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# Video Article: "Colonial Wig" pancreaticojejunostomy --Manuscript Draft--

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1 2 TITLE:

Colonial Wig Pancreaticojejunostomy

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#### **KEYWORDS:**

Pancreaticojejunostomy, pancreatic leak, Whipple, postoperative pancreatic fistula, colonial wig, 16 17 pancreatectomy, fistula risk score, anastomosis, novel surgical technique

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#### **SUMMARY:**

pancreaticojejunostomy reconstruction after describe a new technique for pancreaticoduodenectomy that is associated with a very low rate of postoperative pancreatic fistula.

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#### **ABSTRACT:**

Postoperative pancreatic fistula (POPF) is one of the most problematic complications after pancreaticoduodenectomy (PD). We describe a series of 48 pancreatic-head resections from our institution, in which we compare a new technique to create the pancreaticojejunostomy (PJ) reconstruction with standard techniques. The goal is to achieve a lower rate of POPF. This new PJ is termed the "Colonial Wig" (CW) PJ due to the novel appearance of the jejunum wrapping around the pancreas, resembling a colonial wig wrapping around the head of a colonial Whig, like George Washington. In our consecutive series, 22 cases were performed using the new CW technique to perform the PJ and were compared to 26 traditional PDs with traditional reconstruction. There was an incidence of clinically relevant POPF of 0% in the CW group, compared to 15% in 26 conventional PJs. Our proposed CW PJ reconstruction is believed to be associated with a lower the incidence of POPF following PD.

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#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Postoperative pancreatic fistula (POPF) is described as the Achilles' pancreaticoduodenectomy (PD) with an incidence rate ranging between 4-36%<sup>1-3</sup>. The goal of the presently described method of pancreaticojejunostomy (PJ), termed the "Colonial Wig" (CW), is to lower the rate of POPF following PD.

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The morbidity of POPF is variable and it can range from being asymptomatic (Grade A, or clinically insignificant biochemical leak) to being symptomatic, causing deviation in the postoperative management, requiring percutaneous, endoscopic or angiographic interventions (Grade B) or requiring operative interventions, causing organ failure or death (Grade C)<sup>4</sup>. Multiple risk factors have been described that increase the risk of POPF, including soft pancreatic texture, small diameter of pancreatic duct, and increased intraoperative blood loss. A validated 10-points based system has been described to predict the risk of POPF in patients undergoing PD<sup>5,6</sup>. To reduce the incidence and mitigate the severity of POPF, several PJ reconstruction techniques have been described in the literature with a variable POPF incidence and severity. In this paper, we describe a novel PJ reconstructive technique, the CW PJ, which has the advantage of combining what we assess to be the best aspects of the best and most common techniques of the PJ.

#### PROTOCOL:

This study was approved by the Ethics Committee (Institutional Review Board) of Saint Agnes Hospital (No. 2016-020).

#### 1. Preparations

1.1. Preoperatively, have patients receive 5,000 units of heparin subcutaneously for deep venous thrombosis prophylaxis, and give antibiotics per the hospital's surgical care improvement project (SCIP) policy, which includes 2 g of cefazolin and 500 mg of metronidazole.

1.2. Place an epidural as discussed with the anesthesia team for optimal postoperative pain control and to achieve enhanced recovery after surgery.

1.3. Intraoperatively, perform a classic or pylorus-preserving PD in a standard fashion.<sup>7</sup>

# 2. Transection of the Pancreatic Neck

2.1. Prior to transection of the pancreatic neck, place four full-thickness, transpancreatic, 3-0 silk, stay sutures on the superior and inferior edges of the pancreas and then divide the pancreatic neck between these stay sutures. Place a Crile clamp on each of the silk sutures.

2.2. Proceed to completion of the PD resection in standard fashion.

## 3. Preparing the Jejunum and Pancreas for Anastomosis

3.1. After removal of the specimen, dissect the posterior surface of the pancreas free from the retroperitoneum for several centimeters.

3.2. Bring the stapled end of the jejunum into position in preparation for anastomosis.

#### 4. Suture Placement:

Note: The following sutures are placed in the following order to create the anastomosis (as shown in **Figure 1**).

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## 4.1. Two 3-0 silk CW sutures (cw)

4.1.1. For each of these, take a full-thickness bite through the pancreas a few centimeters from the cut surface, one at the superior border and one at the inferior border of the pancreas, each passing through a generous seromuscular bite of jejunum, as shown in **Figure 1**. The bites through the jejunum should be approximately 6 cm from each other (to allow for 2 cm of jejunum on either side of the jejunotomy, which is typically 2 cm long, but will vary with the thickness of the pancreatic neck).

4.1.2. Leave these sutures untied, as they will later join the inferior border of the pancreas to the antimesenteric border of the proximal jejunum, and the superior border to the more distal antimesenteric border of the jejunum, wrapping the jejunum around the sides of the pancreatic remnant covering the corners of the anastomosis and giving the final appearance of a colonial wig (**Figure 1**).

# 4.2. Two 3-0 glycolide/Lactide copolymer (or polyglactin) U-sutures (u)

4.2.1. Place these stitches with a straight(ened) needle. Traveling anterior to posterior, take a full-thickness bite through the anterior portion of the jejunotomy, then a full thickness bite through the pancreas, about 1 cm from the cut surface, and then a full-thickness bite through the posterior wall of the jejunotomy.

4.2.2. Now the needle is at the bottom of the "U," so turn 180 degrees and reverse the path, travelling posterior-to-anterior, taking a full-thickness bite through the posterior jejunum, then pancreas, then anterior wall of the jejunum (**Figure 1A**, **1B**). These U-stitches are used to compress the small ducts (similar to the Blumgart anastomosis<sup>11</sup>) and to keep the pancreas securely invaginated in the jejunotomy (similar to the "dunking PJ" anastomosis<sup>8</sup>).

4.2.3. Place a metallic probe (e.g. Garrett dilator) in the pancreatic duct while taking the pancreatic bites close to the main pancreatic duct, to make sure that the stitch does not go through the duct. Each of these should encompass most of the width of pancreatic parenchyma on either side of the main pancreatic duct.

#### 4.3. Two silk 3-0 stay sutures (s)

4.3.1. Attach a French eye needle to the previously placed stay stitches on the pancreatic remnant, and take a full-thickness bite, in-to-out, through the jejunum 1 cm away from the jejunotomy. The purpose of these stitches is to secure the invagination of the corners of the pancreatic remnant deep into the jejunotomy.

4.3.2. After placing stitches #1-3, pull taut on the s and u stitches to invaginate the pancreatic remnant into the jejunotomy, then proceed with tying them in the following order: u then s then cw (Figure 1C, 1D). The jejunum should now look much like a colonial wig fitted snugly around

the sides of a colonial Whig's head.

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# 4.4. Several interrupted 3-0 silk sutures provide a final outer-layer (o)

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4.4.1. Place these stitches very closely together in a vertical fashion between the anterior border of the pancreatic remnant and the cut edge of the jejunum to hermetically seal the redundant cuff of jejunum remaining after tying the u sutures to pancreatic capsule (**Figure 1**). Two of these stitches may be placed posteriorly as well, typically in a horizontal fashion, either now or prior to placing the sutures in steps 3.1-3.3 above.

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5. Placement of omental wrap

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5.1. Wrap the PJ anastomosis with a harvested tongue of healthy omentum. Place two 19-F round, fluted (eg, Blake) drains near, but not touching, the anastomosis (the omental flap serves in part to protect the PJ from the drains).

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5.2. Perform the remainder of the reconstruction, viz, the hepaticojejunostomy and the gastroor duodenojejunostomy, as previously described.<sup>7</sup>

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6. Optional adjuncts

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6.1. In cases with high-risk features, such as soft pancreas parenchyma, consider decompressing the bilopancreatic limb, *e.g.*, with the creation of a Braun enteroenterostomy between the afferent and efferent limbs of the gastro- or duodenojejunostomy and the administration of somatostatin analogues.

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7. Postoperative management

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7.1. Postoperatively, extubate the patient once stable from a hemodynamic and respiratory standpoint. Admit patients to the intensive care unit for overnight close monitoring.

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7.2. Initiate enteric feeds via an intraoperatively placed nasojejunal tube immediately postoperatively at a rate of 10 mL/h and advance to goal once there is evidence of return of bowel function. If starting somatostatin analogues intraoperatively, continue postoperatively.

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7.3. For high-risk cases, use pasireotide at 900 µg twice daily for a week. For medium-risk cases and some low-risk cases, use octreotide at 100 µg three times daily until the day of discharge.

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7.4. Check serum and drain amylase daily to evaluate for the presence of POPF. Remove drains on postoperative day #3, depending on the amylase level.

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- **REPRESENTATIVE RESULTS:**
- 175 Perioperative data are found in our original publication on this procedure<sup>9</sup>. Briefly, the POPF rate
- for the first 26 (control) PDs was 27%. There were 3 (12%) grade-A (clinically insignificant) fistulas,

4 (15%) grade-B, and 0 grade-C fistulas. This clinical relevant POPF (CR-POPF) rate (grade B + grade C) was 15%. In the next 22 CW PJs, however, the CR-POPF rate was 0 (P=0.052, by Chisquare test) among eligible cases. There was one grade-A POPF in the CW group (5%, **Table 1**).

The lower POPF rate in the CW group was not due to the presence of lower-risk glands in the CW group (**Table 2**). Similarly, the two groups were similar regarding important parameters such as gland texture, pancreatic duct diameter, distribution of pathologies, and estimated blood loss.

#### **FIGURE AND TABLE LEGENDS:**

**Figure 1: Schematic of suture placement. A**: The U sutures (u) are used to secure the invagination of the pancreatic remnant in the jejunotomy, while the stay sutures (s), which were placed before division of the pancreatic neck, are used to secure the corners of the remnant pancreas. **B-D**: "Colonial Wig" sutures (cw) are used to bury the corners of the pancreaticojejunostomy under the jejunal serosa, which makes the jejunum resemble a traditional Colonial wig, which covers the tops of the ears like the jejunum covers, protects, and seals the corners of the PJ. Finally, the outer-layer sutures (o) are placed to provide a more hermetic anastomosis (**D**). This figure has been reproduced from our original publication on this procedure<sup>9</sup>.

**Table 1: Comparison of conventional PD and CWPJ cases by occurrence and grade of POPF.** PD: pancreaticoduodenectomy; CWPJ: "Colonial Wig" pancreaticojejunostomy; POPF: postoperative pancreatic fistula; ISGPS: International Study Group of Pancreatic Surgery.

**Table 2: Comparison of conventional PD and CWPJ cases by FRS parameter shows that the groups were similar regarding other known risk factors for POPF.** \*Two cases were missing data for gland texture. Two deaths early in the postoperative period were excluded since they precluded assessment of POPF. PD: pancreaticoduodenectomy; CWPJ: "Colonial Wig" pancreaticojejunostomy; FRS: fistula risk score; POPF: postoperative pancreatic fistula; PDAC: pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

There are many descriptions of novel PJs reported in the literature. It is true that the more ways that exist to perform a given task, the less likely there is a single perfect way to do it. This is accurate for PJ reconstruction as well. Each of the multiple different PJ techniques reported reports a low incidence of POPF. Nevertheless, POPF continues to be considered the "Achilles heel" of PD and more work is therefore needed to find a better way to construct this anastomosis.

Our current design for PJ reconstruction developed after studying widely used anastomoses and evaluating the likely technical sources of failure of the PJ anastomosis, such as leaks from the small ducts on the cut surface of the pancreatic neck, from the corners of the PJ anastomosis, and from the suture lines on the anterior and posterior surfaces of the PJ.

Failure to address these potential leak points likely increases the risk of POPF. In two of the most

widely used PJ reconstruction methods, Cameron's duct-to-mucosa invaginating PJ and the Blumgart's PJ, some compression of the small ducts on the pancreatic cut surface is provided, but these techniques do not provide hermetic sealing of the corners of the anastomosis. This is provided by the cw sutures in the CW anastomosis. Our reconstruction also addresses the potential for leak from small ducts on the cut surface of the pancreatic by further compressing the parenchyma using the U-stitches, which further decreases the leak risk by also serving to deeply invaginate the pancreas within the jejunotomy. The s sutures ensure that the corners of the pancreatic remnant, which are prone to slip out to the jejunotomy, instead stay securely fixed within the jejunum. The o sutures provide further protection by providing a hermitic coverage of the anterior and posterior aspect of the PJ.

To mitigate the risk of POPF even further, the anastomosis is treated with several adjunctive measures. First, the PJ is wrapped with a vascularized omental pedicle, which was used universally when available. Second, in high-risk patients a Braun enteroenterostomy was created between the afferent and efferent loop to decompress the pancreaticobiliary limb. Finally, as described above, somotostatin analogues are selectively used. Our low incidence of leak could be explained by the combination of all these measures, as well as by reduced tension across the anastomosis owing to the effect of the cw sutures and outer (o) silk sutures.

Future applications of this technique may include comparison to other techniques in prospective randomized trials.

In conclusion, the existence of many PJ anastomotic techniques suggests none is ideal for all surgeons. Therefore, the best technique for now may be the one most familiar to the surgeon. However, this novel "Colonial Wig" anastomosis is easy to learn and may be a safe and effective way to lower POPF rates after PD.

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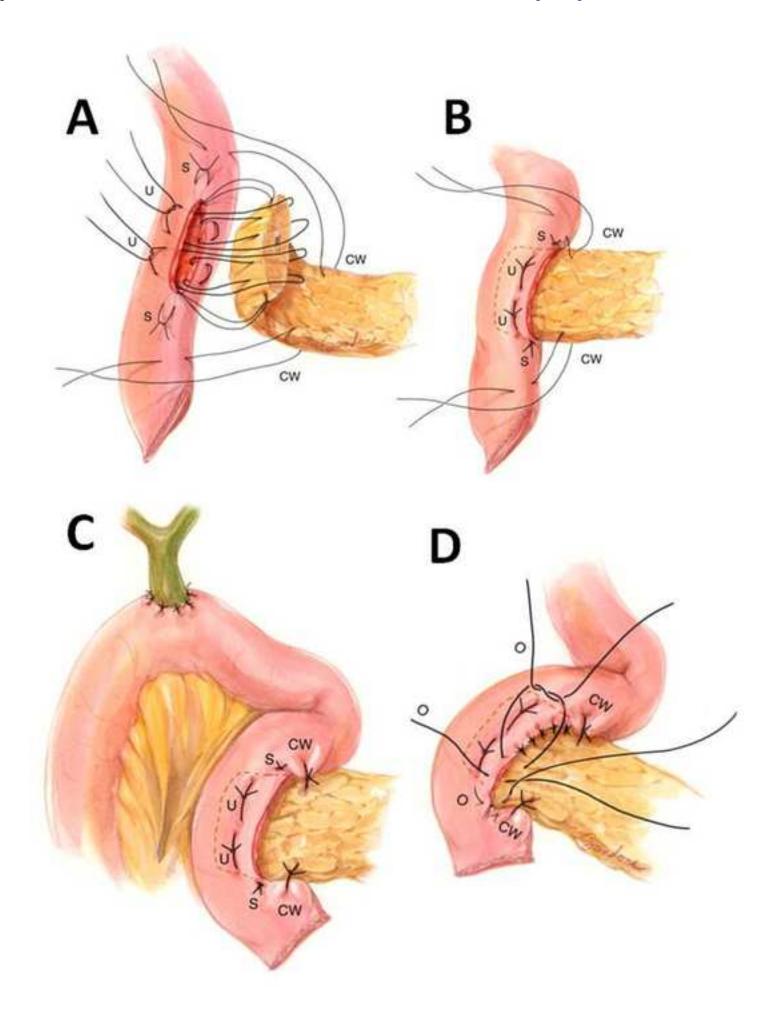
#### **DISCLOSURES:**

The authors have nothing to disclose.

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ISGPS grade	Conventional PD	CWPJ
None	19 (73%)	19 (95%)
Α	3 (12%)	1 (5%)
В	4 (15%)	0
С	0	0

FRS parameter	Conventional PD	CWPJ	P value
Soft pancreas texture (n)	14/24* (58%)	10/20 (50%)	0.58
Pancreatic duct diameter (mm)	3±2.3	4±2.5	0.28
PDAC/pancreatitis (n)	12/26 (46%)	10/20 (50%)	0.8
Estimated blood loss (mL)	500±539	500±316	0.33

Name French eye needle, tapered Garrett dilator Octreotide Pasireotide Company Catalog number
Anchor Products Co Inc, Addison, IL 1861-2dc
Medline, Northfield, IL MDS2040030
Sagent, Schaumburg, IL 2055879
Curascript SD, Grove City , OH 246492



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#### **CORRESPONDING AUTHOR**

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Title:	Director of Pancreatic and Hepatobiliary Surgery				
Signature:	Q	Date:	5-19-2018		

Please submit a signed and dated copy of this license by one of the following three methods:

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Rebuttal Letter



Click here to download Rebuttal Letter Cover letter revision 6-7- 2018.doc Steven C. Cunningham, MD, FACS

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June 8, 2018

Ronald Myers, Ph.D. Science Editor, JoVE 1 Alewife Center, Suite 200 Cambridge, MA 02140

RE: "Colonial Wig" Pancreaticojejunostomy

Dear Ron,

Respectfully submitted is our revised manuscript, "Video Article: The Colonial Wig Pancreaticojejunostomy."

We thank you your colleagues for your time and for further comments regarding additional revisions of our manuscript. Respectfully resubmitted is the second revision of our manuscript. All changes are marked in the revision. We have replied to each and every point below, our responses in <u>bold, italic</u> <u>face, and underlined</u>, following the verbatim editorial and reviewer comments in quotation marks:

## **COMMENTS**

#### **Editorial comments:**

- 1. "Unfortunately, there are a few sections of the manuscript that show significant overlap with previously published work. Please see the attached iThenticate report and revise the Discussion." *RESPONSE: Done.*
- 2. "Please format the protocol in line with JoVE's instructions for authors (sections 1, 2, etc., with substeps as 1.1, 1.2 and so on). In particular, there should be a heading for each section of the protocol (which will be used as such in the video)."

#### RESPONSE: Done.

3. "Please include more explicit details (beyond a reference) about pre- and post-operative procedures (e.g., inclusion/exclusion criteria, anesthesia, recovery, pain treatment, etc.). These do not have to be in the video, but at least a few sentences are necessary in the published protocol"

#### RESPONSE: Done.

4. "Please upload the tables in separate files and as "Tables" (not the materials table; there will be a separate option in Editorial Manager)."

# RESPONSE: OK, thank you.

5. "Figure 1: Unfortunately, we have decided panels E and F do not fit the journal's editorial standards and must be removed. We can highlight the shape in the video to help the audience understand the reference, though."

<u>RESPONSE</u>: OK. We still think that panels E and F should be in included, since without these panels the name of the anastomosis and references to it will not make as much sense to

# <u>readers</u> and viewers, and since they provide a very memorable image, but of course we defer to your editorial decision.

6. "Table 2: What statistical test was used to produce the p-values."

# RESPONSE: This information was added to the relevant parts of the MS and table legends.

7. "Please revise the table of the essential supplies, reagents, and equipment. The table should include the name, company, and catalog number of all relevant materials in separate columns in an xls/xlsx file."

# RESPONSE: OK, thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, fax, or e-mail as per below regarding any issues. Your attention to our manuscript submission is greatly appreciated. I remain

Sincerely yours,

Steven C. Cunningham, MD, FACS

Director of Pancreatic and Hepatobiliary Surgery

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Pancreat Dis Int 2017;16(5):545-551)



Nam Nguyen <nam.nguyen@jove.com>

# Fwd: Permission to use published material

Kathleen Doyle <kathleen.doyle@jove.com> Thu, May 24, 2018 at 9:41 PM To: Nam Nguyen <nam.nguyen@jove.com> Hi Nam, Forwarded is a permission request. Best, Katie ----- Forwarded message ------From: Cunningham, Steven C. <Steven.Cunningham@ascension.org> Date: Thu, May 24, 2018 at 9:37 PM Subject: RE: Permission to use published material To: bjb <hbpdint@126.com> CC: Phillip Steindel <a href="mailto:specification-color: blue-review-en-line-color: blue-review-en-line-color: blue-color: bl <ronald.myers@jove.com> Dear Editor Lei: Thank you kindly for the permission to reproduce the figure in JoVE. Best regards, Steve From: bjb <hbpdint@126.com> Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 9:34 PM To: Cunningham, Steven C. <Steven.Cunningham@ascension.org> Subject: Re: Permission to use published material \*\*\* Attention: This is an external email. Use caution responding, opening attachments or clicking on links. \*\*\* Dear Prof. Steven C. Cunningham, Request for permission to reproduce copyright material

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Editor Lei

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Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 6:33 PM

Subject: Re: Permission to use published material

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Thank you kindly,

Steve cunningham

Steven Clark Cunningham, MD, FACS

StevenClarkCunningham.net

Sent from my mobile phone. Please excuse typos, etc.

From: Cunningham, Steven C.

Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2018 10:07:56 PM To: hbpdje@mail.hz.zj.cn; hbpdje@zju.edu.cn Subject: Permission to use published material

Dear Editors,

Publication in HBPD-INT of our article "Colonial Wig Pancreaticojejunostomy" has created interest and the journal JoVE has invited us to publish a video of the technique in their video journal. I am therefore writing to request permission to publish a modified version of the figure, and some of the text to accompany the video. Do you have a standard form for such a request?

Many kind thanks,

Steve

Steven Clark Cunningham, MD, FACS | Director of Pancreatic and Hepatobiliary Surgery | Director of Research | Saint Agnes Hospital and Cancer Institute | 900 Caton Avenue, MB 207 | Baltimore, MD, 21229 | 443-574-8500 clinical phone | 667-234-8815 academic phone | 410-719-0094 fax | 443-814-6773 cell | Steven.Cunningham@ascension.org | http://www.stevenclarkcunningham.net

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