It’s Official: The Nation’s Best Are Right Here on Campus

Story page 9.
Welcome Readers

In this, our eleventh issue, we celebrate the three-year anniversary of ON PAR with contributions from several student volunteers. Next year, we will enjoy the fruitful works of Ms. Ashley Smith, who will be joining us as Assistant Editor.

In this edition we explore the highlights of the Ped-I-Care program, as it celebrates winning the Fred Graham award for innovation in improving community health. Far more than a nod to the importance of this program, this national award carries implications for the future of health care in general. Ped-I-Care insures the riskiest, costliest group of children but does so in responsible, ethical manners that result in high quality and member satisfaction as well as significant cost savings. It potentially serves as a model for the rest of the nation.

In this issue you’ll also find a profile of the pediatric hematology-oncology unit at Shand’s Children’s Hospital, as well as a feature on an obesity reduction program led by Dr. Janet Silverstein. These, along with the publications and presentations announcements, are among the many reasons I’m so proud to be a part of Pediatrics at UF. Enjoy this issue!

For the benefit of children,
Heidi Saliba

ON PAR news magazine is edited by Heidi Saliba, Coordinator of Research Programs for Ped-I-Care and the Division of General Pediatrics at the University of Florida, College of Medicine.

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ON PAR Board Members:
Dr. John Nackashi
Dr. Kathleen Ryan
Dr. Lindsay Thompson
Dr. Marilyn Dumont-Driscoll

Contributing to This Issue:
Lauren Inbornone
Alexandra Garcia
Nicole Brunner
Alishan Vazir
Research News and Announcements

Workshop Presentation Invitation
Dr. Debra Esernio-Jenssen’s abstract, “Ingest This: Accidental, Neglectful, and Intentional Poisoning” has been accepted for presentation at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children’s (APSAC) 20th Annual Colloquium, June 2012 in Chicago.

Hospitalist Nicole M. Paradise Black Leads Collaborative Multidisciplinary Groups for National Publications
“Family-Centered Rounds and Medical Student Education: A Qualitative Examination of Students’ Perceptions” by Nicole M. Paradise Black, MD, Maria N. Kelly, MD, Erik W. Black, PhD, Christopher D. Sessums, PhD, Meredith K. DiPietro, PhD, and Maureen A. Novak, MD. Hospital Pediatrics. 2011;1(1): 2-7.


Pediatrics Nurse Practitioners Proving to Be National Leaders
Beverly Giordano and Rosellen Dedlow passed the first-ever Pediatric Mental Health Specialist (PMHS) national certifying exams by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB). Nationwide, only 200 nurse practitioners were allowed to participate in the beta-testing for development of the exam, with Giordano and Dedlow among the group. Each is now Master’s prepared (MSN), Florida Licensed (ARNP), Nationally Certified as Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, and an official PMHS.

UF Pediatrics Articles Now in Press in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care:
“Microcephaly, Lymphedema, Chorioretinal Dysplasia (MLCRD) Syndrome” by Maria N. Kelly, MD, Nausheen Khuddus, MD, Silus Motamarry, MD, and Sanjeev Tuli, MD.

“Pain and Decreased Vision in a Teenager” by Sanjeev Y. Tuli, MD, by Maria N. Kelly, MD, Beverly Giordano, ARNP, Donald J. Fillipps, MD, and Sonal S. Tuli, MD.

“Blepharoptosis: Assessment and Management” by Sanjeev Y. Tuli, MD, Maria Kelly, MD, Beverly Giordano, ARNP, Donald J. Fillipps, MD, and Sonal S. Tuli, MD.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal or Organization</th>
<th>Web Link/Email Address</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Topics and Themes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Lancet – Theme Issue on Diabetes</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(11)61560-2/fulltext">http://www.lancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(11)61560-2/fulltext</a></td>
<td>January 20, 2012</td>
<td>“…high-quality original research on any aspect of diabetes. Priority will be given to randomised trials that advance the evidence base relevant to treatment and prevention of disease, but any studies that have the potential to change clinical practice are welcome.”</td>
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<td>3rd International Congress on Abdominal Obesity: Bridging the Gap between Cardiology and Diabetology</td>
<td><a href="http://icao2012.myhealthywai">http://icao2012.myhealthywai</a> st.org/</td>
<td>February 15, 2012</td>
<td>Topics include adipokines, genetics, metabolic syndrome, and obesity</td>
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<td>MASCC/ISOO 2012 International Symposium on Supportive Care in Cancer</td>
<td><a href="http://www2.kenes.com/MAS">http://www2.kenes.com/MAS</a> CC/SCI/Pages/AbstractSubmission.aspx</td>
<td>February 15, 2012</td>
<td>Topics include education in supportive care, end-stage disease, future trends, quality of life, and survivorship</td>
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<td>Academic Pediatrics</td>
<td><a href="http://www.academicpeds.org/publications/pubs_news_announcements.cfm">http://www.academicpeds.org/publications/pubs_news_announcements.cfm</a></td>
<td>Rolling</td>
<td>Call for systematic reviews concerning health care delivery, public policy, education, and research methods</td>
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<td>1st American Diabetes Association Middle East Congress</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ada-me.org/abstract.html">http://www.ada-me.org/abstract.html</a></td>
<td>July 31, 2012</td>
<td>Topics include diabetes and CVD, new diabetes drugs, insulin administration, diabetes in youth and adolescents, and diabetes education</td>
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<td>MedicReS World Congress on Good Medical Research</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ic2012.medicres.org">www.ic2012.medicres.org</a></td>
<td>February 29, 2012</td>
<td>Methods in clinical trials, translational research, and epidemiological studies, among others</td>
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<td>APA Ethics Special Interest Group</td>
<td><a href="mailto:zsalih@iupui.edu">zsalih@iupui.edu</a></td>
<td>March 10, 2012</td>
<td>“...Essay contest for pediatric residents and fellows...focus on ethical issues residents and fellows face in patient care. Topics may include...personal narratives of ethical dilemmas faced in training or practice or scholarly presentations of issues related to organizational, interprofessional, or global health ethics. Essays should be between 800 to 1600 words...original and unpublished. If multiple authors, the award will be shared...provide demographic information (training status) and role in manuscript preparation. 1st Place - $200; 2nd Place - $100...Winning essays will be read at the PAS meeting in Boston and will published in PAS website as part of ethics SIG letter in June 2012. If the resident or fellow will be attending PAS in Boston they may present their paper themselves.”</td>
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Dear ON PAR readers,

As you may know, the Nurturing Program in UF’s Child Abuse Prevention Project (CAPP) works with families in the surrounding area to help moms and dads develop positive parenting skills. This year we are asking for your help in providing food, clothing, and other items to those with whom we work. Please consider adopting one of our families or contributing items to food baskets and care packages, and help members of our community realize the joys of the fall and winter seasons. Your contributions have immediate impacts on local families!

Thank you for your consideration,

The Child Abuse Prevention Project team
By Nicole Brunner

In just a few months, Dr. Janet Silverstein and colleagues Marilyn Dumont Driscoll, Toree Malasanos, David Janicke, Deborah Weyer, Becky Fudge, and Crystal Lim will launch an obesity program. Planning has been underway for several years, and resources are now in place to launch it with great success. Dr. Silverstein and her coordinator, Lauren Fischer ARNP MSN, are leaders of this effort.

(Continued next page as, “Obesity Program”)
**Obesity Program, continued from page 6**

The program consists of comprehensive family services designed to lower obesity rates in children and will seek to involve as many overweight or obese children as possible; children will be enrolled with at least one of their parents. Families will participate in fun activities aimed at achieving healthier weight with education and hands-on instruction on items such as making delicious and healthy snacks.

Children and parents will participate in weekly evening sessions for a period of four months followed by less frequent sessions to assess the progress of children and their families.

Program organizers would like to enroll as many families as possible in Alachua County with the expectation that it will expand to surrounding counties as well. The sessions are designed to place participants into limited sized groups for each activity. Since the program is starting out as a research study, parents and children will need to fill out an informed consent form in order to allow for follow-up on the efficacy of the program. Dr. Silverstein is expecting a great response.

She and her team feel this plan is needed because they believe that although the clinical setting is needed to care for medical problems associated with obesity, it is not the best way for children who are overweight or obese to understand how to achieve a healthier lifestyle. Since it will not be in a clinical setting, she is expecting to see children and parents bond within each group. Her goal is to make it fun and educational. The program will be easily accessible to parents, and free parking and childcare will be provided.

Dr. Silverstein is very excited to finally launch this project, which she is hoping to be “a lasting legacy.”

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“I am excited to launch this program because I feel community-based programs are key to beginning to tackle the epidemic of obesity in children.”

- Dr. Janet Silverstein
By Alexandra Garcia

Dr. William Slayton, Division Chief and Program Director of the Pediatric Oncology/Hematology unit at the University of Florida, along with a team of specialists have dedicated themselves to providing high-quality care to children suffering from cancers and blood disorders. Slayton and his colleagues, which include pediatric hematologists and oncologists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, and child life specialists, use a multidisciplinary approach while treating their patients. According to their website, “...nearly 80% of children diagnosed with cancer become long-term survivors.”

Slayton described their clinic as being set up so patients have access to all their healthcare services in one facility. Healthcare professionals provide tailored services to the unique needs of each patient, including innovative medical, surgical, and radiotherapies. Slayton commented that although convenient for the patients, it is not an easy thing to do financially. “We are very close to having enough people in the division to provide care that meets all of our patient’s needs, but there are certainly gaps,” he said. Additionally, he mentioned that the staff is always looking for creative ways to enhance their tight budget. It is with the help of many dedicated, selfless healthcare professionals that the program is so successful. For example, Slayton spoke about a physical therapist who has a daughter with leukemia. “The kids benefit from her therapy, but more importantly, she brings joy to them as well. The kids are excited to come into clinic and spend time with her. When we see her working with the patients and the happiness that they both share, it is always a great thing.”

Not only do Slayton and the staff work hard to provide compassionate care to their patients, but they also dedicate time to pediatric research. Slayton, in particular, is currently working on developing better therapies for Ph+ Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and Infant Leukemia. Other projects within the program include sickle cell disease, brain tumor, sarcoma, and bone marrow transplant research. These projects, along with continued high-quality care, allow for the prospect of many bright futures.

“The kids benefit from her therapy, but more importantly, she brings joy to them as well. The kids are excited to come into clinic and spend time with her. When we see her working with the patients and the happiness that they both share, it is always a great thing.”

- Dr. William Slayton
It’s the program that was never supposed to happen. And if it did, it wasn’t supposed to succeed. But in just seven short years, the UF-based Pediatric Integrated Care System, also known as Ped-I-Care, has surpassed all boundaries, expectations, and parameters of measurement by which it is held accountable.

As the winner of this year’s Fred Graham Award for Innovation in Improving Community Health, the program takes its next step into the national limelight as a leader in customer satisfaction, ethics, and responsibility. Given by the Medical Group Management Association, the American College of Medical Practice Executives, and the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative, the award is the highest honor in the nation for any health care organization. There is only one annual recipient, with no runners up; previous winners have included Mercy Health Systems, Women’s Healthcare Associates, and Stratum Med, Inc. The honor is granted annually to the organization whose contributions are considered as “extraordinary achievements” in the field of healthcare administration.

“This award means a lot to Ped-I-Care and to me personally,” said Executive Director Nancy Giunta. “I knew Fred Graham and am honored to be part of this special group.”

“\textit{To be recognized by these prestigious organizations is truly exciting, but mostly I am pleased that we have had a great opportunity to develop a system of care for some of our most vulnerable patients, children with special needs, and provide that care in a cost effective manner which is appreciated by families and all members of our health care team.}”

- Dr. Richard Bucciarelli, Chair of Department of Pediatrics and Founding Organizer of the Ped-I-Care program

\textbf{Good News for Kids}

\textit{Successful Program Serving Children with Special Health Care Needs Earns Prestigious National Award

Left: Ped-I-Care Executive Director Nancy Giunta receives the Fred Graham Award on behalf of the organization.}

(Continued on page 10 as, ‘Ped-I-Care’
Ped-I-Care, continued from page 9

Ped-I-Care, a managed care program that provides medical benefits for children with special health care needs whose parents receive Title XIX or Title XXI benefits, is state- and federally-funded and serves nearly 7,000 children in the state of Florida. Its member satisfaction is the highest in the nation, with scores in the ninetieth percentiles, and it was rated as the top performing health plan on the majority of measures reported for its Medicaid Reform Provider Service Network. It ranked highest in the state of Florida for performance along five HEDIS measures. Additionally, the organization scored 99% on a recent AHCA site review.

The subject of an August Grand Rounds presentation, Ped-I-Care stands out most notably for its cost reductions to CMS (Children’s Medical Services) of approximately $5 million over the past six years for Title XXI, and cost savings of more than $12 million for Medicaid since 2007. During the same time period, its quality measures, provider satisfaction, and member satisfaction have remained unparalleled as documented in several publications and presentations, including a December 2009 article in a Pediatrics supplement.

“This award is for all of us,” Giunta said. “It is reflective of the hard work, conscientious decision-making, and responsible care provided by the entire spectrum of our employees, from customer service representatives and administrative assistants to provider liaisons, medical directors, CMS nurse care coordinators, and supervisors and managers at every level. Everyone’s name belongs on this award.”

The conference at which the award was given, the 2012 MGMA-ACMPE in Las Vegas, Nevada, was attended by a reported 15,000 individuals from around the nation.