It was time for a new generation of surgeons to step forward and redefine their profession. The times required extraordinary individuals who could devise new techniques, new operations and wholly new ways of thinking. Edward J. Ill was a member of that generation and an exemplar of the best of that group of surgeons who followed Lister.

Dr. Ill was born in 1854, nine years after Morton’s discovery of anesthesia and 13 years before Lister’s discovery of antisepsis. He was the son of a German physician who had immigrated to the United States in 1848. Dr. Ill’s father settled in “Stump Town,” a poor section of Newark, New Jersey, where Dr. Ill was born in 1854, nine years after Morton’s discovery of anesthesia and 13 years before Lister’s discovery of antisepsis. He was the son of a German physician who had immigrated to the United States in 1848. Dr. Ill’s father settled in “Stump Town,” a poor section of Newark, New Jersey, where cholera and other diseases occurred as epidemics. The elder Lister believed that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so. In 1867 Lister reported that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so. In 1867 Lister reported that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so.

Because of anesthesia and antisepsis, surgeons suddenly possessed the essential requirements for performing surgery that would be painless and safe. No longer would they have to limit themselves to amputations or surgery on the exterior of the body; they could now do anything that their courage, ingenuity and dexterity would permit. In 1877 he returned to Newark and opened a surgical practice that he continued for 65 years. He immediately left for Germany and Austria to study surgery at universities in Freiburg, Vienna and Strasbourg. In 1877 he returned to Newark and opened a surgical practice that he continued for 65 years. He immediately left for Germany and Austria to study surgery at universities in Freiburg, Vienna and Strasbourg.

By Henry H. Shark, MD

In April 1846 a Boston dentist named William G.T. Morton used ether anesthesia in the operating theatre of the Massachusetts General Hospital. The event was reported in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal about a month later as the first successful use of general anesthesia during surgery. It was a historic occasion rightly celebrated as the essential breakthrough for the application of surgery to the treatment of human beings. All of this changed when a Scottish surgeon named Joseph Lister connected the work of Louis Pasteur to his own high surgical mortality rates. Pasteur had shown that microorganisms caused putrefaction of living tissue, and Lister realized that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so. In 1867 Lister reported that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so. In 1867 Lister reported that the way to prevent this outcome was to kill the microorganisms before they could do so.

The fact was, however, that operations, even though rendered painless with ether anesthesia, subjected patients to the terrible risk of life-endangering infection. As a result surgeons fully expected their operation to be painless and safe. No longer would they have to limit themselves to amputations or surgery on the exterior of the body; they could now do anything that their courage, ingenuity and dexterity would permit. It was time for a new generation of surgeons to step forward and redefine their profession. The times required extraordinary individuals who could devise new techniques, new operations and wholly new ways of thinking. Edward J. Ill was a member of that generation and an exemplar of the best of that group of surgeons who followed Lister.

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Dr. Ill participated actively in the development of modern surgery, particularly in the field of gynecology. In 1898 he was elected to the presidency of the then newly formed American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), and later he was appointed as a Governor of the American College of Surgeons. His pioneering contributions included the use of the Rubin insufflation test for infertility, study of cellular changes in the cervix in the diagnosis of carcinoma of the cervix (with Papanicalau), histology of cyclic changes in the uterine mucosa, development and use of bowel anas-
The Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards™ are awarded annually to honor those exemplary physicians and leaders whose dedication to education, research and public service has significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in New Jersey and around the nation. This event debuted in 1939 at the annual meeting of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and has been sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company of New Jersey since 2004. The awards are named after Edward J. Ill, MD, a New Jersey physician who was a pioneer in promoting continuing education in ways that set the national standard.

This year’s awards dinner will be held on May 7, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. Profits from the awards dinner are donated to a charitable organization in New Jersey. The 2008 recipient will be the Hunterdon County Medication Access Partnership. For additional information on the awards program and this year’s honorees, please visit our website at www.EJIawards.org.

To order tickets, please contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Association, Inc. at 609-803-2350 or at info@EJIawards.org.

Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards

2008 EDWARD J. ILL EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AWARDS™

MDAdvisor | Winter 2008

OUTSTANDING MEDICAL EDUCATOR AWARD

Presented to a medical educator who has made an outstanding contribution to undergraduate or graduate medical education in New Jersey.

Joel A. DeLisa, MD, MS

Joel A. DeLisa, MD, is a widely recognized leader in physical medicine and rehabilitation and an experienced senior investigator, administrator and medical educator. Dr. DeLisa is president of the Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Center and professor and chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, UMDNJ – New Jersey Medical School. His research interests include spinal cord injury, health delivery systems outcomes and the evaluation of physician clinical competencies, as well as undergraduate and graduate medical education.

Dr. DeLisa is a prolific author with a bibliography comprising 135 published articles, 59 abstracts and 42 chapters and books. He was the editor of the Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine from 1999 to 2005.

Deepak V. Patel, MD

Deepak V. Patel, MD, is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon who was trained across three continents – Asia, Europe and North America. Currently, Dr. Patel is a professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and at the Maculeloskeletal Research Institute, and associate director of the Orthopaedic Residency Program at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Paterson and Seton Hall University in South Orange.

Dr. Patel has been awarded numerous scholarships and prizes and is a member of several international societies such as SICOT (World Orthopaedic Congress), he is an associate member of the International Arthroscopy Association and a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. To date, he has given more than 100 podium presentations and has published 85 papers on various aspects of orthopaedic surgery in peer-reviewed national and international journals and textbooks. Dr. Patel is a talented and respected medical educator.

2008 EDWARD J. ILL PHYSICIAN’S AWARD™

Presented to a New Jersey physician who merits recognition for distinguished service as a leader in the medical profession and in the community.

Walter J. Kahn, MD

Walter J. Kahn, MD is an orthopedist in full-time, private practice in Red Bank, New Jersey, and is presently department director of orthopedics at RiverView Medical Center. While serving as medical staff president, he was instrumental in a four hospital merger that resulted in the Meridian Health System. He served for nine years on the board of Meridian Health System. For the past 23 years, Dr. Kahn has traveled to developing countries to perform the latest techniques in orthopedic surgery. He has shared his knowledge and skill as a volunteer orthopedist for Orbis International, a not-for-profit humanitarian organization dedicated to saving sight worldwide through public health education and medical assistance to improve access to quality orthopaedic services and hands-on training for eye care professionals. He has trained more than 1000 local orthopedists who continue the valuable work of saving sight.

Dr. Kahn has taken leadership roles in the Medical Society of New Jersey, serving as president in 2000-2001. He presently serves as chair of the New Jersey Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) and was elected to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws, where he has served in the past as its chair.
OUTSTANDING MEDICAL EXECUTIVE AWARD
Presented to an executive in a medically related organization or field who is usually, but not necessarily, a layperson and who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the enhancement of patient care and medical practice in New Jersey.

Judith Burgis is the vice president for Corporate Services at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH). Her current executive functions include strategic planning, government affairs and technology assessment. A 600-bed academic medical center, RWJUH is the principal hospital for the UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. RWJUH is nationally recognized for its quality patient outcomes and safety. The hospital was recently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the top 50 hospitals in the nation for clinical excellence.

Ms. Burgis has more than 30 years of management experience in corporate and healthcare settings. She has been long concerned about New Jersey’s reputation as a corridor state saddled between Philadelphia and New York City and is a passionate advocate for patients. Ms. Burgis and the RWJUH hospital team have been credited for gaining state approvals to provide services not previously available in central New Jersey and for reducing out-of-state patient migration. During 2009, RWJUH anticipates introducing the state’s first Proton Beam Radiation Therapy System to treat adults and children. Appointed a Leadership New Jersey Fellow, Ms. Burgis is also a past chairwoman and currently serves as a member of the board of the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network. She also serves on the executive and finance committees of the board of New Brunswick Tomorrow. She served on the health policy transition teams for Governors Corzine, McGreevey and Whitman. She participates in professional organizations including the Association of American Medical Colleges and recently served as co-chair of the Strategic Advisory Council of the New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals.

Eileen Moynihan, MD
Reviews proposed relative values of medical services for the American College of Rheumatology, and she serves on the Relative Value Update Committee of the AMA for the American Medical Colleges. Ms. Moynihan is a liaison to CMS on the Medicare national fee schedule. She has been involved in the ongoing development of the Emerging Practice Arrangements (EPA) model with CMS. Ms. Moynihan has served as the co-chair of the Strategic Advisory Council of the New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals.

Eileen Moynihan, MD
Maintains a solo practice in rheumatology in Woodbury, New Jersey. She served as medical director of Medicare for traditional fee-for-service, Part B, New Jersey, for Prudential, Xact Medicare and Empire Medicare in succession. In 2007, Dr. Moynihan became the advisor to the Relative Value Update Committee of the AMA for the American College of Rheumatology, and she reviews proposed relative values of medical services and their components.

Dr. Moynihan serves as president of her county medical society from 1998-1999 and as president of the Medical Society of New Jersey in 2005-2006. She is currently an alternate delegate to the AMA on behalf of the Medical Society of New Jersey and is chair of the Committee on Rheumatologic Care for the American College of Rheumatology. The American College of Rheumatology awarded Dr. Moynihan the distinguished Paulding Phelps Award in 1998 for her service to clinical rheumatology and its practitioners.

SPECIAL AWARD
Presented to Steven E. Ross, MD and Robert F. Ostrum, MD for the extraordinary trauma care provided to Governor Jon Corzine.

Steven E. Ross, MD
Is the acting chief of the Department of Surgery and the head of the Division of Trauma at Cooper University Hospital, as well as director of the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship. He is also professor of Surgery at UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Camden. Dr. Ross is active in the education and training of surgery and emergency medicine residents. His clinical and research interests include trauma systems, pre-hospital trauma care, emergency resuscitation, operative intervention and intensive care management and intensive care rehabilitation. He has more than 100 refereed publications and is the author or co-author of more than 30 book chapters in these fields. His work in trauma systems development and care of the injured has been recognized by a number of EMS agencies, the American College of Surgeons, the New Jersey Brain Injury Association, the B’Nai B’rith Foundation, the Camden Police Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Robert F. Ostrum, MD
Is director of Orthopaedic Trauma Surgery at Cooper University Hospital and professor of Surgery at UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Camden. He is actively involved in research, has authored more than 30 book chapters and articles. In 2007, Dr. Ostrum was recognized for his teaching practice when he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and has been selected by UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School to be included in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. He has been selected by Woodward and White as a “Top Doctor in America.” Dr. Ross and Ostrum see critically injured patients in Cooper’s level 1 trauma center, and led the team that provided life-saving trauma care to Governor Jon Corzine after injuries sustained in an April 12, 2007, motor vehicle accident.

COMMMUNITY SERVICE LEADER AWARD
Presented to an organization that demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to improving the health and welfare of the citizens of New Jersey, and to an individual representing that organization who has personified, led and/or provided the vision for that organization.

Henry Acosta is a nationally and internationally known expert on Hispanic mental health issues and is currently the executive director of the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health. In his role as executive director, Mr. Acosta aims to address the nation’s need for availability of, access to and the provision of quality mental health services for Hispanics, and to heighten awareness, acceptance and understanding of mental illness among the Hispanic population.

Mr. Acosta is also the deputy director of the New Jersey Mental Health Institute, Inc. As a New Jersey licensed social worker, Mr. Acosta has more than 15 years of direct service and administrative experience working with children and families in both clinical and social service settings. He currently serves on the New Jersey Governor’s Council on Mental Health stigma and on the State of the New Jersey General Assembly’s Executive Office on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse and on the National Hispanic Leadership Council. Mr. Acosta also served on the_elt at Governor’s Council on Mental Health and on the State of New Jersey Medicaid Review Board.

Henry Acosta
MA, MSW, LSW
On behalf of the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health

PETER W. RODINO, JR., CITIZEN’S AWARDCM
Presented to a citizen or group of citizens of New Jersey who merits recognition for distinguished service in advancing and promoting the health and well-being of the people of this state.

Senator Peter A. Inverso was a member of the New Jersey State Senate from January 1992 through January 2009. Senator Inverso represented the 14th Legislative District, which covers parts of Mercer and Ocean Counties. During his tenure as a state senator, he served as assistant majority leader, chairman of the State Government Committee, vice chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, co-chairman of the Law and Public Safety and Veteran Affairs Committees and as deputy minority leader. During his time in the Senate, he authored many pieces of hallmark legislation, including Megan’s Law and the Family/Care health insurance initiative.

Senator Inverso serves as president and CEO of the New Jersey State Senate. Inverso is the immediate past chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Health Care Corporation at Hamilton. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Rider University. He has been honored by many community and charitable organizations, including Catholic Charities, the Central Jersey Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America, the New Jersey Broadcasters Association, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, the New Jersey Naval Militia Foundation and the American Cancer Society.