

An Obamaphile's Obamaphobia **By Kurt Andersen**

JUNE 16, 2008

2008

NEW YORK

BEST DOCTORS

1434 PHYSICIANS
IN EVERY SPECIALTY

PLUS

My Genetically
Sealed Fate

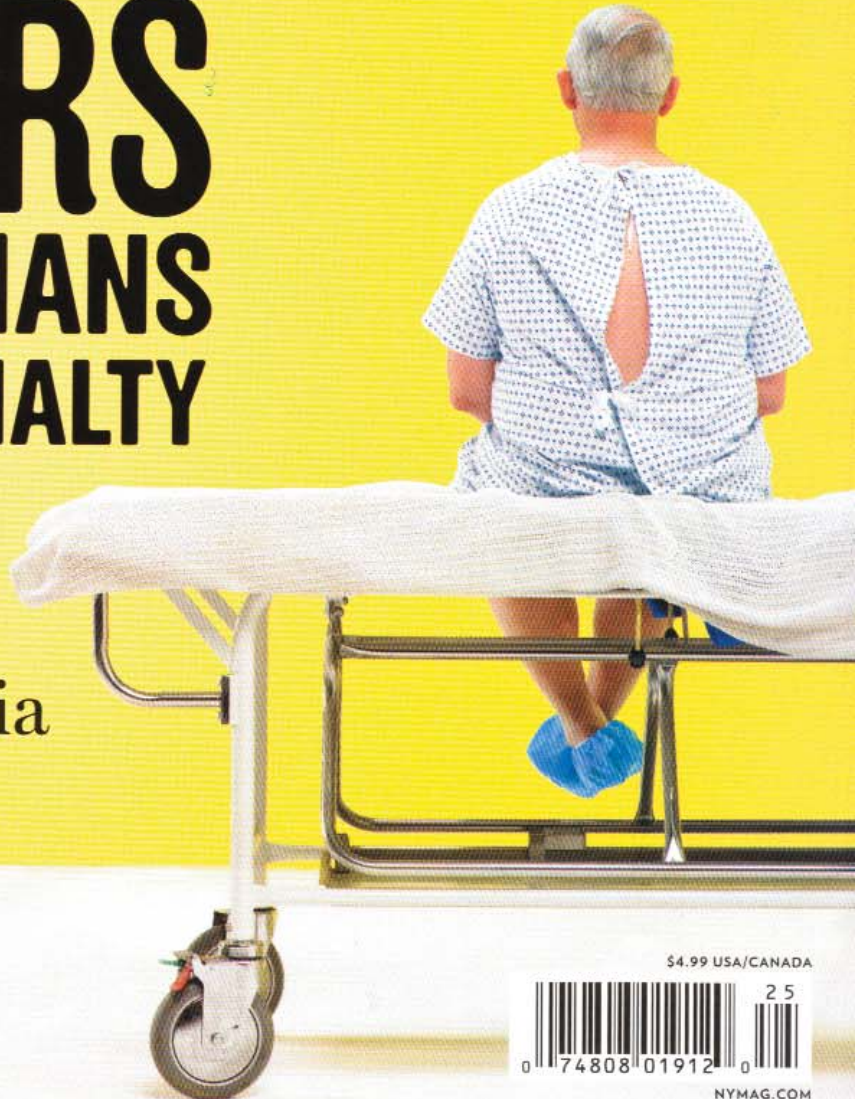
BY KEVIN BAKER

Can Hypochondria
Be Cured?

BY MARK LEVINE

Why People Still
Die of AIDS

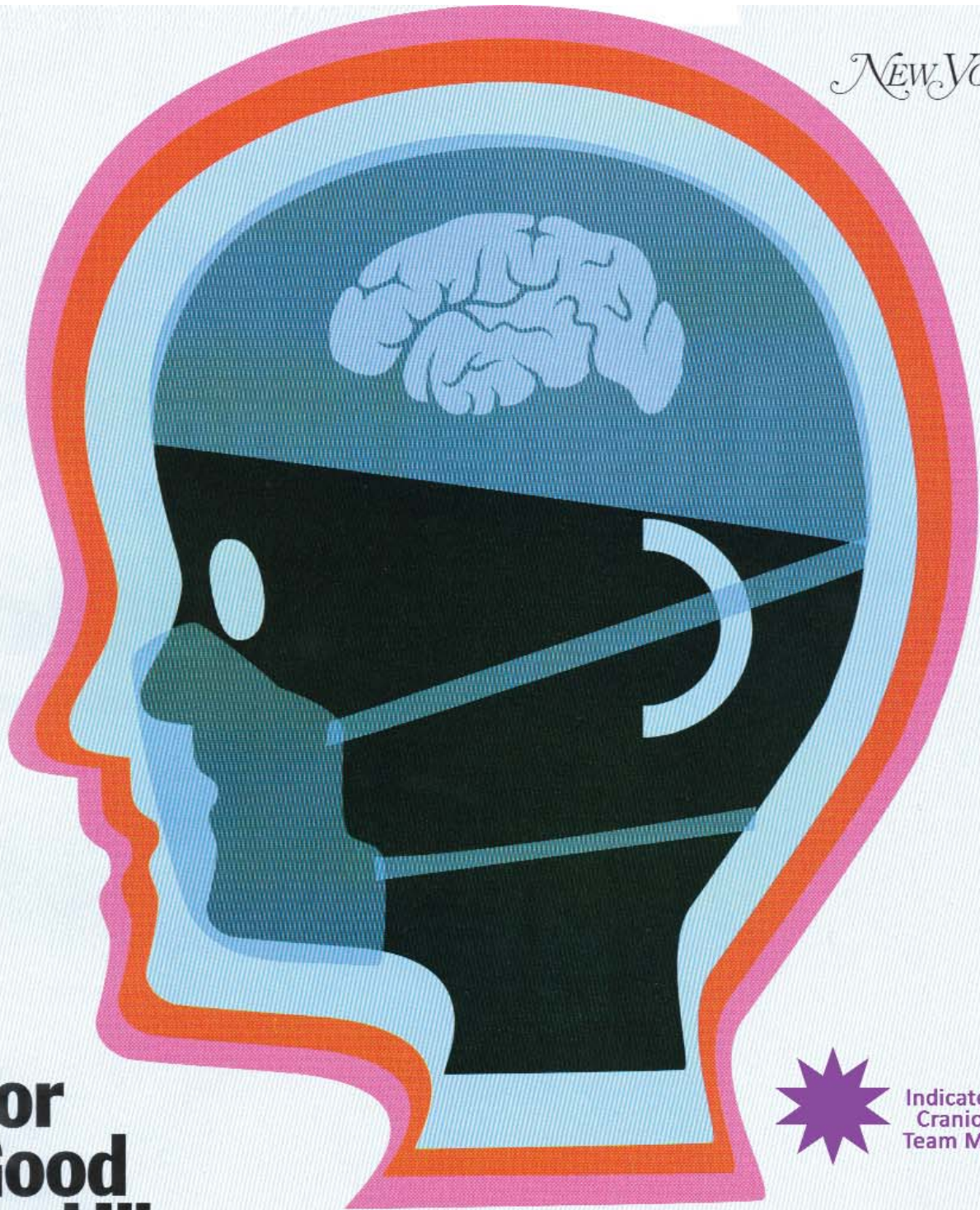
BY GARY TAUBES



\$4.99 USA/CANADA



NYMAG.COM



For Good and Ill



Indicates IRPS
Craniofacial
Team Member

MEDICINE ADVANCES AT ASTONISHING SPEED. This issue examines both the good and bad sides of that rush forward. In **"Mind Bomb"** (page 44), Kevin Baker wrestles with one of the most difficult questions of the DNA age: If one of your parents has a fatal genetic disease, should you or shouldn't you get tested? In **"Who Still Dies of AIDS, and Why"** (page 56), Gary Taubes looks at patients whom modern medicine, for all its accomplishments, still fails. And in **"Can One Sibling Pull the Plug If the Others Don't Want To?"** (page 64), Janelle Nanos explores the ever-expanding array of ethical dilemmas today's doctors and patients face. Then there are the more positive sides of leading-edge medicine. In **"Listening to Hypochondria"** (page 34), Mark Levine shows how doctors have begun to take that condition seriously, helping legions of previously dismissed patients. Finally, there's **"Best Doctors 2008"** (page 72), our annual list of the city's top physicians. High-quality care, it seems safe to say, is an undisputed good.

Specialists

Greenwich,
203-863-3737
GREENWICH

CLIFFORD HUDIS
Breast cancer; New
York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

DAVID ILSON
Esophageal cancer,
colon and rectal
cancer, mesothelioma,
unknown primary
cancer; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

DAVID KELSEN
Gastrointestinal
cancer, neuroendocrine
tumors, unknown
primary cancer,
Merkel-cell carcinoma;
New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

NANCY KEMENY
Colon, rectal, or liver
cancer; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

MARK KRIS
Lung cancer,
mediastinal tumors,
thymoma, thoracic
cancers; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

JILL LACY
Colon and rectal
cancer, brain tumors,
gastrointestinal cancer,
lymphoma; New
Haven, 203-785-4191
YALE

STEPHEN LICHTER
Breast cancer, lung
cancer, gastrointestinal
cancer; Brooklyn,
718-616-0801
BETH ISRAEL KH

DENNIS LOWENTHAL
Lung cancer,
lymphoma, prostate
cancer, thoracic
cancer; Summit,
908-608-0078
OVERLOOK

RICHARD MICHAELSON
Breast cancer;
Livingston,
973-322-5362
ST BARNABAS

ANNE MOORE
Breast cancer; New
York, 212-821-0654
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

ROBERT MOTZER
Kidney cancer,
testicular cancer,
prostate cancer; New
York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

MICHAEL NISSENBLATT
Breast cancer, colon
cancer, hereditary
cancer, familial cancer;
New Brunswick,
732-828-9570
RWJ

LARRY NORTON
Breast cancer; New
York, 800-525-2225
Sloan-Kettering

KENNETH OFFIT
Cancer genetics, breast
cancer, lymphoma;
New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

RUTH ORATZ
Breast cancer,
melanoma; New York,
212-400-4904
NYU MED

EILEEN O'REILLY
Pancreatic cancer,
clinical trials,
biliary cancer,
neuroendocrine
tumors; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

MARK PASMANTIER
Lung cancer, ovarian
cancer; New York,
212-517-5900
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

ANDREW PECORA
Stem-cell transplant,
myelodysplastic
syndromes, melanoma,
immunotherapy;
Hackensack,
201-996-5900
HACKENSACK

DANIEL PETRYLAK
Genitourinary cancer,
prostate cancer,
bladder cancer; New
York, 212-305-1731
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

DAVID PFISTER
Head and neck cancer,
laryngeal cancer,
thyroid cancer; New
York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

THOMAS RAKOWSKI
Midland Park,
201-444-4526
VALLEY

JOSEPH RUGGIERO
Colon cancer, breast
cancer; New York,
212-746-2083
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

LEONARD SALTZ
Colon and rectal
cancer, gastrointestinal
cancer and rare
tumors, liver cancer,
neuroendocrine
tumors; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

GABRIEL SARA
Breast cancer, lung
cancer, lymphoma,
colon and rectal
cancer; New York,
212-523-7580
ST LUKE'S

DAVID SCHEINBERG
Leukemia,
immunotherapy,
vaccine therapy; New
York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

HOWARD SCHER
Genitourinary cancer,
prostate cancer,
bladder cancer; New
York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

JAMES SPEYER
Ovarian cancer, breast
cancer, cardiac toxicity
in cancer therapy; New
York, 212-731-5432
NYU MED

DAVID SPRIGGS
Ovarian cancer, drug
development, uterine
cancer; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

CY STEIN
Prostate cancer,
bladder cancer; the
Bronx, 718-920-8980
MONTEFIORE

MARK STOOPLER
Lung, esophageal, or
unknown primary
cancer; New York,
212-305-8230
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

PAUL WEINSTEIN
Breast cancer, lung
cancer, colon cancer;

Stamford,
203-325-2695
STAMFORD

ANDREW ZELENETZ
Lymphoma; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

NEONATAL-PERINATAL MEDICINE

DEBORAH CAMPBELL
Prematurity/low-
birth-weight infants,
neurodevelopmental
disabilities, nutrition;
the Bronx,
718-904-4105
MONTEFIORE-WEILER

RICHARD EHRENKRANZ
Neonatal critical care,
nutrition; New Haven,
203-688-2320
YALE

IAN GROSS
Breathing disorders,
critical care; New
Haven, 203-688-2320
YALE

MADHU GUDAVALLI
Prematurity/low-
birth-weight infants;
Brooklyn,
718-780-3727
NY METHODIST

ANANTHAN HARIN
Neonatal care; Staten
Island, 718-818-4310
RICHMOND

KAREN HENDRICKS-MUNOZ
Breathing disorders,
neonatal neurology,
retinopathy of
prematurity; New
York, 212-263-7477
NYU MED

I. MARK HIATT
Respiratory failure,
prematurity/low-birth-
weight infants, ethics;
New Brunswick,
732-745-8523
ST PETER'S

IAN HOLZMAN
Neonatal nutrition,
necrotizing
enterocolitis,
prematurity/low-birth-
weight infants; New
York, 212-241-5446
MT SINAI

JESUS JAILE-MARTI
Lung disease in
newborns, neonatal
nutrition; White
Plains, 914-681-2282
WHITE PLAINS

EDMUND LAGAMMA
Neonatal infections,
prematurity/low-
birth-weight
infants, necrotizing
enterocolitis; Valhalla,
914-493-8558
WESTCHESTER

FRANK MANGINELLO
Ridgewood,
201-447-8388
VALLEY

MARY MARRON-CORWIN
Neonatal respiratory
care, critical care,
neonatal liver disease;
New York,
212-604-7862
ST VINCENT-MANHATTAN

JEFFREY PERLMAN
Neonatal critical care,
prematurity/low-
birth-weight infants,
neonatal neurology,
lung disease in
newborns; New York,
212-746-3530
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

RICHARD POLIN
Neonatal infections;
New York,
212-305-5827
NY PRES-MORGAN STANLEY

PHILIP ROTH
Neonatal infections/
immunity, breast-
feeding problems;
Staten Island,
718-226-9796
SI-NORTH

JOSEPH SISON
Neonatology;
Englewood,
201-894-3321
ENGLEWOOD

STYLIANOS THEOFANIDIS
Greenwich,
203-863-3515
GREENWICH

NEPHROLOGY

GERALD APPEL
Glomerulonephritis,
lupus nephritis,
nephrotic syndrome;
New York,
212-305-3273
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

PETER ARONSON
Electrolyte disorders,
kidney stones; New
Haven, 203-785-4186
YALE

PHYLLIS AUGUST
Hypertension,
hypertension in
pregnancy; New York,
212-746-2210
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

JON BLUMENFELD
Hypertension,
polycystic kidney
disease, adrenal
disorders; New York,
212-746-1495
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

ERIC BROWN
Kidney disease,
hypertension,
glomerulonephritis;
Stamford,
203-324-7666
STAMFORD

GODFREY BURNS
HIV-related kidney
disease; New York,
212-604-8322
ST VINCENT-MANHATTAN

LOUIS BUZZEO
Hypertension; Sleepy
Hollow, 914-332-9100
PHELPS

LAWRENCE BYRD
Hypertension, kidney
disease, dialysis care;
Livingston,
973-994-4550
ST BARNABAS

DAVID COHEN
Kidney-transplant
medicine,
glomerulonephritis;
New York,
212-305-3273
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

DEBORAH FEIN
Hypertension, kidney
disease, hypertension
in pregnancy, kidney-
transplant medicine;
Englewood,
201-567-0446
ENGLEWOOD

MARK GARDENSWARTZ
New York,
212-583-2930
LENOX HILL

RENEE GARRICK
Hypertension, dialysis
care; Hawthorne,
914-493-7701
WESTCHESTER

CARL GOLDSTEIN
Hypertension,
glomerulonephritis,
kidney failure;
Westfield,
908-232-4321
OVERLOOK

WILLIAM HINES
Dialysis care,
hypertension, kidney
disease; Stamford,

203-324-7666
STAMFORD

SUZANNE KABIS
Lupus nephritis,
hypertension,
glomerulonephritis;
Somerset,
732-246-2626
RWJ

MORTON KLEINER
Hypertension, kidney
disease; Staten Island,
718-351-1136
SI-NORTH

ALAN KLIGER
Kidney disease,
metabolic kidney
disease; New Haven,
203-787-0117
ST RAPHAEL

JEFFREY KOZLOWSKI
Hypertension, dialysis
care, diabetic kidney
disease; Midland Park,
201-447-0013
VALLEY

BARBARA MURPHY
Kidney-transplant
medicine; New York,
212-241-8001
MT SINAI

ELIEZER PARNES
Hypertension, dialysis
care, diabetic kidney
disease; Brooklyn,
718-338-2283
BETH ISRAEL KH

AUSTIN PATNER
Hypertension, dialysis
care, kidney disease;
Englewood,
201-567-0445
ENGLEWOOD

DOMINICK REDA
Hypertension, kidney
disease; Yonkers,
914-965-0621
ST JOSEPH'S-YONKERS

RAYMOND SHERMAN
Glomerulonephritis,
hypertension, chronic
kidney failure; New
York, 212-879-8245
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

BERNARD WEINER
The Bronx,
718-863-8465
MONTEFIORE

HOWARD WEIZMAN
Dialysis care,
hypertension; Midland
Park, 201-447-0013
HACKENSACK

JOHNATHAN WINSTON
Chronic kidney
disease, HIV-related
kidney disease, dialysis
care; New York,
212-241-4060
MT SINAI

NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

ASHOK ANANT
Spinal surgery,
stereotactic
radiosurgery, brain
tumors; Brooklyn,
718-234-0979
LUTHERAN

MARK H. BILSKY
Spinal tumors,
skull-base tumors,
brain tumors, spinal
reconstructive surgery;
New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

JEFFREY BRUCE
Brain tumors, pituitary
tumors, skull-base
surgery; New York,
212-305-7346
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

MARTIN CAMINS
Complex spinal
surgery, brain tumors,
microsurgery; New
York, 212-570-0100
MT SINAI

ERICO CARDOSO
Pituitary tumors,
spinal-cord disorders,
hydrocephalus;
Brooklyn,
718-246-8610
NY METHODIST

CHUN CHEN
Skull-base tumors,
skull-base surgery,
microsurgery; New
York, 212-241-8480
MT SINAI

RAPHAEL DAVIS
Acoustic neuroma,
skull-base surgery,
spinal-disc
replacement, brain and
spinal surgery; East
Setauket,
631-444-1213
STONY BROOK

GEORGE DIGIACINTO
Spinal surgery, pain
management; New
York, 212-523-8500
ST LUKE'S

NANCY EPSTEIN
Spinal surgery,
cervical spinal surgery,
transfusion-free
surgery; New Hyde
Park, 516-354-3401
WINTHROP

NEIL FELDSTEIN
Pediatric neurosurgery,
Chiari's deformity,
pediatric brain tumors,
pediatric spinal-cord
surgery; New York,
212-305-1396
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

EUGENE FLAMM
Cerebral aneurysm,
brain tumors,
cerebrovascular
surgery; the Bronx,
718-920-2339
MONTEFIORE

ARNO FRIED
Epilepsy, brain
tumors, head injury;
Hackensack,
201-996-5251
HACKENSACK

JOHN GOLFINOS
Brain tumors, acoustic
neuroma, stereotactic
radiosurgery; New
York, 212-263-2950
NYU MED

ROBERT R. GOODMAN
Parkinson's disease,
epilepsy, trigeminal
neuralgia; New York,
212-305-3774
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

JAMES GOODRICH
Craniofacial surgery/
reconstruction, spina
bifida, pediatric brain
tumors, pediatric
neurosurgery; the
Bronx, 718-920-4197
MONTEFIORE

PHILIP H. GUTIN
Brain tumors,
meningioma, acoustic
neuroma; New York,
800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

ROBERT HEARY
Spinal surgery, spinal-
cord injury, spinal
deformity; Newark,
973-972-2334
UMDNJ NEWARK

RICHARD HODOSH
Acoustic neuroma,
neurovascular surgery,
spinal surgery;
Summit,
908-522-4979
OVERLOOK

THOMAS LANSSEN
Stereotactic
radiosurgery,
hydrocephalus, brain
tumors; White Plains,
914-948-8448
N WESTCHESTER

Specialists

MICHAEL LAVYNE
Spinal surgery,
spinal tumors, spinal
disorders; New York,
212-486-9100
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

PAUL C. MCCORMICK
Spinal surgery, spinal
tumors; New York,
212-305-7976
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

RAJ MURALI
Trigeminal neuralgia,
skull-base surgery,
cerebral aneurysm,
pituitary tumors;
Valhalla,
914-493-8392
WESTCHESTER

MICHAEL NOSKO
Cerebral aneurysm,
brain tumors,
pituitary tumors,
cerebrovascular
neurosurgery; New
Brunswick,
732-235-7757
RWJ

JOSEPH PIEPMEIER
Neuro-oncology,
brain and spinal-cord
tumors; New Haven,
203-785-2791
YALE

KALMON POST
Pituitary tumors,
acoustic neuroma,
meningioma; New
York, 212-241-0933
MT SINAI

CHANDRANATH SEN
Brain tumors, skull-
base tumors, skull-
base surgery; New
York, 212-523-6720
ST LUKE'S

ROBERT SOLOMON
Cerebral aneurysm,
arteriovenous
malformations; New
York, 212-305-4118
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

DENNIS SPENCER
Epilepsy/seizure
disorders, brain
tumors; New Haven,
203-785-4891
YALE

JACK STERN
Spinal reconstructive
surgery, brain tumors,
trigeminal neuralgia;
White Plains,
914-948-6688
WHITE PLAINS

PHILIP E. STIEG
Cerebrovascular
surgery, acoustic
neuroma, skull-base
surgery, meningioma;
New York,
212-746-4684
NY PRES-WEILL CORNELL

HOWARD WEINER
Pediatric neurosurgery,
epilepsy, brain tumors,
tuberous sclerosis;
New York,
212-263-6419
NYU MED

JEFFREY WISOFF
Pediatric neurosurgery,
pediatric brain tumors,
hydrocephalus;
New York,
212-263-6419
NYU MED

Specialists

diseases, occupational lung disease, carpal-tunnel syndrome, repetitive-strain injuries; New York, 212-241-6336
MT SINAI

OPHTHALMOLOGY

DAVID ABRAMSON

Eye tumors/cancer, orbital tumors/cancer, retinoblastoma, melanoma-choroidal (eye); New York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

MYLES BEHRENS

Neuro-ophthalmology; New York, 212-305-5415
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

ANTHONY CAPUTO

Pediatric ophthalmology, strabismus; Roseland, 973-228-3111
COLUMBUS

STANLEY CHANG

Diabetic eye disease/retinopathy, macular disease/degeneration, retina/vitreous surgery, retinal disorders; New York, 212-305-9535
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

DONALD D'AMICO

Diabetic eye disease/retinopathy, retinal detachment; New York, 646-962-2020
NY PRES-WEILL

LUCIAN DEL PRIORE

Diabetic eye disease/retinopathy, macular degeneration, retinal detachment; New York, 212-305-9535
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

JACK DODICK

Cataract surgery-lens implant, laser vision surgery; New York, 212-288-7638
MANHATTAN EYE

PAUL FINGER

Eye tumors/cancer, orbital diseases; New York, 212-832-8170
NY EYE

ROBERT FRIEDMAN

Laser refractive surgery, cataract surgery, retina/vitreous surgery; New York, 212-772-6202
LENOX HILL

LARRY FROHMAN

Neuro-ophthalmology, sarcoidosis, vision loss-unexplained loss; Newark, 973-972-2065
UMDNJ NEWARK

WAYNE FUCHS

Diabetic eye disease/retinopathy, macular disease/degeneration, retina/vitreous surgery, retinal disorders; New York, 212-319-8205
MT SINAI

PAMELA GALLIN

Pediatric ophthalmology, amblyopia, strabismus, tear-duct problems; New York, 212-305-5407
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

RONALD GENTILE

Retina/vitreous surgery, diabetic eye disease, macular degeneration; New York, 212-979-4120
NY EYE

DAVID HAIGHT

Laser vision surgery, cornea transplant,

cataract surgery; New York, 212-772-9474
MANHATTAN EYE

LISABETH HALL

Pediatric ophthalmology, strabismus, eye-muscle disorders, pediatric cataract; New York, 212-979-4614
NY EYE

PETER HERSH

Lasik-refractive surgery, cornea transplant, keratoconus; Teaneck, 201-883-0505
UMDNJ NEWARK

WILSON KO

Cataract surgery, Chinese eye care, anterior-segment surgery; Flushing, 718-358-5900
FLUSHING

MARK KUPERSMITH

Neuro-ophthalmology; New York, 212-870-9418
ST LUKE'S

CAROL LEE

Cornea transplant, vitreous surgery, diabetic eye disease/retinopathy; New York, 212-684-2424
NYU MED

JEFFREY LIEBMANN

Glaucoma, cataract surgery; New York, 212-477-7540
NY EYE

RICHARD LISMAN

Oculoplastic surgery, eyelid/tear-duct reconstruction, eyelid cosmetic and reconstructive surgery; New York, 212-585-1405
NYU MED

RICHARD MACKOOL

Cataract surgery, Lasik-refractive surgery, lens implants-multifocal (Restor), corneal disease and surgery; Astoria, 718-728-3400
NY EYE

ERIC MANDEL

Lasik-refractive surgery, corneal disease, PRK-refractive surgery; New York, 212-734-0111
NY EYE

NORMAN MEDOW

Pediatric cataract, glaucoma, and corneal disease; New York, 212-644-5100
MANHATTAN EYE

PETER MICHALOS

Cataract surgery, reconstructive surgery, tear-duct problems, eyelid tumors; Southampton, 631-283-8604
SOUTHAMPTON

THOMAS MULDOON

Retina/vitreous surgery, macular disease/degeneration, diabetic eye disease/retinopathy; New York, 212-979-4595
NY EYE

STEPHEN OBSTBAUM

Cataract surgery, glaucoma; New York, 212-477-7540
LENOX HILL

GLENN OSTRIKER

Cataract surgery, glaucoma; Stamford, 203-348-6300
STAMFORD

ANDREW PRINCE

Glaucoma, cataract surgery; New York, 212-717-2200
NY EYE

ROBERT RITCH

Glaucoma; New York, 212-477-7540
NY EYE

CALVIN ROBERTS

Refractive surgery, cataract surgery, Lasik-refractive surgery; New York, 212-734-7788
NY PRES-WEILL

NORMAN SAFFRA

Microsurgery, retinal disorders; Brooklyn, 718-283-8000
MAIMONIDES

URI SHABTO

Retinopathy of prematurity, macular disease/degeneration, diabetic eye disease/retinopathy; New York, 212-677-2000
NY EYE

IRA UDELL

Cornea transplant, corneal disease; Great Neck, 516-470-2020
LI JEWISH

JOSEPH WALSH

Diabetic eye disease, macular degeneration, retinal disorders; New York, 212-979-4500
NY EYE

FREDERICK WANG

Pediatric ophthalmology, strabismus, eye-muscle disorders; New York, 212-684-3980
NY EYE

LAWRENCE YANNUZZI

Retina/vitreous surgery, macular disease/degeneration, diabetic eye disease; New York, 212-861-9797
MANHATTAN EYE

GERALD ZAIMMAN

Laser vision surgery, cornea transplant, cataract surgery; Valhalla, 914-493-1599
WESTCHESTER

MARCO ZARBIN

Macular degeneration, diabetic eye disease/retinopathy, eye trauma; Newark, 973-972-2065
UMDNJ NEWARK

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

GLENN ARVAN

Trauma, pediatric orthopaedic surgery, joint replacement, geriatric orthopaedic surgery; Babylon, 631-661-0202
GOOD SAMARITAN-W ISLIP

PHILLIP BAUMAN

Foot and ankle surgery, knee surgery, dance/sports medicine; New York, 212-765-2260
ST LUKE'S

JOHN BENDO

Minimally invasive spinal surgery, scoliosis, spinal-disc replacement; New York, 212-598-6625
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

JOSEPH BENEVENIA

Limb-sparing surgery, bone cancer, soft-tissue sarcoma; Newark, 973-972-2153
UMDNJ NEWARK

LOUIS BIGLIANI

Shoulder surgery,

sports medicine, arthroscopic surgery; New York, 212-305-5564
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

FABIEN BITAN

Spinal surgery, spinal-disc replacement, spinal deformity and degeneration; New York, 212-744-8114
LENOX HILL

OHENEBA BOACHIE-ADJEI

Spinal surgery, scoliosis; New York, 212-606-1948
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

ROBERT BULY

Hip replacement, minimally invasive surgery, arthritis; New York, 212-606-1971
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

FRANK CAMMISA

Spinal surgery, spinal-disc replacement, scoliosis; New York, 212-606-1946
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

ANDREW CASDEN

Spinal surgery, spinal-disc replacement, minimally invasive spinal surgery, scoliosis; New York, 212-844-8674
BETH ISRAEL PETRIE

MICHAEL CLAIN

Foot and ankle surgery, sports medicine; Greenwich, 203-869-1145
GREENWICH

EDWARD CRAIG

Shoulder arthroscopic surgery, shoulder replacement, sports medicine, elbow surgery; New York, 212-606-1966
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

JONATHAN DELAND

Foot and ankle surgery, sports medicine, arthritis; New York, 212-606-1665
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

DAVID DINES

Shoulder surgery, sports medicine, shoulder replacement; Great Neck, 516-482-1037
LI JEWISH

THOMAS ERRICO

Spinal surgery, spinal-disc replacement, scoliosis; New York, 212-263-7182
NYU MED

JEAN-PIERRE Farcy

Spinal surgery, spinal-disc replacement, sports medicine; New York, 212-534-7758
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

DAVID FELDMAN

Limb deformities, spinal surgery, pediatric orthopaedic surgery; New York, 212-533-5310
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

EVAN FLATOW

Rotator-cuff surgery, shoulder injuries, shoulder replacement, shoulder arthroscopic surgery; New York, 212-241-1663
MT SINAI

GARY FRIEDLAENDER

Bone and soft-tissue tumors, limb surgery/reconstruction, non-union fractures, metastatic bone tumors; New Haven, 203-737-5656
YALE

JONATHAN GLASHOW

Sports medicine, shoulder surgery, knee surgery, arthroscopic surgery; New York, 212-794-5096
MT SINAI

RONALD GRELSAMER

Knee-patella problems, sports medicine, knee reconstruction, hip and knee arthritis; New York, 212-241-2914
MT SINAI

STEVEN HAAS

Knee surgery, knee replacement, minimally invasive surgery; New York, 212-606-1852
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

JO HANNAFIN

Sports medicine-women, shoulder arthroscopic surgery, knee injuries/ligament surgery, ligament reconstruction; New York, 212-606-1469
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

MARK HARTZBAND

Knee replacement, hip replacement; Paramus, 201-291-4040
HACKENSACK

MICHAEL HAUSMAN

Hand reconstruction, elbow reconstruction, arthroscopic surgery; New York, 212-241-1658
MT SINAI

JOHN HEALEY

Bone tumors, hip and knee replacement in bone tumors, sarcoma, soft-tissue sarcoma; New York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

DAVID HELFET

Complex fractures, non-union fractures, trauma; New York, 212-606-1888
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

ROBERT HOTCHKISS

Hand surgery, wrist surgery, elbow reconstruction; New York, 212-606-1964
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

PETER HUGHES

Hip replacement, knee replacement, sports medicine; Stamford, 203-325-4087
STAMFORD

SAMUEL KENAN

Bone tumors, hip replacement, knee replacement; New York, 212-684-5511
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

JOSEPH LANE

Metabolic bone disorders, osteoporosis spinal fracture, osteoporosis spine-kypoplasty, bone cancer; New York, 212-606-1172
HOSP SPECIAL SURGERY

WALLACE LEHMAN

Clubfoot/foot deformities in children, pediatric hip disorders, limb deformities, Blount's disease; New York, 212-598-6403
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

HOWARD LEVY

Knee surgery, shoulder surgery, sports medicine, arthroscopic surgery; New York, 212-744-8114
LENOX HILL

Specialists

musculoskeletal injuries; Staten Island, 718-226-6362
SI-NORTH

JERALD ZIMMERMAN

Post-polio syndrome/rehabilitation, musculoskeletal disorders, pain management; Englewood, 201-567-3370
ENGLEWOOD

PLASTIC SURGERY

SHERRELL ASTON

Cosmetic surgery—face, rhinoplasty, cosmetic surgery—breast, liposuction and body contouring; New York, 212-249-6000
MANHATTAN EYE

DANIEL BAKER

Cosmetic surgery—face, reconstructive surgery—face, rhinoplasty; New York, 212-734-9695
MANHATTAN EYE

GREGORY BORAH

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, hand surgery; New Brunswick, 732-235-7865
RWJ

STAFFORD BROUMAND

Eyelid surgery, cosmetic surgery—face, breast surgery; New York, 212-879-7900
MT SINAI

DAVID T.W. CHIU

Hand and microvascular surgery, cosmetic surgery—face, peripheral-nerve surgery; New York, 212-879-8880
NYU MED

STEPHEN COLEN

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, liposuction and body contouring; Hackensack, 201-996-5588
HACKENSACK

PETER CORDEIRO

Reconstructive surgery, breast reconstruction, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery; New York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

COURT CUTTING

Cleft palate/lip, reconstructive plastic surgery, rhinoplasty, craniofacial surgery/reconstruction; New York, 212-447-6229
NYU MED

ALEXANDER DAGUM

Reconstructive plastic surgery, microvascular surgery, hand surgery; Stony Brook, 631-444-8210
STONY BROOK

RICHARD D'AMICO

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—liposuction,

breast augmentation; Englewood, 201-567-9595
ENGLEWOOD

THEODORE DIKTABAN

Cosmetic surgery—liposuction, cosmetic surgery—face and eyelid, breast augmentation, rhinoplasty; New York, 212-988-5656
LENOX HILL

JOSEPH FEINBERG

Cosmetic surgery—face, breast augmentation, abdominoplasty; Manhasset, 516-869-6200
ST FRANCIS

DAVID FELDMAN

Cosmetic surgery, laser surgery; Brooklyn, 718-283-7022
MAIMONIDES

CRAIG FOSTER

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, rhinoplasty revision, nasal surgery; New York, 212-744-5746
MANHATTAN EYE

LOYD GAYLE

Breast reconstruction and augmentation, hand surgery, cosmetic surgery—body; New York, 212-452-5121
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

HAROLD GEWIRTZ

Cosmetic surgery—face, breast cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, liposuction and body contouring; Stamford, 203-325-1381
STAMFORD

GERALD GINSBERG

Cosmetic surgery, reconstructive plastic surgery; New York, 212-452-3421
NY DOWNTOWN

NORMAN GODFREY

Rhinoplasty, eyelid surgery; New York, 212-628-6600
ST VINCENT-MANHATTAN

PHILIP GODFREY

Cosmetic surgery—breast, abdominoplasty, liposuction; New York, 212-628-6600
ST VINCENT-MANHATTAN

ALAN GOLD

Cosmetic surgery, cosmetic surgery—face and eyes, nasal surgery; Great Neck, 516-498-2800
N SHORE-MANHASSET

DAVID HIDALGO

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, rhinoplasty, reconstructive surgery; New York, 212-517-9777
MANHATTAN EYE

NOLAN KARP

Breast cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, liposuction and body contouring, cosmetic surgery; New York, 212-355-5779
NYU MED

ARMEN KASABIAN

Hand reconstruction, plastic and reconstructive surgery, microsurgery; Staten Island, 718-226-6780
SI-NORTH

ADAM KOLKER

Cosmetic surgery, breast reconstruction, pediatric plastic surgery, craniofacial

surgery; New York, 212-744-6500
MT SINAI

LYLE LEIPZIGER

Cosmetic surgery—face and eyes, cosmetic surgery—breast, breast reconstruction, liposuction and body contouring; Great Neck, 516-465-8787
N SHORE-MANHASSET

ALAN MATARASSO

Cosmetic surgery—face and eyes, rhinoplasty, liposuction; New York, 212-249-7500
MANHATTAN EYE

JOSEPH MCCARTHY

Pediatric craniofacial surgery, reconstructive or cosmetic surgery—face; New York, 212-628-4420
NYU MED

KEVIN NINI

Facial plastic surgery, breast surgery, liposuction and body contouring; New Brunswick, 732-418-0709
ST PETER'S

JOSEPH O'CONNELL

Cosmetic surgery—liposuction, cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, body contouring; Westport, 203-454-0044
BRIDGEPORT

ROBERT OLSON

Cleft palate/lip, head and neck surgery, wound healing/care; New Brunswick, 732-418-0709
ST PETER'S

ARTHUR PERRY

Cosmetic surgery—face, liposuction, rhinoplasty; Franklin Park, 732-422-9600
RWJ

JOHN PERSING

Craniofacial surgery, vascular anomalies, cosmetic surgery; New Haven, 203-785-2570
YALE

JANE PETRO

Breast surgery, pediatric plastic surgery, abdominal wall reconstruction; Purchase, 914-428-8881
N WESTCHESTER

GERALD PITMAN

Cosmetic surgery—face, liposuction, abdominoplasty; New York, 212-517-2600
MANHATTAN EYE

GREGORY RAUSCHER

Cosmetic surgery—face and breast, liposuction, hand surgery; Hackensack, 201-488-1036
HACKENSACK

WILLIAM ROSENBLATT

Nasal surgery, cosmetic surgery—face and body, cosmetic surgery—breast, rhinoplasty; New York, 212-570-6100
LENOX HILL

MALCOLM Z. ROTH

Breast reconstruction, cosmetic surgery—breast, cosmetic surgery—face and eyelid, body contouring after weight loss; Brooklyn, 718-283-7022
MAIMONIDES

SUSAN SCOTT

Cosmetic surgery—face, eyelid surgery, hand reconstruction; New York, 212-288-9922
HOSP JOINT DISEASES

JOHN SIEBERT

Facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, microsurgery, cosmetic surgery—face; New York, 212-737-8300
NYU MED

RICHARD SKOLNIK

Cosmetic surgery—face, cosmetic surgery—breast, liposuction and body contouring; New York, 212-722-1977
MT SINAI

HENRY SPINELLI

Cosmetic surgery—face, craniofacial surgery/reconstruction, oculoplastic and orbital surgery; New York, 212-570-6235
NY PRES-WEILL

DAVID STAFFENBERG

Craniofacial surgery/reconstruction, pediatric plastic surgery, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, cosmetic surgery—face; the Bronx, 718-920-4462
MONTEFIORE

RICHARD STAHL

Breast cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, chest wall reconstruction, abdominal wall reconstruction; Guilford, 203-458-4440
YALE

MARK SULTAN

Breast reconstruction, cosmetic surgery—breast, cosmetic surgery—face; New York, 212-360-0700
ST LUKE'S

NICOLAS TABBAL

Rhinoplasty, cosmetic surgery—face, eyelid surgery; New York, 212-644-5800
MANHATTAN EYE

PETER TAUB

Pediatric plastic surgery, craniofacial surgery, cosmetic surgery, maxillofacial surgery; New York, 212-241-4410
MT SINAI

CHARLES THORNE

Cosmetic surgery—face and breast, ear reconstruction/microtia, craniofacial surgery, pediatric plastic surgery; New York, 212-794-0044
NYU MED

JESS TING

Cosmetic surgery, reconstructive microvascular surgery, hand surgery, nerve surgery and transplantation; New York, 212-241-4410
MT SINAI

PHILIP WEY

Cosmetic surgery—face, breast cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, liposuction and body contouring; New Brunswick, 732-418-0709
RWJ

BARRY ZIDE

Facial surgery—chin and lip, hemangiomas/birthmarks, facial reconstruction—cancer,

pediatric craniofacial surgery; New York, 212-421-2424
NYU MED

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

JOHN CAHILL

Tropical diseases, international health, disaster-relief medicine; New York, 212-492-5500
ST LUKE'S

DOROTHY LANE

Women's health, cancer prevention, health promotion and disease prevention; Stony Brook, 631-444-3902
STONY BROOK

STANLEY WEISS

Cancer epidemiology and control, AIDS-related infections, bioterrorism preparedness, infections in cancer patients; Newark, 973-972-4623
UMDNJ NEWARK

PSYCHIATRY

GERARD ADDONIZIO

Psychopharmacology, depression, anxiety disorders; White Plains, 914-997-5864
NY PRES-WESTCHESTER

PAUL APPELBAUM

Forensic psychiatry, depression, anxiety and mood disorders; New York, 212-543-4184
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

MICHAEL ARONOFF

Sleep disorders, stress management, family and couples therapy, forensic psychiatry; New York, 212-799-8257
LENOX HILL

EVELYN ATTIA

Eating disorders, mood disorders; New York, 212-543-5923
NY PSYCHIATRIC

ARTHUR BADIKIAN

Mood disorders, geriatric psychiatry, women's mental health; Harrison, 914-948-4277
ST VINCENT-WESTCHESTER

SAMUEL BASCH

Psychopharmacology, psychiatry in physical illness, psychiatry in cancer, psychoanalysis; New York, 212-427-0344
MT SINAI

WILLIAM BREITBART

Psychiatry in cancer, AIDS-related cancers, pain-cancer, palliative care; New York, 800-525-2225
SLOAN-KETTERING

HAROLD BRONHEIM

Psychiatry in body-image awareness, relationship problems, psychiatry in physical illness/depressed, liaison psychiatry; New York, 212-996-5777
MT SINAI

GIOVANNI CARACCI

Geriatric psychiatry, psychopharmacology, psychotherapy; Newark, 973-972-9712
UMDNJ NEWARK

ALLEN COLLINS

Anxiety disorders, depression, work problems; New York, 212-588-1205
LENOX HILL

REBECCA DULIT

Borderline personality disorders, suicide, post-traumatic-stress disorder, disaster psychiatry; Scarsdale, 914-722-0608
NY PRES-WESTCHESTER

MICHAEL FIRST

Psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, forensic psychiatry; New York, 212-543-5531
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

KATHERINE HALMI

Eating disorders; White Plains, 914-997-5875
NY PRES-WESTCHESTER

SIDNEY HART

Anxiety disorders, mood disorders, psychotherapy; Greenwich, 203-622-1722
GREENWICH

ERIC HOLLANDER

Obsessive-compulsive disorder, anxiety disorders, autism; New York, 212-659-8287
MT SINAI

T. BYRAM KARASU

Depression, personality disorders, psychotherapy; New York, 212-426-5208
MONTEFIORE

NEIL KAVEY

Narcolepsy, sleep disorders/apnea; New York, 212-305-1860
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

SAMUEL KLAGSBRUN

Psychiatry in cancer, psychiatry in terminal illness; Katonah, 914-763-8151
FOUR WINDS

ALAN MANEVITZ

Marital/family/sex therapy, fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS), post-traumatic-stress disorder, ADD/ADHD; New York, 212-751-5072
NY PRES-WEILL

DEBORAH MARIN

Alzheimer's disease; New York, 212-241-7139
MT SINAI

BARNETT MEYERS

Depression, geriatric psychiatry, psychopharmacology; White Plains, 914-997-5721
NY PRES-WESTCHESTER

EDWARD NUNES

Depression, substance abuse; New York, 212-579-0339
NY PSYCHIATRIC

LEWIS OPLER

Psychopharmacology, psychotherapy; Mt. Vernon, 914-629-1605
NY PRES-COLUMBIA

BRADFORD PERRY

Anxiety and mood disorders, psychopharmacology, behavioral disorders; Scarsdale, 914-472-2167
NY PRES-WESTCHESTER

DAVID PREVEN

Forensic psychiatry, psychopharmacology, psychotherapy; New York, 212-799-4907
MONTEFIORE

BEST DOCTORS

Our annual selection of the city's top physicians

Who Decides?

Frequently asked questions about how the doctors are chosen.

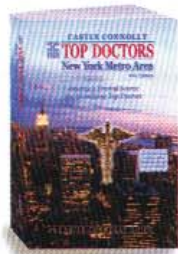
Who picks the doctors? A New York City research and information company, Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. publishes an annual guidebook titled *Top Doctors: New York Metro Area*, which lists those whom Castle Connolly has determined to be the top 10 percent of the region's physicians—more than 6,000 in all. For the past eleven years, Castle Connolly has been providing *New York Magazine* with a shorter version of this list for the magazine's "Best Doctors" issue (space prohibits *New York* from publishing the full list). These doctors—1,434 this year—represent about a quarter of the top 10 percent of New York-area physicians, as determined by Castle Connolly.

How does Castle Connolly decide which doctors are the best? The firm conducts a peer-review survey. The idea is that medical professionals are best qualified to judge other medical professionals, and if one recommendation is good (think of your doctor referring you to a specialist), multiple recommendations are better.

To select the doctors, Castle Connolly sends out 12,000 nomination forms to medical professionals in New York City, Westchester County, Long Island, and portions of New Jersey and Connecticut. The recipients include randomly selected board-certified doctors; all doctors listed in the previous edition of Castle Connolly's annual guidebook; and, from every hospital in the area, the president or CEO, the vice-president of medical affairs, and up to eight chiefs of

service in departments from surgery to pediatrics.

The forms ask recipients to nominate those doctors who, in their judgment, are the best in their field and related fields—especially those to whom they would refer their own patients and family members. (Doctors are asked not to nominate themselves; nominations are kept confidential.) Castle Connolly asks the nominators to take into account not only professional qualifications and reputation (education, residency, board certification, hospital appointment, and disciplinary record, for example) but also skills in dealing with patients (listening and communicating effectively, demonstrating empathy, instilling trust and confidence). The Castle Connolly staff then tabulates the results and vets the nominee pool, confirming the doctors' board certification and licensing and investigating their disciplinary history.



Are the results adjusted at all?

Yes. The list is first adjusted for geographic balance. Because both Castle Connolly's book and the list *New York* publishes are meant to help patients find doctors in their communities, Castle Connolly includes at least some top doctors from each relevant geographic area.

On the one hand, this makes the list useful to the greatest possible number of *New York Magazine* readers; on the other hand, as a result of the concentration of excellent doctors in Manhattan, it forces some Manhattan doctors off the list.

Second, Castle Connolly strives for balance across specialties. Top doctors

in popular specialties, therefore, might be left off in favor of a few in populated fields. Keep in mind, though, that all the doctors listed, regardless of location or specialty, are included because they came highly recommended by their peers and that all were thoroughly screened by Castle Connolly.

Does 'New York' also check out

the doctors on the list? The magazine's fact-checkers independently verify every doctor's name, phone number, and hospital affiliation, but it would be impossible to "check out" each doctor with an office visit. That said, there are usually a handful of cases every year in which Castle Connolly and the magazine decide to omit a doctor from the list when circumstances such as pending litigation or an out-of-area move are brought to our attention.

My doctor says he was left out last year because of politics. Could that be true?

To the extent that politics can enter into any peer-review process, it is possible that a given nominator had concerns other than an objective assessment of his peers' skills when filling out his ballot. But Castle Connolly doesn't play favorites in its selection process, and the large number of nominators tends to correct for any individual's ulterior motives.

If my doctor is not on the list, does

that mean he's not a great doctor? No. The selection of doctors by peer review—and the compilation of a list that considers diversity of specialties and geography—inevitably leaves out many outstanding doctors.

Don't the same doctors get nominated

every year? Many doctors do, but there are many new doctors on the list each year, too. Because established, well-known doctors are exactly that—established and well known—the list may favor that kind of physician. That may mean fewer new choices each year, but it also means the list is inherently conservative. Given the importance of choosing a doctor, Castle Connolly and *New York* view that as a healthy bias.

One of my doctors was on last year's list and isn't on this year's. What does that mean?

It doesn't necessarily mean anything; it certainly shouldn't be taken as proof of a drop-off in the doctor's effectiveness. Getting on the list once doesn't guarantee a doctor a "lock" on a position; the selection process begins anew every year.

How can I see the full list of 6,000-plus

doctors? The eleventh edition of Castle Connolly's guide is available for purchase online (\$24.95) at castleconnolly.com.