A Message from the Chair

I know I am not alone in feeling shock that summer is here. Long hot days and the rain storms of the last few weeks confirm the date on the calendar! Although I am not so pleased with Tampa Bay’s summer weather, I am excited by all the transitions this month brings. This weekend we say goodbye to our third and fourth year peds and med-peds residents and fellows in neonatology, allergy/immunology and endocrinology. I hope that they all realize how thankful we are for all of the hard work and long hours they have put in—and for choosing USF Pediatrics as their training location. It has been a pleasure to work with them. I hope that they will remain in touch; they will always be part of our family.

I am also very thankful for several new research awards this month—Dr. Carol Lily and the Early Steps Team received notice that they were awarded a competitive renewal of their Early Intervention contract from the Department of Health. This $4 million award provides needed services for young children in our region who have special developmental needs. I know that her entire team is celebrating this award with gratitude and relief. We have also two new funded investigators this month: Dr. Adam Lewin was awarded a grant from the International Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Foundation for his study entitled “Stepped Care CBT for Pediatric OCD” and Janet Sullivan, AuD, Kelly Teegarten, MS, and Sheri Eisert, PhD were awarded a $75,000 grant from the Oberkotter Foundation for their project entitled Decreasing Delays for Early Intervention in Neonatal Intensive Care Patients with Hearing Impairment. The impressive list of research projects presented at the PAS Meetings in Washington DC last month provides further confirmation of the dedication of our faculty and trainees to scholarly activity in pediatrics. Congratulations to all of our hard working faculty and their teams!

Finally, we have another important transition with 18 new interns arriving this week. Please join me in welcoming our new interns to USF on Saturday evening June 29th. Happy Summer!

Patricia J. Emmanuel, M.D.
Chair, Department of Pediatrics

Pediatric Research News

Investigator: Laura Weathers, MD Title: Growth and Tolerance of Young Infants Fed Infant Formulas. Sponsor: Abbott Nutrition
Each month we feature Pediatrics investigators and their research. Please submit ideas to pedicom@health.usf.edu

**Tanya Murphy, MD** is the Director of the Rothman Center for Pediatric Neuropsychiatry, and holds the Maurice A. and Thelma P. Rothman Endowed Chair in Developmental Pediatrics with a joint appointment in the Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Murphy is board-certified in psychiatry and child psychiatry and has a master’s degree in clinical investigation. She has received numerous past grants as a PI and Co-PI, and has extensive experience in designing and coordinating studies for childhood obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), various other anxiety disorders, Tourette syndrome, tic disorders, pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcus (PANDAS)/pediatric acute neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS), and autism spectrum disorders. Dr. Murphy has published more than 170 peer-reviewed papers and over 25 book chapters.

Dr. Murphy’s current research efforts are aimed at understanding the role of infections and immune function in the onset of childhood psychiatric disorders as well as pharmacological and psychological treatments for Tourette syndrome and OCD. Dr. Murphy has received several foundation and federal grants within the research focus of tic disorders and OCD, including a current study assessing antibiotic treatment and biological markers in youth with PANDAS/PANS. Within the past month, Dr. Murphy has been invited to speak at the PANS/PANDAS Expert Consensus Conference at Stanford University, and is working on a multi-site collaboration to study the role of the microbiome in children with neuropsychiatric disorders.

**Kudos**

**Sharon Funches** and **Carly Stevens** were named Medical Assistant of the Month. Sharon, a very skilled MA, displays strong leadership skills and she receives numerous compliments from providers for her exceptional patient care. Carly served for five years as a U.S. Navy Corpsman, and is a highly trained MA and a team player who provides exceptional customer service.

**Dr. Sharon Dabrow** has been re-appointed as a member of the AAP’s national Committee on Residency Scholarship for a two year period.

**Drs. Rich Lion** (PGY3), **Krista Kohout** (PGY2), **Philip Matar** (PGY2), **Laura Levitt** (PGY2), **Luis Maldonado**, and **Jennifer Takagishi** were all mentioned by families as giving very good care in the Press Ganey survey at HealthPark.

**Drs. Lana Soylu** and **Panida Sriaroon** were accepted as participants in the American Association of Medical College’s Early Career Women Professional Development Seminar, to be held in Colorado in July.
Publications


Dr. Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann is an author on a paper entitled: Genetic variants in toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2), TLR4, TLR9 and FCg receptor II are associated with antibody response to quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine in HIV-infected youth. Clin Vaccine Immunol 20(6):900-6, 2013.

Presentations

Mingda Han, Lifeng Zhang, Rosana Lastra, and Kersti Linask presented an abstract entitled: Folate Prevents Abnormal Cardiogenesis by Protecting Numerous Metabolic Pathways: Effects on Lipid Metabolism at the annual Weinstein Conference on Cardiovascular Development held in Tuscon, AZ in May.

Carla Duff, CPNP, MSN, CCRP, presented Lives in Motion: SCIG Therapy at the Infusion Nurses Society Annual Meeting held in Charlotte, NC in May.

Dr. John Sleasman presented Common Sense Approaches to the Diagnosis and Management of Immunodeficiency, and served on the Immunodeficiencies in Kids and Adults panel at the Nasal Disorders Symposium in Pittsburgh in May.

Happenings

Faculty and staff of the Infectious Diseases Division participated in the 5th Annual Derby Day for the Children’s AIDS Foundation (CAF). This group provides support to children living with or affected by AIDS who are part of the USF Infectious Diseases Program. CAF has provided a broad range of support for these children, including bus passes, medical care co-pays, funeral expenses, laptops and college registration fees. CAF also provides transportation and supplies for children to attend Boggy Creek Camp, which is a year-round camp serving seriously ill children throughout Florida.
**Happenings Continued**

Faculty and staff from the Division of Pediatric Neuropsychiatry attended a fundraiser/outreach program in Lakeland for Tourette Syndrome.

**The 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting**

USF Pediatrics was well represented at this year’s annual PAS meeting, which was held in Washington DC in May:

Eleven Pediatric faculty and trainees made presentations: **Drs. Aswani, Dabrow, Fant, Flores-Torres, Knox, Kumar, Luciano, Rodriguez, Sochet, Takagishi and Weathers.** The titles of their presentations appear at the end of the newsletter.

PAS attendees also attended the “Reception with Your Florida Colleagues” which was co-hosted by Dr. Emmanuel, other Florida Pediatric Chairs and the AAP Florida Chapter President.

Several faculty and trainees participated in the second annual *Run for Pediatric Research*. Proceeds from this 5K event support young scientists aiming to improve children’s health outcomes.

**Residency News**

Congratulations to **Dr. Fateema Turay**, PL3 and **Dr. Erin Wright** PL2 on being elected Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for the 2013/14 Florida AAP Resident Section.

**Dr. Jon Chan** has been elected BRIDGE resident of the year for 2013. Jon takes time from his busy life as an exemplary resident to give back, help those in need, and mentor medical students at the BRIDGE clinic. Congratulations, Jon!

**Dr. Paibel Aguayo-Hiraldo** was selected as May’s TGH Resident of the Month for Internal Medicine. Previously 2013 recipients were **Drs. Jon Chan** (January and March), and **Elimarys Perez-Colon** (January). **Dr. Jenna Simpson** was Internal Medicine’s Intern of the Month for March. Congratulations to all!!
Congratulations to New Grant Awardees!

Dr. Adam Lewin was awarded a grant from the International OCD Foundation for his study “Stepped Care CBT for Pediatric OCD”. For this pilot study, Dr. Lewin and colleagues will develop and assess the feasibility and preliminary efficacy of stepped care cognitive-behavioral therapy for the treatment of pediatric obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD). The aim is to better tailor treatment by developing a less costly and intense intervention as a first step, and “stepping-up” care for patients who need more intensive, personalized care.

Janet Sullivan, AuD, Kelly Teegarten, MS, and Sheri Eisert, PhD were awarded a $75,000 grant from the Oberkotter Foundation for their project entitled Decreasing Delays for Early Intervention in Neonatal Intensive Care Patients with Hearing Impairment. The goal of the project is to enroll hearing impaired infants into speech and language therapy earlier, train parents to monitor hearing responsivity in infants at risk for delayed onset of hearing impairment, and to work with Florida Medicaid on reimbursements for diagnostic hearing testing in the NICU. TGH will be the first in the state to initiate therapy in NICU patients prior to discharge.

Carol Lilly, MD, Annalise Campisi, Brenda Ham, John Landi and Kaye Connelly submitted a competitive bid in March 2013 to the Florida Department of Health for the Bay Area Early Steps Program. They were recently notified that they have been awarded the Early Steps contract! The grant totals nearly $4 million per year in combined revenue operating through USF. The USF program coordinates with community providers in Polk and Hillsborough Counties, and provides early intervention services to over 4000 infants and toddlers with significant delays or conditions that may result in a developmental delay. Early Steps uses a team-based primary service provider approach which aims to empower families by providing a comprehensive team of professionals who provide strong support for the duration of care. Services are provided where the families live, learn and play, enabling them to implement developmentally appropriate learning opportunities every day.

New Hires

Kendall Kerns: Administrative specialist for the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. Kendall was previously with the Pediatric Neuropsychiatry division.

Pryal Patel: OPS Research Assistant for Pediatric Neuropsychiatry.
Grand Rounds

Marilyn J. Bull, MD
Morris Green Professor of Pediatrics
Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health
and
Errol Alden, MD
Executive Director/CEO
American Academy of Pediatrics

“Advances in Child Passenger Safety, Advocacy and the AAP”

Thursday, June 27th
8:00 AM
*Breakfast Reception to Follow*
MacInnes Auditorium, Tampa General Hospital

Dr. Bull has served on the faculty at the Indiana University Medical Center since 1976 where she currently is the Morris Green Professor of Pediatrics at Riley Hospital for Children. Dr. Bull was elected as Chairperson of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) District V and serves on the Board of Directors of the AAP. Dr. Bull serves as Co-Medical Director of the Automotive Safety for Children Program at Indiana University where her research interests include safe transportation of children with special health care needs and ambulance transportation safety.

Dr. Errol Alden is the current Executive Director of the AAP and a medical doctor with over 45 years of experience. In addition to his current position, Dr. Alden has worked for the AAP for over 20 years in several leadership positions. Prior to working for the AAP, he served as a Chief of Pediatrics at a number of prominent hospitals, including the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

There will be no Grand Rounds in July or August. The first lecture of the 2013/14 year will be given by Dr. Emmanuel on September 12.

Other Upcoming Events

- Resident Graduation Dinner, June 16
- Resident Welcome Party, June 29, 5-9PM

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Please email submissions for next month’s issue by July 1st
USF Pediatric Presentations at 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting


Stratbucker W, Dhepyasuwan N, Dabrow S, Feigelman S et al. *Asssessing the Value of the Continuity Research network to its membership after a decade*

Jackman S, Kong X, Fant M: *Plac1 (Placenta-Specific 1): A Novel X-Linked Gene Associated with Hydrocephalus*

Flores-Torres JA, Leigh B, Dishaw LJ. *Bacterial Dysbiosis in an Unusual Model for Studies of Intestinal Immune Homeostasis*

Brian Knox, MD: Research Scholars Program: Improving Health Outcomes with Psychological Evaluation: A Randomized Clinical Trial of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in the Primary Care Setting for the Treatment of Adolescent Overweight and Obesity

Kumar M, Oliviera J, Judd C, Hoyer J, Nelson L. *Hemoglobin Manukau – An Unstable Hemoglobin in Mother and Daughter – Role of Genetic Testing in the Diagnosis of Rare Red Cell Disorders*

Luciano, AA, Martinez D, Llorens, B, Dorsey MH. *Altered Regulatory T Cell Homeostasis in Preterm Infants Is Associated with LPS Exposure*

Martinez D, Andres M, Luciano AA. *T Cell Immune Exhaustion in Preterm Infants Is Associated to Chorioamnionitis and LPS Exposure*

Rodriguez H: *Improving the Transition between Pediatric and Adult Health Care for Adolescents with Diabetes*

Sochet A, Braley K, Aswani R, Marcet K, Obmana G, Leshko J, O’Brien R, Jacobs J, Dadlani G. *Small for Gestational Age’ is an Important Preoperative Risk Factor for Infants Undergoing Cardiothoracic Surgery*

Takagishi J: *Faculty Mentor, Academic Pediatric Association's Educational Scholars Program AND Mentor, Academic Pediatric Association's Speed Mentoring Program*

Cowden JD, Wilkerson-Amendell S, Weathers L. *The Talking Card: A Novel Tool for Asthma Control in Young Children with Persistent Asthma.*