic anchors, the stabilization of the dental arches to permit unidirectional movements, and a great willingness to modify the vectors in order to achieve the orthodontic movements desired.

Of course, we would be pleased to place these orthodontic anchors for you. Currently, there are several FDA approved in the United States for this purpose. As a practical matter, if there are circumstances in which you wish to acquire the skills to place these implants in an orthodontic office, we would be pleased to assist you in reaching those surgical objectives.

This is a most exciting advance. We have noted examples of cases in which mild skeletal problems can be corrected with orthodontic anchors, such as intrusion of the posterior dentition and the elimination of anterior open bites. This was a subject at our recent spring symposium and is a continued part of our expanding knowledge as we proceed with this modality in our office setting.

## Anesthesia Services at NYCOMS

More frequently, complicated reconstructive surgical procedures are being performed in the office outpatient setting. Orthognathic osteotomies, distraction osteosynthesis, and bone graft implant reconstruction are examples of such procedures. While contemporary oral and maxillofacial surgeons are trained and skilled in techniques of intravenous sedation and outpatient anesthesia, these complex procedures require one-to-one provision of anesthetic services while the surgeon focuses on the task at hand. At **NYCOMS** we have always practiced a two-doctor anesthesia/surgical team approach, but as the practice activity expands to three facilities and six hospital settings, we have turned more and more frequently to our dental anesthesia colleagues to provide these services. At LIJ, there has been a rich tradition of such teamwork. Fortunately, there are three individuals, all graduates of the LIJ dental anesthesia residency, who are ready, willing and able to come to our offices and safely care for our patients undergoing outpatient surgery. They are Dr. Robert Peskin, Dr. Martin Borin, and Dr. Ralph Epstein. Each doctor has extensive experience with in- and outpatient anesthesia and are wonderful, knowledgeable and caring doctors.

The **NYCOMS** facilities are outfitted with state of the art equipment for outpatient anesthesia, patient monitoring, and recovery. We are lucky to have individuals like Drs. Peskin, Borin and Epstein, who are members of the dental community and can bridge the gap between our patients' surgical requirements and the need for safe and effective anesthetic management.