



Pediatric Crier

Department of Pediatrics Newsletter

<http://www.upstate.edu/gch/academics/newsletter.php>

“A three-peat and a newbie!”



This extremely exciting newflash was plagiarized from the announcement email sent out by Dr. Nelsen on February 2nd after receiving a string of notices from the ACGME:

“We received notification today from ACGME that the residency program, peds ID, and child abuse peds fellowships all received continuing accreditation. For the residency program this marks our 84th year of continuous accreditation.

We also received notice that the pediatric hospitalist fellowship received its initial accreditation during the ACGME’s most recent review. Congrats to Jen and your team!

I am proud to work in a place that prioritizes excellent patient care hand in hand with superior resident and fellow training. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication!” – Dr. Beth Nelsen

Dr. Connors elaborated on the new hospitalist fellow’s exciting startup of: “... our new fellowship program in Pediatric Hospital Medicine, under Program Director Dr. Jennifer Myszewski and Associate Director Dr. Nusrat Zaman! Note that this is a two-year program, which will lead to PHM sub-board eligibility. Since the approval came after this year’s fellowship Match, we will have plenty of time to prepare for our first PHM fellow.”

And here is the feature film documenting the residency program’s continuing accreditation.

Official Accreditation Announcement

<https://youtu.be/POdyCAu2hu8>

Dr. Nelsen will not be giving autographs at this time. Media requests should be directed to the Pediatric Crier.

Above and Beyond the Doctorate

We are extremely pleased to announce that our very own Rohan Akhouri was selected among residents and fellows hospital-wide to be one of the presenters at the 2021 GME Beyond the Doctorate Research Day. And as if that’s not exciting enough, we then learned that out

of 28 posters accepted hospital-wide, 11 of them were submitted by peds residents as first authors. This includes Vaishali Adlakha, Sophie Duron, Veena Gopolakrishan, Richard Johnson, Aarani Kandeepan, Dean Karahalios, Carlee Lenehan, Laura Mejia-Connolly, Jean Meneses, Asmita Sharma, and Holly Stacey. Nara Cho and Billy Hall were also authors on Deans poster. So, this is going to be an all-star cast at the virtual event coming up next week. The event will be held on March 3rd from 1:00 - 4:00pm on ZOOM followed by the Virtual Poster Session from 4:00-5:30PM on Remo, an interactive virtual platform. You can hear Rohan’s presentation from 2:15-2:30 on “Pediatric Rapid Response Team (RRT) Choreography and Outcomes after Establishing Roles and Responsibilities” The links will be available on March 3rd on the postdoc website:

https://www.upstate.edu/postdoc/postdoc_life/beyond-doctorate-research-day/event-details.php

The flyer with more details is attached. The poster session is from 4:00 – 5:30 PM following the presentations. This will happen through a Remo link also available on the website on 3/3. Congratulations to each of our residents who were accepted this year! We are so proud of you all!

NatJoe!



Our very own Dr. Joe Domachowski was referenced in the latest issue of National Geographic. In an article entitled, “Why kids need their own COVID-19 vaccine trials” he was quoted because of his current research here at Upstate and for supervising pediatric trials for Pfizer-BioNTech. He stated, “Because children’s immune systems develop over time, evaluating COVID-19 vaccines in younger children will require a new strategy altogether to see if they need a different formulation or dosage...Children are most certainly not just small adults,” he says. “Although children reach adult-like levels of immunity by age six, that pace differs from child to child based on genetics and environment...” You can read the full article at:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/why-kids-need-their-own-covid-19-vaccine-trials>

Kontos Cary Care!



Congratulations to our very own Child Life Specialist Jamie Cary who was one of only two individuals nationwide to

receive the Mary M. Kontos Care Champion Award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC) in October 2020. “Jamie is the first CCLS to receive the Kontos award, and this honor from the CF Foundation helps bring awareness about how Child Life Specialists can help patients who are coping with chronic disease,” said Christopher Fortner, MD, PhD.

In an exclusive interview with the Crier, Jamie responded to this great honor: “I was humbled when chosen for the Mary M. Kontos Care Champion Award this year at the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference in October 2020. In addition, it is also an honor to be the first child life specialist chosen for this award. I’m told that the woman this award was named after was a woman who was energetic and had limitless enthusiasm. In addition, she was a champion and advocate when she saw projects of importance and value. I tell you this because to be honored this way is just as important as the person the award is named after.

What did I do deserve this recognition? I can’t pinpoint it to one thing. When I started, the position was only going to be for a year. Eleven years later, we have developed a child life program in the CF Center and the psychosocial team is thriving! Over the last 11 years, I’ve had the privilege to be part of task force work at the national level, speak at our annual conference, and learn how to lead quality improvement. In addition to these opportunities, I get to support children and families to be successful and have CF with a team of others who want the same outcome for our patients...’add tomorrows today’.”

BERT Is Live



The Crier was informed that the GCH BERT team is live! And we have the full story for those who may not be acquainted with Bert thanks to

Jennifer Rapke, PsyD

The Behavior Escalation Response Team (BERT) is a multidisciplinary team that currently consists of psychologists and nurse practitioners. BERT's goal is to 1) prevent staff and patient injury and 2) decrease the level of intervention required during an escalating behavioral event. Staff are encouraged to call a BERT code for patients in UGCH and the Pediatric ED who appear to be demonstrating EARLY signs of behavioral distress, such as pacing, breathing heavy, intense facial expressions, or sudden withdrawal from interaction. Depending on the patient, any sudden change in behavior might indicate distress. The Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) can also be a great source of information for understanding an individual patient's triggers and warning signs for behavioral escalation, as well as prevention and intervention strategies.

BERT is in the pilot phase of development and the hope is that it will eventually include staff from a wider variety of disciplines. The current primary providers are Dr. Rapke, Dr. Reagan (on maternity leave), Kelly Winchell NP and Chris Lopez NP. This team is available from 8 am – 4 pm on weekdays, but again the hope is to be more widely available in the future. Outside of these hours, behavioral emergencies will still be handled by Pediatrics and/or Psychiatry on-call. A BERT code is activated by recording an urgent message to BERT on Vocera that includes the unit, room number, and level of emergency (Urgent or Emergent). Once a BERT provider arrives, they take responsibility for running the code or identifying the person best suited to run the code in that circumstance.

The Pediatric Gold Standard Winners

Once again, the Peds Faculty were well represented in this year's Gold Standard Awards. Congratulations to Drs. Steve Blatt, Jenica O'Malley, and Jana Shaw for being our 2021 Gold Standard Award Winners. They will be honored at a virtual

Celebration of the Faculty, to be held on April 20th at 5pm.

Welcome Baby William

This announcement is admittedly a little late but we warmly welcome Baby William Lodge who made an early arrival in January. Dr. Paulsen told the Crier, "William came about 2 months early on January 10th and weighing a strong 2.5lbs. He is currently hanging out in the NICU learning how to feed. We are completely in love and can't wait to take him home. hung out for a while in the NICU before heading home."



(William waving from the NICU)
He is beautiful! Congratulations Elizabeth!

Engaged!

Congratulations to Jina Patel who accepted Maneesh Bison's proposal (and ring) and became officially engaged on February 8th. Wedding plans TBD!



Where Are They Now?

The Crier recently heard from our former resident and chief resident (2012-2016) Vanessa Orrego. Her husband Marcus was an anesthesia resident at Upstate at the same time. They are now living in Vancouver and their son Oscar arrived in July 2019. Vanessa tells the Crier that Baby #2 is arriving in May so stay tuned for a family update soon!



Work Room Art!

In case you missed it, there is a new display on the wall in the resident work room featuring pictures of each of the interns, when not at work! Thank you to Simi and Rida for

bringing some fun and color to the work room! It is also a reminder that there truly is life beyond residency.



Child Life Month Theme Days!

March is National Child Life month and our Child Life team will be celebrating in special ways throughout the month. But all of us are invited to participate in their weekly Wednesday theme days:

March 3 – Superhero Day

March 10 – Favorite Sports Team Day

March 17 – Wear Green Day!

March 24 – GCH Shirt Day

March 31 – Crayon Day (wear your favorite color)

You can help show your support for our awesome Child Life team and have fun at the same time by joining in the fun!

Best Place to Work!

Dr. Connors shared the following article from Forbes Magazine entitled, "Meet America's Best Large Employers 2021" where Upstate was listed as #35 in best large employers nationally on a list of 500 businesses.

<https://www.forbes.com/best-large-employers/#15e5bac6fb3e>

Photo Caption Contest:



Last month we featured the following picture and asked if our readers could come up with an appropriate caption. We would have to classify Dr. Sima's entry as more of an inappropriate caption.

"Yes, my shirt is amazing but you should see my Andrake underwear." – Dr. Jody Sima

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/6 Melanie Comito

3/16 Jennifer Zuccaro

3/22 Anam Farooqui

3/24 Tyler Colangelo

3/25 Ann Botash

3/27 Reena Ray Garg

3/29 Matt Meuser-Herr

3/31 Lizzy Simmerman