



Welcome Dr. Abdelrahman Elsayed

The Division of PHM is pleased to welcome the newest member of their team, Abdelrahman Elsayed, MBCh who started on October 1st. And the Crier is pleased to be able to share this exclusive interview:

My name is Abdelrahman, and I'm originally from Egypt. I had the privilege of attending medical school at Suez Canal University, nestled in a small, nice city by the Suez Canal. It was there that my journey in pediatrics began. I later completed my pediatric training at Sidra Hospital in Qatar, where I lucky to care for children in a truly multicultural environment. The diversity of cases and cultures taught me so much, both professionally and personally, and I cherish that experience deeply.

Afterward, I made the decision to come to the United States, where I spent three years in Ohio during my residency. Toledo became a special place for me—its family-friendly atmosphere, beautiful parks, and kind community made it feel like home. It's where I learned not just to practice medicine in a new system, but also where my family and I made unforgettable memories.

I feel incredibly fortunate that my wife was matched at SUNY, allowing us to move together to Syracuse with our daughter, Salma. This new chapter is one I'm particularly excited about. Joining the pediatric hospitalist group feels like the perfect opportunity to make a meaningful impact, and I am deeply committed to supporting and helping the pediatric community here in Syracuse.



Pediatric Fall Party

The Department of Pediatrics hosted a celebration for the pediatric residency program officially getting off probation on Sunday, October 13th, from 3:00-7:00pm at Meier's Creek Brewing Company in Cazenovia. The three program directors were surprised with gift certificates, presented by Dr. Caitlin Deluca, for all their hard work in getting our program completely off probation.



L-R: Christopher Tanski, Tamer Ahmed, Richard Johnson, Greg Goldstein and Jen Zuccaro

Experiencing the AAP

The 2024 AAP Experience National Conference was held in Orlando from 9/27-10/2. We were once again well represented. Pictured are Tanmai Shah and Chetana Pasam who were there presenting their posters, and our Associate AAP Rep, Pranjali Muppidi representing the Peds Residents.



L-R: my co fellow Suresh, Raya Safa (2013), and Richard.

Also at ELSO

Several members of the faculty participated in the 35th Annual ELSO (Extracorporeal Life Support Organization) Conference in Detroit in September. But it wasn't the faculty who shared pictures with the Crier. It was lovely to hear from former resident and embedded reporter Richard Johnson (2022) who shared the following:

"I ran into some familiar faces at ELSO, held in Detroit this weekend. Happy to share some snaps of said run ins. It was really a pleasure seeing these folks again and having the chance to catch up and show them around Detroit."

PEAS and Thank you!

Don't miss this year's exciting Pediatric Patient Experience Awards (PEAs) to honor the Upstate staff members who go above and beyond to care for our patients. You are all invited to be there for the ceremony on Tuesday, November 12th at 12pm in the Kinney Performance Center. Light refreshments will be served.



A Hole Lot of Good!

Several of our faculty participated in the Camp Good Days Golf Tournament. Our Department did a hole sponsorship. As Dr. Meyers explained, "It's contributions like yours that make these events possible to raise money for such a special cause for our kids. Thanks again."



The GCH Welcomes Kali Kearns

The GCH announced that it has named Kali Kearns, MHA, as administrator of Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital. Ms. Kearns has played key roles in project management, operations, and strategic planning at two of the nation's leading medical institutions, including Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital. She earned her undergraduate degree from Syracuse University and a master's degree in health administration from George Washington University. Kearns grew up in Central New York and is excited to be back to help advance care for children in the community.



<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2024/2024-10-02-ugch.php>

The Pavilion

Upstate Online announced the October 18th opening of its new Biobehavioral Health Unit on Madison Street to care for children with mental health needs and developmental disabilities. It is the first and only such program for children with mental health needs and developmental disabilities in New York State and one of only few in the nation.



They anticipate the first patients will be start being admitted in early November. See their full article:

<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2024/2024-10-18-bbhu.php>

CNY Central also did an outstanding report on the new center which provides 11 beds for kids aged five to 17 years old, starring our very own Dr. Hank Roane:

<https://cnycentral.com/news/local/upstate-to-open-nys-only-care-unit-for-children-with-developmental-disorders-in-syracuse>

Congratulations on Retirement



Congratulations to Karen Dygert, NP who is retiring after many years of caring for the kids of CNY through work in our Advanced Practice Services Clinic here at Upstate. She

was honored at a retirement reception on October 29th. Chris Lopez shared the following: "Karen graduated from Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in 1991, she completed her master's degree as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in 2000 and obtained Post-Masters certificates in Nursing Education in 2002 and Mental Health in 2009. Prior to joining UPAC in 2007, she worked at Summerwood Pediatrics, Family Ties Network, the VNA (now Nascentia) and Crouse Hospital.

She started in ENHANCE and expanded to general pediatrics and integrated behavioral health. She has been the driving force behind the successful implementation of a true integrated behavioral health program at UPAC and Upstate Peds. We will continue to see her in a per diem role." We all wish Karen the very best!

Plenty In-Store for the GCH

Upstate Online noted that over local retailers in over 400 locations have partnered with the GCH and the community to raise funds and awareness for the needs of the Children's Hospital. You can read more at:

<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2024/2024-10-10-retail.php>

Interview Stats

The official interview process starts on October 31st with the Thursday night virtual resident social hour followed by the first full morning of interviews on Friday, November 1st. The Program Leadership is so thankful for all of the faculty and residents who signed up to help. As we go to print, we have 162 (out of 200) interviews scheduled with another round of invitations going out next week.

Thank you again to everyone who is making this new interview season possible and no doubt successful!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/1 Irene Cherrick
- 11/5 Christopher Justinich
- 11/8 Joe D., Manika S.
- 11/9 Sara Taha, Nus Zaman
- 11/10 Lucia Janovicova
- 11/18 Rasika Baraskar
- 11/26 Elizabeth Lodge
- 11/27 Maxence Gilles, Deepa Thomas