



# Distinguished Alumnus

Mark S. Persky, MD '72, FACS

**M**ark S. Persky, MD '72 is a recognized expert in head and neck surgery with special interest and expertise in the treatment of tumors of the head, neck, skull base, and thyroid gland as well as congenital vascular malformations and hemangiomas. He is professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at the New York University (NYU) Grossman School of Medicine and past director of the Head and Neck Center at NYU Langone Medical Center.

A Brooklyn native, Dr. Persky received his bachelor's degree from New York University. He came to Upstate Medical University to pursue his medical degree, intent on becoming a surgeon. It was during his surgical internship at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx that he became fascinated with head and neck anatomy. He completed an otolaryngology residency at New York University Medical Center and a Head and Neck Surgical Fellowship at Beth Israel Medical Center. After completion of his training, he joined NYU Medical Center as a head and neck surgeon, rising through the ranks to become a professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery and to serve as vice-chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the New York University School of Medicine from 1994-1998.

**BACHELOR'S IN BIOLOGY**  
New York University

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**SURGICAL INTERNSHIP**  
Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center

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**RESIDENT IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY**  
New York University  
Bellevue Hospital Center

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**FELLOWSHIP IN HEAD AND NECK SURGERY**  
Beth Israel Medical Center

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In 1998, Persky was recruited to Beth Israel Hospital to focus on vascular tumors and head and neck malignant tumor surgery. From 2005 through 2014, he served as chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Beth Israel Medical Center, as otolaryngologist-in-chief of the Continuum Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Service Line and was a professor of otorhinolaryngology-head and neck surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He also served as associate director of

the Continuum Cancer Center and was co-director of the Institute for Head and Neck Cancer at Beth Israel Medical Center.

Persky returned to NYU Medical Center in 2014, where he continues to perform head and neck surgery, developing research protocols, and mentoring medical students, residents, and junior faculty.

Persky has published and lectured extensively. He is a member of the American Laryngological Association, the American Head and Neck Society, the American Bronchoesophagological Society, the North American Skull Base Society, and past president of both the New York Head and Neck Society, and the New York Laryngological Society. He is also past president of the American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otolological Society (known as the Triological Society), the most well-respected society within otolaryngology, requiring submission of original research for committee review for membership. He presently serves as assistant executive vice-president of the organization.

Persky has been recognized with the Honor Award from the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, the Presidential Citation from the Triological Society, the Peter H. Schindler, MD Memorial Award from the New York Eye and



**Dr. Persky (front right) with his family**

Ear Infirmary, the Noel L. Cohen MD Award for Excellence in Teaching from NYU School of Medicine, and the 2019 Practitioner Excellence Award from American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

A longtime member of the Upstate Medical Alumni Foundation Board, Persky established a scholarship in memory of A. Geno Andreatta, former College of Medicine Dean of Admissions and administrator.

Persky lives in Bedford, NY, with his wife, Georgia. Between

them, they have five children and eight grandchildren. "You can't be healthy and happy without the emotional support of your family," he says. "Considering how much time I've devoted to medicine and surgery, my family has been extraordinarily supportive and understanding. I'm happy in what I'm doing because of their support and for the opportunity to mentor residents and to see them forward the field of otolaryngology."