

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to announce the appointment of **Benjamin Levi, M.D.**, Professor of Surgery, as the new Director of the Charles and Jane Pak Center for Mineral Metabolism and Clinical Research, effective July 1. He holds the Dr. Lee Hudson-Robert R. Penn Chair in Surgery.

Dr. Levi joined the Department of Surgery in 2020 as Chief of the Division of Burn, Trauma, Acute and Critical Care Surgery, and Director of the Center for Organogenesis, Regeneration and Trauma (CORT) – roles he will maintain. He holds secondary appointments in the Departments of Plastic Surgery and Biomedical Engineering and at Children’s Medical Center Research Institute at UT Southwestern.



After earning his medical degree from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, he completed a general surgery internship and a plastic and reconstructive surgery residency at the University of Michigan. He then pursued a research fellowship in pediatric regenerative medicine and bone biology at Stanford University, and a clinical fellowship in surgical critical care and burn surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital and Shriners Children’s Boston.

Dr. Levi’s clinical practice specializes in acute and reconstructive burn surgery and scar reconstructive surgery. As a scientist, he is focused on the significant clinical problem of heterotopic ossification (HO) – a musculoskeletal disorder characterized by the formation of mature bone in soft tissues and an important barrier to functional recovery from trauma.

With support from the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) and the Trauma Research and Combat Casualty Care Collaborative (TRC4), Dr. Levi’s research interests also include musculoskeletal injury, repair, regeneration, and malignancy, as well as burn wound imaging.

He is the elected Chair of the Plastic Surgery Research Council (PSRC) for 2027-2028. He is also a voting member of TRC4, a research entity established in 2022 by the UT System Board of Regents and funded in part by Texas lawmakers to address the critical need for improved trauma care.

Dr. Levi succeeds Orson Moe, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine and Physiology, who has capably led the Center since 2002 when its founder, Charles Pak, M.D., stepped down from the role. Dr. Moe will remain actively engaged in research and leadership transition.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Levi on his new leadership role at UT Southwestern.

Sincerely,

**W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.**

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost  
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School

**Joan W. Conaway, Ph.D.**

Vice Provost and Dean of Basic Science