

## Dr. Raul Coimbra Appointed New Director of UCSD Medical Center Surgical Intensive Care Unit

September 23, 2005 |

**R**aul Coimbra, M.D., Ph.D., FACS, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Trauma, has been appointed Medical Director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) at UCSD Medical Center, Hillcrest.

"Dr. Coimbra's commitment to excellence in care, teaching, and research makes him an ideal surgeon to lead the SICU staff," said David B. Hoyt, M.D., Monroe E. Trout Professor of Surgery and Chief, Division of Trauma, Burn and Critical Care.

"My goal is to work with nurses, nutritionists, respiratory therapists, physicians, and other ancillary personnel to make the SICU a strong quality program," Coimbra said,

The SICU is a 20-bed fast-paced, high-acuity, multi-specialty critical care unit. The surgical specialties supportive of the SICU include trauma, neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery, transplant (heart, lung, liver, and pancreas), orthospine, ear nose and throat, plastics, vascular surgery, general surgery, and high risk obstetrics. The SICU is adjacent to the three-bed Level 1 Trauma Center. 1,600 patients were admitted to the SICU last year. During times of peak patient admission, the SICU has the ability to overflow to an additional six beds.

As the SICU Medical Director, Dr. Coimbra's roles in the SICU are to coordinate the multi-specialty medical care that is commonly delivered by specialty teams to critically ill patients; and ultimately bring all the services and professionals together with the common mission of providing excellent care to the residents of San Diego County.

Coimbra has more than 15 years of experience as a trauma surgeon and in the care of critically ill ICU patients. He came to UCSD in 1998, continuing a distinguished career he began in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

In 2004, Coimbra was elected to the UCSD Academy of Clinician Scholars, which supports clinical excellence by UCSD faculty. In addition to his busy clinical practice, Coimbra is a respected educator and has twice received the Nicholas Halasz Teaching Award from the UCSD Department of Surgery, once in 2001 and again in 2005. He has also been Chairman of the Education

Committee for the Panamerican Trauma Society since 2002. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the American College of Surgeons San Diego/Imperial Valley Committee on Trauma and is also a Council Member and Vice President of the San Diego Surgical Society.

As a productive clinician scientist, Coimbra has more than 180 publications to his credit. He is on the Editorial Board of the *Panamerican Journal of Trauma* and he is an ad-hoc reviewer of scientific articles for the *Journal of Trauma*, *Critical Care Medicine*, *International Pharmacology*, *Experimental Biology and Medicine*, to cite a few.

He is currently Vice-Chairman of the American College of Surgeons San Diego/Imperial Valley Committee on Trauma and is also a Council Member and Vice President of the San Diego Surgical Society.

His numerous professional activities include being a member of the Committee on Trauma for the American College of Surgeons, a member of the Scientific Program Committee for the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and Shock Society, and serving as Chairman of the Scientific and Organization Committee for the 16th Annual California Trauma Conference in 2006.

Dr. Coimbra graduated from Santa Casa School of Medicine in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and completed his residency training in General and Peripheral Vascular Surgery at the

Department of Surgery, Santa Casa School of Medicine, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Dr. Coimbra also has a Master's Degree, and a Doctorate Degree from Santa Casa School of Medicine in Sao Paulo.

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