



# PEDS NEWS

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## Practice What We Preach

As an infectious disease physician, I am always captivated by the microbial world, its diversity and resilience. No pathogen has a more fascinating history than influenza. This virus frequently changes its outer capsule to escape detection by our immune system, and it can combine with similar viruses in animals to more dramatically change and wreak havoc on susceptible hosts (e.g., bird flu, swine flu). Influenza, which can strike all age groups with ferocity, causes significant morbidity even in healthy adults. In the U.S., the annual health care-related costs of influenza are estimated at \$4.6 billion, and up to 111 million workdays are lost, costing an estimated \$7 billion/year in sick days and lost productivity. The influence this pathogen has had on human history makes for interesting reading for those of you who are medical history buffs. We know a lot about influenza and have made great progress in diagnosis and treatment. But NOTHING works as well as prevention—and prevention in this case means immunization. As pediatric providers, we are champions of immunization. As a group, we need to put our money where our mouth is and get immunized against influenza!

Influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons over 6 months of age, and all health care workers should be vaccinated. TGH requires that employees who elect not to get a flu shot wear a mask all day at work and pay a \$130 fee, while ACH requires proof of vaccination for its employees. All USF Peds staff should be vaccinated, not just those with contact with patients. There are currently 13 variations of the influenza vaccine available. USF employees receive the trivalent, killed intramuscular vaccine. Virus strains included in the 2013–14 U.S. trivalent influenza vaccines are an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)–like virus, an H3N2 virus, and a B/Massachusetts/2/2012–like virus. The main contraindication to receiving the trivalent killed vaccine is a significant allergy to eggs.

Finally, we should take every opportunity to recommend influenza vaccination to our patients. Many of us take care of vulnerable patients who have underlying diseases such as immunodeficiency, prematurity, neurologic and lung disease—all of which contribute to higher flu-related morbidity and mortality. It has never been easier to obtain flu shots for yourself, your family and your patients. Additional information is posted at the end of this newsletter. Let's help make this one of the mildest seasons for respiratory disease on record and advance the health of our patients and our department.

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

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# Peds News | *New & Noteworthy*

## KUDOS

**Kelly Paulina**, Education Programs Manager, has been awarded the \$1000 Coordinator's Bonus from the Graduate Medical Education office in appreciation for her dedication and hard work. Congratulations on a well-deserved award, Kelly!

**Drs. Tanya Murphy** and **Eric Storch** received letters of thanks from Florida Governor Rick Scott for their efforts to identify the cause of and to develop effective treatment for children with PANDAS (pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections).

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## HAPPENINGS

The Ybor Youth Clinic's **Jeremiah Kerr** and **Drs. Michelle Tang** and **Diane Straub** met with Representative Joe Saunders, a freshman minority member from the Orlando area. Mr. Saunders sits on the Health Quality and Higher Education and Workforce committees in the Florida House, and is an LGBT (lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender) community activist.



USF Pediatrics has been invited to participate in the Pediatric Bowl at the AAP's National Conference and Exhibition being held in Orlando this month. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, **Drs. Mindy Murphy, Christine Booth, Shaila Siraj, Erin Wright** and **Sharon Dabrow** will test their pediatric knowledge against residents from Arnold Palmer and the University of Miami. Free passes to the conference on that day are available from Kelly Paulina. Let's all wish them the best of luck—come out and show your support if you can.

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## Changes to the Division of Allergy & Immunology

This summer, Dr. John Sleasman assumed his new position as Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology in the Department of Pediatrics at Duke University.

**Dr. Mandel Sher** will serve as Interim Division Chief as a search is conducted for the Good Endowed Chair of Immunology. We wish Dr. Sleasman the best of luck in his new position, and thank him for his many years of service at USF!

# Peds News | *New & Noteworthy*

## PRESENTATIONS

**Dr. Kersti Linask** gave a talk entitled *Prevention of Ethanol-Induced Cardiac Defects by Folate Supplementation in the Mouse Model* at the First International Conference on Prevention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder held in Edmonton, Canada in September.

**Dr. Mudra Kumar** gave a talk entitled *Emerging Role of Molecular Diagnoses in Red Cell Disorders* at the International Conference on Hematology & Blood Disorders held in Raleigh, NC in September.



**Drs. Panida Sriaroon and Carina Rodriguez** were authors on two posters presented in October:

*HIV-1 Infection and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Display Distinct IgG H VDJ Profiles Defined by Deep Sequencing that Differs from Healthy Individuals* was presented at the AIDS Vaccine meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

*An Extensive Evaluation of Healthy Immunoglobulin Repertoires Using 454-Pyrosequencing* was presented at the Florida Genetics Symposium in Gainesville.

At the Immunoglobulin Nursing Society Annual Meeting held in Dallas in September, **Carla Duff, MSN, CCRP**, led two workshops on subcutaneous immunoglobulin and presented two posters:

Zampelli A, **Duff C**, Bullinger A. *Nurses' Perceptions of the Efficacy, Tolerability, and Quality of Life in Patients Treated with Subcutaneous Immunoglobulin.*

**Duff C**, Zampelli A, Bullinger A. *Nurses' Perceptions of Wear-off Effects Following Immunoglobulin.*

Two posters were presented at the Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum meeting held October 4-5 in Arlington, VA:

**Drs. Diane Straub and Cristina Pelaez:** *Feasibility and Acceptability of Implementation of a Spanish Language Curriculum in a Pediatric Residency Training Program.*



**Drs. Lana Soylu, Mary Chrisochos and Diane Straub:** *Can the Electronic Record Enhance Adherence to Current ADHD Guidelines?*

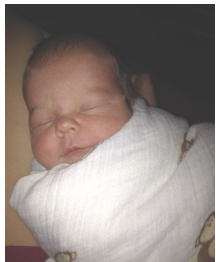


## NEW EMPLOYEES

Darrow Speyer, MGC, CGC; Genetic Counselor. Darrow received her masters in genetic counseling from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and is board-certified by the American Board of Genetic Counselors.

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## ADDITIONS



**Marsha Ramsay, MD**  
delivered Parker Austin  
Ramsay on September 10.



**Emily Shaffer-Hudkins, PhD,**  
delivered Logan  
Michael Hudkins on  
September 6.

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## PUBLICATIONS

**Dr. Patricia Emmanuel** is an author on a paper entitled *Incidence of opportunistic illness before and after initiation of highly active antiretroviral therapy in children*. *Pediatr Infect Dis J* 32(10):1089-1095, 2013.

**Armstrong K,** David A, Goldberg K. *Parent-child interaction therapy with deaf parents and their hearing child: A case study*. *Clinical Case Studies* 20(10): 1-3, 2013.

**Ballow M.** *Use of vaccines in the evaluation of presumed immunodeficiency*. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 111(3):163-6, 2013.

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## NEW PEDIATRIC CLINICAL TRIALS

**Investigator:** Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann, MD **Title:** A phase IIIA, randomized, observer-blind, controlled, multinational study to evaluate the immunogenicity and safety of GSK Biological's MMR vaccine at an end of shelf-life potency compared to Merck & Co, Inc.'s MMR vaccine, when both are co-administered with Varivax, Havrix and Prevnar 13 and given on a two-dose schedule to healthy children in their second year of life. **Sponsor:** GlaxoSmithKline, LLC

**Investigator:** Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann, MD **Title:** Nasopharyngeal swab collection for the detection of respiratory pathogens. **Sponsor:** Alere Scarborough, Inc.

**Investigator:** Amarilis Sanchez-Valle, MD **Title:** A phase 3, open-label, randomized, multi-center study to assess the safety and tolerability of an induction, titration and maintenance dose regimen of BMN 165 self administered by adults with phenylketonuria not previously treated with BMN 165. **Sponsor:** BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Inc.



## FACULTY COUNCIL NEWS

Congratulations to pediatric faculty elected to serve on the Faculty Council for 2013/2014:

**Kathleen Armstrong, PhD, Mudra Kumar, MD, Ronald Sutsko, DO, Amy Weiss, MD**

The following faculty members were elected to serve on Faculty Council committees:

- \* **Vinita Kiluk, MD:** Curriculum Committee
- \* **Panida Sriaroon, MD:** Professional Student Affairs Committee
- \* **Eric Storch, PhD:** Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee

*Thank for your service!*

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## Hillsborough County Pediatric Society Elections

The Hillsborough County Pediatric Society elected officers for the January 2014-December 2015 term:

President: Jose Jimenez, MD  
Vice President/President Elect: Antoinette Spoto-Cannons, MD  
Secretary: Solimar Salud, MD  
Treasurer: Jennifer Pesce, MD

**Drs. Alisha Pineiro and Lisa Hayes** are resident liaisons.

## Spotlight on Research

**Amarilis Sánchez-Valle, MD**, Assistant Professor in the Division of Genetics and Metabolism, joined USF in 2010 after completing her clinical genetics fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine. She directs the division's metabolic genetics program, and is Medical Director for the Regional Metabolic Center which covers 14 Florida counties. The Center serves the Florida Department of Health Newborn Screening Program which tests infants' blood for a variety of diseases and conditions. Dr. Sánchez-Valle's primary research interest is inborn errors of metabolism, most of which are due to defects in the ability to convert various substances into metabolic products. This defect results in the accumulation of damaging substances in the body. Dr. Sánchez-Valle is particularly interested in phenylketonuria (PKU). Individuals with this disease accumulate high levels of phenylalanine. PKU can have devastating effects including small head size (microcephaly), intellectual disability and seizures. For the past 20 years, the only treatment available was to follow a strict, lifelong diet devoid of phenylalanine. This diet is very difficult to follow, and special formulas and foods are not readily available. Recently, Biomarin Pharmaceutical, Inc. developed an injectable drug that lowers patients' phenylalanine levels. This cutting-edge treatment may enable patients with PKU to follow normal diets. Starting in September, Dr. Sánchez-Valle and her colleagues throughout the country began enrolling adults and children with PKU into a clinical trial of this promising new drug.



# Peds News | Save the Date

## Grand Rounds

**Nov 7\*** **The 2013 Curran Lecture: Necrotizing Enterocolitis: From Bench to the Isolette**  
Akhil Maheshwari, MD

**Nov 14** **Behavioral Approaches to Minority Adolescent HIV Prevention**  
Celia Lescano, PhD

**Nov 21** **Targeting Leukemia Stem Cells: Emerging Therapies Against AML**  
Felipe Rico, MD

*Lectures are from 8:00 to 9:00 AM in MacInnes Auditorium—Tampa General Hospital*

Lectures are video-conferenced to the All Children's Hospital/USF Children's Research Institute first floor conference room and to the CMS Building, Room 2004

*Archived copies of most lectures are available on our website: [http://health.usf.edu/medicine/pediatrics/grand\\_rounds.htm](http://health.usf.edu/medicine/pediatrics/grand_rounds.htm)*

*\* There will be a breakfast reception in the MacInnes Auditorium foyer following the November 7<sup>th</sup> Curran Lecture*

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## **Influenza Vaccine Information**

For providers: The CDC has posted a supplement to the 2013-14 Influenza Vaccine Information Statements. These guidelines: supplement the Statements and summarize the relevant recommendations; include more detailed information about indications, schedules and precautions; contain other information giving providers a quick reference to help address common patients' questions. The provider information can be accessed at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu-flulive-hcp-info.html>

For providers and staff: Flu shots will be given to providers and staff at the STC from 8:30 to 12:00 and from 1:00 to 4:00 on the following dates: October 14-18, October 21-25, November 4-8, November 18-22. Sign in at the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor front desk. In addition, a mobile cart will travel floor to floor Wednesday afternoons to assist with provider/staff vaccination. To meet TGH requirements, people who receive the vaccination will have a sticker placed on their USF ID badge.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**October 28:** USPG/UMSA/MSSC Annual Board of Directors Meeting

**October 25-29:** AAP National Conference, Orlando

**November 7:** 2013 John Curran Lecture

**November 14:** Deadline for PAS abstracts and award nominations

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**Please email  
submissions for next  
month's issue by  
November 1st**