FROM THE CHAIR

Last week I received two unsolicited emails from patients praising the care they received at USF Pediatrics. One was a young adult who was seen by Dr. Straub at the CMS clinic and the other was a mother whose child was seen by Dr. Kumar at 17 Davis. Both applauded not only the doctors but the front desk and nursing staff, and in one case the medical student involved. In addition, a parent whose son was cared for at TGH by Dr. Carina Rodriguez submitted a note of thanks, stating that she is an “awesome physician” whose compassion and concern for patients is very obvious. I do not think anything has made me more proud. As much as we feel we are important and that in health care what we do is different—the fact is that we are in a service industry. Our patients are our customers. No matter how competent the care, if it is not delivered in a timely, organized way with a smile—it will not be appreciated. There is also data

HAPPENINGS

Pediatric residents and attendings volunteered their time on July 26 for the TGH and HealthPark Back to School Health Fair. A total of 318 children and their families received physical exams and/or immunizations. A vendor tent included readers from the Reach Out and Read program, a Teddy Bear clinic, sno-cones, and community provider information. The resident volunteers were Drs. Saporta, Ramsay, Suarez, Larsen, Blackwell, Baldwin, and Plant. Attending physicians were Drs. Maldonado, Burton, Dabrow, Soylu, Pelaez, Kiluk and Takagishi.

10 Med Students joined Dr. Mudra Kumar on August 3rd for a Back-to-School Health Fair, sponsored by Gujarati Samaj of Tampa Bay.

The USF Bay Area Early Steps Program launched its new website, which provides a description of the program, information for providers, resources for families, and an introduction to the staff. http://health.usf.edu/medicine/pediatrics/early-steps/index.htm

Dr. Jane Carver will teach a scientific writing mini-course on November 19 from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Participants will receive a certificate of completion. Contact Jane at jcarver@health.usf.edu for a copy of the course schedule and to reserve a space.
showing that outcomes are better when patients are engaged and satisfied. In the inpatient world, Medicare reimbursements are now linked to patient satisfaction, and it will continue to become a differentiator. It is also our mission to model the delivery of compassionate patient-centered care for our students and residents. There are many components to patient satisfaction, but some key concepts are communication, managing expectations and joint decision making. The work that Drs. Pelaez and Lilly are doing towards a medical home designation and continued team building within our divisions and clinic groups all help to improve the patient experience. I would like to recognize the outstanding staff and faculty who are the face of USF Peds and who come to work each day and make a difference. I would like to solicit ideas on how the department can recognize staff who are acknowledged by our patients. Please send me ideas.

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

USF IRB is holding a Student Researcher Workshop for faculty and students. All who attend will be awarded the bi-annual human subject protections certification required to conduct human subjects research. Workshops will be held on Tuesday, September 9th and Monday, September 15th. Contact Christine Epps to register (974-7486).

Dr. Justyna Wojas joins USF Peds as Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Neuropsychiatry Division at the Rothman Center. She completed her general psychiatry residency and child psychiatry fellowship at Jackson Memorial Hospital/University of Miami. Dr. Wojas is board certified in general psychiatry and board eligible in child psychiatry. She completed her internship at the Hennepin County Medical Center and Regions Hospital in Minneapolis, her medical degree at Saba University School of Medicine and her undergraduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania where she majored in biology. Dr. Wojas sees patients at Rothman Center in the outpatient clinic and assists with clinical trials.

USF Peds investigators are reminded that they need to submit their investigator-initiated protocols for review by the department before submitting them to the IRB. This does not apply to extramurally-funded protocols. Scientific review committees will be convened, as needed. Please submit the protocols to Jane Carver (jcarver@health.usf.edu).

ACH-JHM hosted a Welcome Aboard Breakfast on July 23, which included ACH-JHM residents, USF Peds residents and fellows.
NEW & NOTEWORTHY

NEW EMPLOYEES

Kathleen James: Telephone scheduler; ACH
Jessika Gaines: Telephone scheduler; ACH
Francisco Perez-Laras: Applications developer; Epidemiology
Laura Ansteat: Outreach caseworker; Early Steps
Bettina Haynes, ARNP: Child Protection Team

NEW ADDITIONS

Dr. Laura Levitt and husband Dr. Michael Levitt became the proud parents of Baby Emily on July 4!

SAVE THE DATE

September 30
FPQC Annual Neonatal Meeting for Florida NICUs

October 15
Deadline for MCOM intramural grant proposals

October 17
ACH JHM Research Symposium

November 13
2014 Curran Lecture

November 19
Peds Mini-Writing Course

PRESENTATIONS

USF Pediatrics was well-represented at the Florida Medical Association Meeting held in Orlando last month:

Guthrie K, Gillispie M, Queliz-Perez T, Winners-Mendizabal, O. A Novel Case Report of Congenital Acute Myeloid Leukemia in a Child with Beckwith-Wiedemann Syndrome

Visalli K, McCormick J. Daily Epistaxis! It Runs in the Family.

Gillispie M, Hennon T, Jarvis J. Rates of Remission in Polyarticular JIA: A Practice Based Study

Correction to last month’s newsletter: Dr. Dorothy Shulman presented a poster titled Results of One Year of Therapy with Recombinant Human Parathyroid Hormone 1-34 (rhPTH1-34) Delivered by Insulin Pump in 3 Women with Activating Mutations of the Calcium Sensing Receptor (CASR) at the Endocrine Society Meeting held in Chicago in June. She was first author on this multi-site study.

PUBLICATIONS


KUDOS

Dr. Carina Rodriguez was invited to join the editorial board of the International Journal of HIV/AIDS and Research.

Tampa General Hospital’s Children’s Medical Center recently became a member of the Children’s Hospital Association.
PEDS IN THE NEWS

Comments by Dr. Angel Luciano were included in a July 28 Baynews 9 piece titled “Health of Hispanic moms and their babies a growing concern”.

FAREWELL DR. NELSON

This month we say farewell and extend our best wishes to Dr. Robert Nelson, who has accepted the position of Senior Associate Dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs, and Interim Chair of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine of the newly established University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley. The founding dean of the new school, Dr. Francisco Fernandez, was previously the Chair of Psychiatry at USF. As Associate Dean, Dr. Nelson will establish procedures and policies for the new school, develop innovative approaches to achieving its mission, and will be instrumental in creating a model for 21st century medical education. A theme for the school will be population health, community engagement and population research.

Dr. Nelson joined USF Pediatrics in 1992 as Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of Neonatology, and he served as Chair of Pediatrics from 2005 to 2012. He earned his M.S. in Administrative Medicine during his tenure at USF, and he currently serves as USF Health’s Associate Vice President for Child Health, Professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Community and Family Health. During his career, Dr. Nelson’s passion has been the development of new and innovative methods of education. He served as USF Health’s Associate Dean for Medical Education, has directed educational research projects, including several related to the use of iPads in medical education. More recently he has been actively engaged in global and community health, teaching and leading groups of students to Panama, Nicaragua, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic. We thank Dr. Nelson for his longstanding service to USF and the Department, and wish him the very best of luck in this exciting new venture!

GRAND ROUNDS

September 4
Dr. Patricia Emmanuel;
*Ebola and Other Emerging Pathogens: Global Challenges and Local Threats*

September 11
Dr. Terry Buckenheimer and Karen Pesce;
*Are You Mouthwise?*

September 18
Dr. Betty Horng;
*Professionalism Initiative*

September 25
Dr. Jorge Lujan;
*You are the Key to HPV Cancer Prevention*

FAREWELL DR. LUJAN-ZILBERMANN

Dr. Jorge Lujan-Zilbermann will be leaving USF Pediatrics this month to join Hill Top Research in St. Petersburg as their Medical Director. He joined the USF Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases in 2003, and has been very actively engaged in clinical research projects during his tenure at USF. He served as USF’s principal investigator or co-investigator of the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Network (previously PACTG), the Adolescent Trials Network (ATN), and the Collaborative Antiviral Study Group (CAGS), and more recently served as the Chief of the USF Pediatrics Division of Pediatric Clinical Research. Dr. Lujan-Zilbermann significantly advanced the quality and quantity of clinical research at USF Pediatrics; we are grateful for his contributions and wish him the best of luck.