

Stanford



Aaron J. Dawes, MD, PhD, FACS, FASCRS

Assistant Professor of Surgery (General Surgery)
Surgery - General Surgery

CLINICAL OFFICE (PRIMARY)

- **Stanford Clinical Cancer Center**

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Palo Alto, CA 94305

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ACADEMIC CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Administrative Assistant**

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Bio

BIO

Dr. Dawes is a board-certified, fellowship-trained colon and rectal surgeon. He is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, Division of General Surgery at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Dr. Dawes treats a wide variety of conditions involving the colon, rectum, and anus, always leveraging the latest evidence and technologies. He is fully trained in minimally invasive surgical techniques--including laparoscopic, robotic, and trans-anal minimally invasive surgery--and strives to employ them, whenever possible, in an effort to reduce pain and shorten recovery.

In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Dawes is a health services researcher, receiving his Ph.D. in Health Policy and Management from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. His research focuses on policy development, measurement, and evaluation for patients with colorectal conditions. He is particularly interested in using data to drive policy interventions aimed at reducing disparities in quality, access, and value.

Prior to joining Stanford, Dr. Dawes completed a residency in General Surgery at the University of California, Los Angeles followed by a fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the University of Minnesota. He has authored articles in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), Cancer, Diseases of the Colon and Rectum, Health Services Research, and JAMA Surgery. His work has also been featured in the Los Angeles Times, the Daily Press, and HealthDay News.

A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Dr. Dawes received his A.B. in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University and his M.D. from Vanderbilt University.

CLINICAL FOCUS

- Colon and Rectal Surgery Specialty
- Colon Cancer

- Rectal Cancer
- Inflammatory Bowel Diseases
- General Surgery

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor - University Medical Line, Surgery - General Surgery
- Member, Stanford Cancer Institute

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Robotic Surgery Committee, Stanford Health Care, (2020- present)
- Surgical Director, Stanford Medicine IBD-OMICs (Improving IBD Care through Multidisciplinary Care) Program, (2023- present)
- Director of Robotic Education, General Surgery Residency Program, (2024- present)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Chief Resident Teaching Award, Department of Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine (2024)
- Outstanding Community-Engaged Faculty Award, 22nd Annual Community Health Symposium at Stanford University (2024)
- Howard A. Reber Golden Scalpel Award for Most Outstanding Performance as Chief Resident, University of California, Los Angeles (2019)
- Dr. Ursula Mandel Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles (2015)
- Graduate Research Mentorship Award, University of California, Los Angeles (2015)
- Specialty Training and Advanced Research Award, University of California, Los Angeles (2014)
- Housestaff Quality Improvement Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles (2013)
- Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honors Society, Vanderbilt University (2011)
- School of Medicine Award of Distinction, Vanderbilt University (2011)
- Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps/Indian Health Service (2008)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Reviewer's Guild, Diseases of the Colon & Rectum (2019 - 2020)
- Fellow, American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (2018 - present)
- Member, AcademyHealth (2014 - present)
- Member, Surgical Outcomes Club (2013 - present)
- Fellow, American College of Surgeons (2010 - present)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Board Certification: Colon and Rectal Surgery, American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery (2021)
- Fellowship, University of Minnesota , Colon & Rectal Surgery (2020)
- Board Certification: General Surgery, American Board of Surgery (2019)
- Residency, University of California, Los Angeles , General Surgery (2019)
- PhD, Fielding UCLA School of Public Health , Health Policy and Management (2016)
- Internship, University of California, Los Angeles , General Surgery (2012)
- MD, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine , Medicine (2011)
- AB, Princeton University , Public and International Affairs (2006)

Research & Scholarship

CLINICAL TRIALS

- MeSenteric SpAring Versus High Ligation Ileocolic Resection for the Prevention of REcurrent Crohn's DiseaSe (SPARES), Recruiting
- Advocacy, Partnership, Outreach, and Yielding Optimized Care for Oncology Patients, Not Specified

Teaching

STANFORD ADVISEES

Med Scholar Project Advisor

Landon Bradshaw

Postdoctoral Faculty Sponsor

Maria Ruiz Gomez

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Reduced Medicaid Retroactive Eligibility and Out-of-Pocket Costs for Patients With Gastrointestinal Cancer.** *JAMA network open*
Dawes, A. J., Day, H. S., Staiger, B., Childers, C. P., Arnow, K. D., Baker, L. C., Wagner, T. H.
2026; 9 (5): e2612831
- **Robot-assisted excision of presacral ganglioneuroma: illustrative case.** *Journal of neurosurgery. Case lessons*
Hariharan, S., Sanker, V., Park, C., Frantziias, J., Cavagnaro, M. J., Dawes, A. J., Desai, A.
2026; 11 (17)
- **Robotic Extended Left Colectomy With Colorectal Anastomosis Via Retroileal Window.** *Diseases of the colon and rectum*
Ko, B., Dawes, A. J.
2026
- **Outcomes Among Patients With Colon Cancer Living in Neighborhoods With Persistent Poverty.** *JAMA network open*
Naar, L., Pohl, A. L., Morris, A. M., Dawes, A. J.
2026; 9 (1): e2551212
- **The effect of Medicaid expansion on time to treatment and survival in metastatic colorectal cancer: A statewide analysis.**
Bradshaw, L., Day, H. S., Adams, A. S., Dawes, A.
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2026: 48
- **"Quite Devastating, Traumatic, and Lonely": Understanding the Mental Health Experiences of Hispanic/Latino Rectal Cancer Patients and Their Caregivers.** *Cancer medicine*
Cosby, Z. N., Howland, J. P., Brown, E., Carpenter, L. K., Davis-Lopez, K. M., Kim, M. Y., Castañeda, P., Gonzalez, M., Hernandez, M. T., Duron, Y., Rodriguez, G. M., Zaky, S. S., Morris, et al
2025; 14 (18): e71253
- **"Interpreters don't tell you everything": experiences with medical interpretation among Latino cancer patients and caregivers with limited English proficiency.** *Supportive care in cancer : official journal of the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer*
Brown, E., Kim, M. Y., Cosby, Z. N., Howland, J. P., Carpenter, L., Castañeda, P., Gonzalez, M., Hernandez, M. T., Davis-Lopez, K. M., Duron, Y., Rodriguez, G. M., Zaky, S. S., Morris, et al
2025; 33 (7): 595
- **Phase II trial of organ preservation program using short-course radiation and FOLFOXIRI for rectal cancer (SHORT-FOX): Two-Year primary outcome analysis.** *Radiotherapy and oncology : journal of the European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology*
Klebaner, D., Brown, E., Fisher, G. A., Shelton, A., Johnson, T. P., Shaheen, S., Chen, C., Heestand, G., Holden, T., Bien, J., King, D. A., Dawes, A. J., Morris, et al
2025; 207: 110884

- **Perianal Fistulizing Crohn's Disease: Outcomes of Surgical Repairs and Current State of Stem Cell-Based Therapies.** *Clinics in colon and rectal surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Lightner, A. L.
2025; 38 (2): 126-140
- **A Summer Research Experience for First-Year Medical Students: The Research Foundation of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Diversity and Inclusion in Surgery - Colorectal Opportunity in Research (DISCOVeR) Program.** *Diseases of the colon and rectum*
Cooley, S., Rosamond, B., Wong, T., Kwayke, G., Harbaugh, C., Dawes, A. J., Morris, A. M., Lowry, A., Baran, K., Wick, E. C.
2025
- **Stoma Complications.** *Clinics in colon and rectal surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Gahagan, J. V.
2024; 37 (6): 387-397
- **Persistent Poverty Is an Independent Risk Factor for Poor Clinical Outcomes in Colorectal Cancer: A State-Wide Analysis of 28,978 Patients**
Naar, L., Dawes, A.
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2024: S248
- **Nonoperative Management for Rectal Cancer.** *Cancer journal (Sudbury, Mass.)*
Pollom, E. L., Sheth, V. R., Dawes, A. J., Holden, T.
2024; 30 (4): 238-244
- **Racial and ethnic disparities in access to total neoadjuvant therapy for rectal cancer.** *Surgery*
Chan, M., Rajasekar, G., Arnow, K. D., Wagner, T. H., Dawes, A. J.
2024
- **Phase II trial of organ preservation program using short-course radiation and FOLFOXIRI for rectal cancer (SHORT-FOX).**
Pollom, E. L., Fisher, G. A., Shelton, A., Johnson, T., Chen, C., Jackson, S., Shaheen, S., Holden, T., Bien, J., King, D., Morris, A. M., Kin, C., Dawes, et al
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2024
- **Perianal Fistulizing Crohn's Disease: Outcomes of Surgical Repairs and Current State of Stem Cell-Based Therapies** *CLINICS IN COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Lightner, A. L.
2024
- **Variance Decomposition of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Colon Cancer.** *JAMA surgery*
Rajasekar, G., Arnow, K. D., Dawes, A. J.
2024
- **Disparities in Access, Quality, and Clinical Outcome for Latino Californians with Colon Cancer.** *Annals of surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Rajasekar, G., Arnow, K. D., Trickey, A. W., Harris, A. H., Morris, A. M., Wagner, T. H.
2024
- **The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Hemorrhoids.** *Diseases of the colon and rectum*
Hawkins, A. T., Davis, B. R., Bhama, A. R., Fang, S. H., Dawes, A. J., Feingold, D. L., Lightner, A. L., Paquette, I. M.
2024
- **Stoma Complications** *CLINICS IN COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Gahagan, J. V.
2023
- **Reply.** *Diseases of the colon and rectum*
Dawes, A. J., Lowry, A. C., Jensen, C. C., Thorsen, A. J.
2023
- **Does Rectoanal Intussusception Limit Improvements in Clinical Outcome and Quality of Life after Sacral Nerve Stimulation for Fecal Incontinence?** *Diseases of the colon and rectum*
Dawes, A. J., Mariscal, J., White, P., Midura, E. F., Sirany, A. E., Lowry, A. C., Jensen, C. C., Thorsen, A. J.

2023

- **Using AI and computer vision to analyze technical proficiency in robotic surgery.** *Surgical endoscopy*
Yang, J. H., Goodman, E. D., Dawes, A. J., Gahagan, J. V., Esquivel, M. M., Liebert, C. A., Kin, C., Yeung, S., Gurland, B. H.
2022
- **Surgical Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease.** *Rhode Island medical journal (2013)*
Anto, V. P., Dawes, A. J., Vrees, M., Watson, A. R., Lightner, A. L.
2022; 105 (10): 25-30
- **Phase II trial of organ preservation program using short-course radiation and folfoxiri for rectal cancer (SHORT-FOX)**
Pollom, E. L., Shelton, A., Fisher, G. A., Bien, J., King, D., Johnson, T., Chen, C., Shaheen, S., Chong, C., Vitzthum, L., Kirilcuk, N., Morris, A. M., Kin, et al
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2022
- **Out-of-Pocket Costs Among Patients With a New Cancer Diagnosis Enrolled in High-Deductible Health Plans vs Traditional Insurance.** *JAMA network open*
Fu, S. J., Rose, L., Dawes, A. J., Knowlton, L. M., Ruddy, K. J., Morris, A. M.
1800; 4 (12): e2134282
- **Mobile health technology for remote home monitoring after surgery: a meta-analysis.** *The British journal of surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Lin, A. Y., Varghese, C., Russell, M. M., Lin, A. Y.
2021
- **The Association Between Risk Aversion of Surgeons and Their Clinical Decision-Making.** *The Journal of surgical research*
Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Tsugawa, Y., Brook, R. H., Russell, M. M., Ko, C. Y., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Ettner, S. L.
2021; 268: 232-243
- **Rectovaginal Fistulas Secondary to Obstetrical Injury.** *Clinics in colon and rectal surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Jensen, C. C.
2021; 34 (1): 28-39
- **Rectovaginal Fistulas Secondary to Obstetrical Injury** *CLINICS IN COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Jensen, C. C.
2020
- **Assessing Knowledge and Perceptions of Colorectal Cancer Screening in Armenia.** *The Journal of surgical research*
Torosian, T., Abrami, E. A., Massoumi, R. L., Harutyunyan, N. M., Dallakyan, G., Hovhannisyan, H., Hovhannisyan, M., Dawes, A. J., Aboulian, A., Shekherdimian, S.
2020; 257: 616–24
- **Operative Incision and Drainage for Perirectal Abscesses: What Are Risk Factors for Prolonged Length of Stay, Reoperation, and Readmission?** *DISEASES OF THE COLON & RECTUM*
Sho, S., Dawes, A. J., Chen, F. C., Russell, M. M., Kwaan, M. R.
2020; 63 (8): 1127–33
- **Injury-specific variables improve risk adjustment and hospital quality assessment in severe traumatic brain injury** *JOURNAL OF TRAUMA AND ACUTE CARE SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Sacks, G. D., Needleman, J., Brook, R. H., Mittman, B. S., Ko, C. Y., Cryer, H., Marin, C., Petrik, P., Schneider, L., Hinika, G., Cleek, E., Upperman, et al
2019; 87 (2): 386–92
- **Rescue Diverting Loop Ileostomy: An Alternative to Emergent Colectomy in the Setting of Severe Acute Refractory IBD-Colitis**
Russell, T. A., Dawes, A. J., Graham, D. S., Angarita, S. A. K., Ha, C., Sack, J.
LIPPINCOTT WILLIAMS & WILKINS.2018: 214–20
- **Corrected vs Uncorrected Obesity in Childbearing Women-What Really Drives Fetal Risks** *JAMA SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Dawes, D. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M.
2017; 152 (2): 135
- **Same-Day Discharge in Laparoscopic Acute Non-Perforated Appendectomy** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS*

- Scott, A., Shekherdimian, S., Rouch, J. D., Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Lui, W. Y., Bridges, L., Heisler, T., Crain, S. R., Cheung, M. W., Aboulian, A. 2017; 224 (1): 43–48
- **The cost-effectiveness of nonoperative management versus laparoscopic appendectomy for the treatment of acute, uncomplicated appendicitis in children.** *Journal of pediatric surgery*
Wu, J. X., Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., DeUgarte, D. n., Lee, S. L.
2017; 52 (7): 1135–40
 - **Patient Outcomes at Urban and Suburban Level I Versus Level II Trauma Centers.** *Annals of emergency medicine*
Kaji, A. H., Bosson, N. n., Gausche-Hill, M. n., Dawes, A. J., Putnam, B. n., Shepherd, T. n., Lewis, R. J.
2017; 70 (2): 161–68
 - **Attitudes Toward Morbidity and Mortality Conferences Among Medical and Surgical Pediatric Specialists in Armenia.** *JAMA surgery*
Rouch, J. D., Dawes, A. J., Garber, K. n., Sukhudyan, B. n., Shekherdimian, S. n.
2017; 152 (12): 1178–80
 - **Perineural bupivacaine injection reduces inguinodynia after inguinal hernia repair**
Crompton, J. G., Dawes, A. J., Donald, G. W., Livhits, M. J., Chandler, C. F.
MOSBY-ELSEVIER.2016: 1528–32
 - **Surgeon Perception of Risk and Benefit in the Decision to Operate** *ANNALS OF SURGERY*
Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Ettner, S. L., Brook, R. H., Fox, C. R., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Ko, C. Y., Russell, M. M.
2016; 264 (6): 896–903
 - **Measuring the Quality of Care for Patients With Traumatic Brain Injury Reply** *JAMA SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Cryer, H.
2016; 151 (3): 295
 - **Variation in Hospital Use of Postacute Care After Surgery and the Association With Care Quality** *MEDICAL CARE*
Sacks, G. D., Lawson, E. H., Dawes, A. J., Weiss, R. E., Russell, M. M., Brook, R. H., Zingmond, D. S., Ko, C. Y.
2016; 54 (2): 172–79
 - **Impact of a Risk Calculator on Risk Perception and Surgical Decision Making: A Randomized Trial.** *Annals of surgery*
Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Ettner, S. L., Brook, R. H., Fox, C. R., Russell, M. M., Ko, C. Y., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n.
2016; 264 (6): 889–95
 - **Mental Health Conditions Among Patients Seeking and Undergoing Bariatric Surgery: A Meta-analysis.** *JAMA*
Dawes, A. J., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n., Maher, A. R., Booth, M. J., Miake-Lye, I. n., Beroes, J. M., Shekelle, P. G.
2016; 315 (2): 150–63
 - **Reply to The long and winding road in cancer survivorship care.** *Cancer*
Dawes, A. J., Maggard-Gibbons, M.
2015; 121 (20): 3750
 - **Compliance With Evidence-Based Guidelines and Interhospital Variation in Mortality for Patients With Severe Traumatic Brain Injury** *JAMA SURGERY*
Dawes, A. J., Sacks, G. D., Cryer, H., Gruen, J., Preston, C., Gorospe, D., Cohen, M., McArthur, D. L., Russell, M. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Ko, C. Y., Los Angeles Cty Trauma Consortium
2015; 150 (10): 965–72
 - **Relationship Between Hospital Performance on a Patient Satisfaction Survey and Surgical Quality** *JAMA SURGERY*
Sacks, G. D., Lawson, E. H., Dawes, A. J., Russell, M. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Zingmond, D. S., Ko, C. Y.
2015; 150 (9): 858–64
 - **Wrong-Site Surgery, Retained Surgical Items, and Surgical Fires A Systematic Review of Surgical Never Events** *JAMA SURGERY*
Hempel, S., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Nguyen, D. K., Dawes, A. J., Miake-Lye, I., Beroes, J. M., Booth, M. J., Miles, J. N. V., Shanman, R., Shekelle, P. G.
2015; 150 (8): 796–805
 - **Teamwork, communication and safety climate: a systematic review of interventions to improve surgical culture** *BMJ QUALITY & SAFETY*
Sacks, G. D., Shannon, E. M., Dawes, A. J., Rollo, J. C., Nguyen, D. K., Russell, M. M., Ko, C. Y., Maggard-Gibbons, M. A.

2015; 24 (7): 458–67

- **Which Patients Require More Care after Hospital Discharge? An Analysis of Post-Acute Care Use among Elderly Patients Undergoing Elective Surgery** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS*
Sacks, G. D., Lawson, E. H., Dawes, A. J., Gibbons, M. M., Zingmond, D. S., Ko, C. Y.
2015; 220 (6): 1113–U198
- **Clinical registries and quality measurement in surgery: A systematic review** *SURGERY*
Stey, A. M., Russell, M. M., Ko, C. Y., Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Gibbons, M. M.
2015; 157 (2): 381–95
- **Are primary care providers prepared to care for survivors of breast cancer in the safety net?** *Cancer*
Dawes, A. J., Hemmelgarn, M. n., Nguyen, D. K., Sacks, G. D., Clayton, S. M., Cope, J. R., Ganz, P. A., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n.
2015; 121 (8): 1249–56
- **Intracranial pressure monitoring and inpatient mortality in severe traumatic brain injury: A propensity score-matched analysis.** *The journal of trauma and acute care surgery*
Dawes, A. J., Sacks, G. D., Cryer, H. G., Gruen, J. P., Preston, C. n., Gorospe, D. n., Cohen, M. n., McArthur, D. L., Russell, M. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n., Ko, C. Y.
2015; 78 (3): 492–501; discussion 501–02
- **Bariatric surgery is associated with improved long-term survival in severely obese US veterans.** *Evidence-based medicine*
Maggard-Gibbons, M. n., Dawes, A. J.
2015; 20 (4): 148
- **Cost effectiveness of nonoperative management versus laparoscopic appendectomy for acute uncomplicated appendicitis.** *Surgery*
Wu, J. X., Dawes, A. J., Sacks, G. D., Brunnicardi, F. C., Keeler, E. B.
2015; 158 (3): 712–21
- **The Role of Surgery in the Clinical Management of Primary Gastrointestinal Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.** *The American surgeon*
MacQueen, I. T., Shannon, E. M., Dawes, A. J., Ostrzega, N. n., Russell, M. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n.
2015; 81 (10): 988–94
- **Wireless Technology to Track Surgical Patients after Discharge: A Pilot Study.** *The American surgeon*
Dawes, A. J., Reardon, S. n., Chen, V. L., Kaiser, W. n., Russell, M. M., Ko, C. Y., Lin, A. Y.
2015; 81 (10): 1061–66
- **Use of a Hospital-Wide Screening Program for Early Detection of Sepsis in General Surgery Patients.** *The American surgeon*
MacQueen, I. T., Dawes, A. J., Hadnott, T. n., Strength, K. n., Moran, G. J., Holschneider, C. n., Russell, M. M., Maggard-Gibbons, M. n.
2015; 81 (10): 1074–79
- **The Impact of Continuous Medicaid Enrollment on Diagnosis, Treatment, and Survival in Six Surgical Cancers** *HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH*
Dawes, A. J., Louie, R., Nguyen, D. K., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Parikh, P., Ettner, S. L., Ko, C. Y., Zingmond, D. S.
2014; 49 (6): 1787–1811
- **Preventable Readmissions to Surgical Services: Lessons Learned and Targets for Improvement** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS*
Dawes, A. J., Sacks, G. D., Russell, M. M., Lin, A. Y., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Winograd, D., Chung, H. R., Tillou, A., Hiatt, J. R., Ko, C.
2014; 219 (3): 382–89
- **Evaluation of Hospital Readmissions in Surgical Patients Do Administrative Data Tell the Real Story?** *JAMA SURGERY*
Sacks, G. D., Dawes, A. J., Russell, M. M., Lin, A. Y., Maggard-Gibbons, M., Winograd, D., Chung, H. R., Tomlinson, J., Tillou, A., Shew, S. B., Hiyama, D. T., Cryer, H. G., Brunnicardi, et al
2014; 149 (8): 759-764
- **Existing general population models inaccurately predict lung cancer risk in patients referred for surgical evaluation.** *The Annals of thoracic surgery*
Isbell, J. M., Deppen, S., Putnam, J. B., Nesbitt, J. C., Lambright, E. S., Dawes, A., Massion, P. P., Speroff, T., Jones, D. R., Grogan, E. L.
2011; 91 (1): 227-33; discussion 233