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News from the Chair

COL Beth Ellen Davis, MD, MPH, FAAP

1959-2009

Happy 50th, Section on Uniformed Services!

What will be our legacy?

Some days we just put out fires. Some days we are too tired to notice. But MOST days we go the extra mile—for our patients, for their families, for the service members, and for each other. And every once in a while, we have the privilege of sharing a vision, shaping the future, and making the world a better place. Fortunately, we do not have to go alone. Now is one of those times, as CAPT Blaschke would say, “to lean forward”.

As we conclude a year of recognition of the Section on Uniformed Services 50th, it is clear the benchmark for “making a difference” has been set high by our forefathers. Clinical expertise, scholarly excellence, brilliant leadership, and the benefit of outstanding educational opportunities have been and continue to be the rule, not the exception in military pediatrics.

The mission of the military has changed the landscape of military families. As uniformed service pediatricians, we are in a position to understand and serve a “new” generation of military families. In this time of health care reform, we have an opportunity to demonstrate to the Nation, pediatric health care at its best. For military children and their parents who are young, mobile, courageous, technically connected, intuitive, and seeking options, military pediatricians can be the vital link between health care, quality health care, and quality health.

As you well know, in the context of healthy, nurturing families, military children thrive.

Who better to understand the challenges and rewards of living a military life? We, as uniformed pediatricians are invited to partner with parents in a trusting, compassionate relationship to help children and their families achieve their maximum potential. We have the capacity to provide a “medical home” to all military children and should work toward its achievement, a little each day. A *medical home* is not a building, a house or a hospital, but an approach to providing health care services in a high-quality and cost-effective manner. We can examine our individual and collective settings to evaluate the components of medical home:

- Accessible- meet children, youth and families where they are—the web?
- Family centered- ever stop by the local high school where the on base/post teens are every day?
- Continuous- ask about PCS status and ensure that EFMP status is UTD.
- Comprehensive- use the generous subspecialty resources the military has trained! Call, email –a MEDCEN expert has always responded when I contacted them about a difficult patient out of my scope!
- Coordinated- be the glue for this highly mobile population who deals with real stress everyday.
- Compassionate- military pediatricians are the most compassionate people I know!

Continued on page 2



Section on Uniformed Services 2009-2010 Executive Committee Roster

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Membership in the Section and Chapter is encouraged for all uniformed services Fellows of the AAP.

Notification of desire for membership, subscription requests and address changes should be sent to:

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Ph: 800/433-9016 or 847/228-5005
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E-mail: membership@aap.org
Visit www.aap.org/members/memcat.htm
for an application

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Section on Uniformed Services

News from the Chair *Continued from page 1*

- Culturally effective- learn about who is THERE for your families. Traditional families have dissolved in and out of the military. Be open to the ways families have found love and support!

I used to cringe at the commissary when patients called me by name in the toothpaste aisle. But that is EXACTLY what President Obama is looking for in health care reform—patients who know their pediatricians, BY NAME. We are well on our way. Together we make a huge difference.

COL Beth Ellen Davis, MC, USA
MD MPH FAAP
Chair, SOUS

Uniformed Services Section 50th Anniversary Yearbook

If you are interested in receiving additional copies of the Yearbook please email Lisa Donato at the AAP at ldonato@aap.org and she will mail you a copy.

2010 Uniformed Services Newsletter Schedule

Winter/Spring Newsletter

April 9 articles due
April 30 mailboxes

Summer/Fall Newsletter

August 20 articles due
September 15 mailboxes

We welcome contributions to the newsletter on any topic of interest to the pediatric community.

Please submit your idea or article to:
COL Richard Kynion
at richard.kynion@us.army.mil.



Uniformed Services East Chapter Update – Fall 2009

Lt Col Thomas Newton (Thomas.Newton@keesler.af.mil)
President, USCE (www.useastaap.org)

Dear Chapter East Members:

I wanted to give you all a quick update on what's going on at Uniformed Services East Chapter. First I would like to re-introduce myself to those new members who may not know me. I'm Lt Col Thomas Newton (Thomas.Newton@keesler.af.mil) and recently started my term as president of the chapter. I served as the Vice President for the past 2 years and as the chapter president before that. I'm current assigned as the Chief of Pediatric Subspecialties at Keesler AFB, MS. We have several new members on the executive committee I would also like to introduce. LTC Andy Doyle (Andrew.Doyle@us.army.mil) is the Chief of Primary Care from Fort Stewart, GA and was elected as the Chapter's Vice President. Maj Delila Lewis (dwlewismd@yahoo.com) is in her final year of Neurology Fellowship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center/USUHS and is our new Treasurer-Secretary and LT Christopher Watson (watsoncl@hotmail.com) who is completing a PICU fellowship at Johns Hopkins and is our new member-at-large. I'd like to thank our outgoing officers for the time and effort they put into the chapter: LT Erin Balog, LCDR Greg Gorman, and LTC Tom Eccles.

The Chapter currently runs /supports several programs. We financially support 3 major programs. The first is the Pediatric Society at USUHS to assist the faculty there in promoting military pediatrics as a career for medical students. We also in collaboration with Uniformed Services West Chapter and the Uniformed Services Section fund AAP dues for the residents from the National Capital Consortium in Washington DC, Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, Naval Hospital San Diego, SAUSHEC in San Antonio TX, and Tripler Army Medical Center. This allows both the resident and program directors to the pedialink resources. For the upcoming USPS in San Diego in March 2010 we again will sponsor attendance for the 3 winners of the Junior Pediatrician Award. Applications information will follow. Our main revenue source is through membership dues. I encourage all members to promote chapter and section membership with their colleagues at their respective MTFs which will allow us to fund more projects in the future.

Chapter dues are currently only \$35 and the Section currently has no dues. Members can contact membership services at 866-843-2271 or via email: membership@aap.org.

We are also available to assist members with applications and involvement with other programs at their MTFs. We have a two new (Community Access to Child Health) CATCH program facilitator, Maj Andrew Kreppel (Andrew.Kreppel@wpafb.af.mil) and Maj Anjali Kunz (akunz@usuhs.mil) to assist members with applications for planning, implementation, resident, and residency program CATCH grants. These grants can be used to fund access to care health care project you may want to start at your MTF. Past USCE projects include Obesity Clinic projects at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and Walter Reed Army Medical Center as well as a Daycare Parent Education Program at National Naval Medical Center. See the CATCH website for more information (www.aap.org/catch). We also have several MTFs that have joined the PROs Network (www.aap.org/pros). Some of the data/research that has come out of PROs includes the updated growth charts and reviewed age for secondary sexual characteristics in girls. Keesler Medical Center has recently joined the network, if you are interested contact Lt Col Laura Place (laura.place@keesler.af.mil) and she can walk you through the process. Several MTFs have also started Reach out and Read Programs. Maj Eric Flake (eric.flake@keesler.af.mil) has recently been named to the national advisory board for Reach Out and Read and is a great point of contact if you are interested in starting up a program at your MTF.

Over the next year I would like to continue to expand the chapter's advocacy and membership projects. Please take a look at the chapter website (www.useastaap.org) and review the billet information. If your MTF's information is not current please send me an update so we can keep that information current. If you have any other ideas or wishes you would like the chapter to consider undertaking please feel free to contact me as well. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the next Chapter Meeting in San Diego in conjunction with the USPS.

2010 Open Leadership Positions

There are open leadership positions open in the Army, Air Force and Public Service. If you are interested in the position please contact CAPT (Ret) Joseph Lopreiato at jlopreiato@usuhs.mil.

The Guide to Military Residencies

has been updated and is located on the Section for Uniformed Services website
<http://www.aap.org/sections/uniformedservices/guidetomilitarypediatricresidency.pdf>.



Army Pediatric Consultant's Update

COL Kevin Creamer

Colleagues,

After almost three years as Pediatric Subspecialty Consultant to the Surgeon General, I will be stepping down due to my impending retirement. It has been my distinct privilege to represent our population to the Surgeon General and the Army's leadership as well as to serve our community. I will remain in the position to complete the GME Fellowship interview and selection process this year as well as crafting the strawman for next summer's assignments. Please remember the deadline for submission of fellowship applications on the Army GME website is 15 SEPTEMBER 2009 and 1 NOVEMBER 2009 for supporting documents.

The Pediatric Subspecialty community will be in excellent hands with my replacement COL Ron Prauner. Ron has been a friend and colleague ever since we were pediatric interns together in the house that Bass built at Tripler. As most of you know, COL Prauner is a hematologist/oncologist with a head for the business of medicine and is currently serving as the Chief of Pediatrics at BAMC.

I wanted to let you know of a great new program that has just come out, the new and improved post 9/11 GI bill. This new version, available August 2009, allows service members to transfer their education benefits to spouses or children. This

can amount to up to \$90,000 in college education benefits for a family member. I urge you to find out more by going to the VA website and find the post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Education benefits link. You can get information on all the prerequisites and execute the transfer as well. As they say on car commercials "some restrictions apply".

Some projects that we have been working on Army wide include acquiring the Broselow web-based "Color Coding Kids" medication safety program at no or minimal cost to the individual hospitals. If you are interested in learning more you can go to their web-site at <http://www.colorcodingkids.com>. We have identified a small handful of hospitals (big and small) to conduct trials on this system while we are getting MEDCOM JAG approval to use the system Army-wide. There are obvious applications of this system for the care of children in both wartime and humanitarian crisis situations.

The other project in progress is getting the Surgeon General to consider creating a Consultant to Surgeon General for Humanitarian and Stability Operations. What began as an idea on a cocktail napkin last year during the Joint Graduate Medical Education Selection Board (JGMESB) and is now being briefed to the TSG, thanks to the hard work and expertise of people like COL Cliff Yu, COL Mark Thompson and especially LTC Doug Lougee.

Now the AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) is as mobile as you!

Go to aap365mobile.com* on your phone's mobile browser to access program, exhibit information and conference news and weigh in on the NCE via Twitter.

Receive important NCE Alerts only from the AAP! Text AAPNCE to 39044.



**Application requires use of minimal space on your mobile device. Standard Internet and data fees may apply. NCE attendees will receive no more than 4 text messages per day Friday, October 16 through Tuesday, October 20.*

Follow the NCE on

Tweets will be broadcast on convention center screens throughout the National Conference & Exhibition (NCE).

Find us at <http://twitter.com/AAP2009NCE>



Call for Abstracts for Scientific Award Competition for USPS 2010 in San Diego



Submissions are now being accepted for the Scientific Awards Competition (SAC) for USPS 2010. **Abstracts must be submitted by October 1, 2009** using the link at the top of the SAC website (<http://www.aap.org/sections/uniformedservices/uspsrules.htm>).

General rules are also on the website.

Specific submission details such as abstract length are on the abstract submission page.

Six scientific awards will be given to honor research efforts by Uniformed Pediatricians at the Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar March 7-10, 2010 in San Diego, CA

The awards are:

The Ogden Bruton Award (**\$500 stipend and plaque**)

for the best paper by a Uniformed Pediatrician on either basic science research or research on the development, evaluation, or application of an emerging technology in pediatrics.

The Andrew Margileth Award (**\$500 stipend and plaque**)

for the best pediatric paper by a Uniformed Pediatrician documenting clinical findings or assessing clinical diagnostic studies, therapeutic regimens, and outcomes leading to improved quality of health care for children.

The Howard Johnson Award (**\$500 stipend and plaque**)

for the best paper by a Uniformed House Officer (of any specialty) on a pediatric topic.

The Leo Geppert Research Award (**\$200 stipend and a plaque**)

for the Uniformed pediatric primary care provider describing a topic with a major focus on pediatric primary care, including (but not limited to) innovations in practice management, primary prevention, or educational interventions.

The Leo Geppert Case Award (**\$200 stipend and a plaque**)

for the best case report by a Uniformed Pediatrician. It is the only category that accepts case reports.

The Val G. Hemming Award

(**\$200 stipend, a plaque, and a travel award to USPS**)

for the USUHS, HPSP, or ROTC student submitting the best paper on a pediatric-related topic in clinical or basic science research.

*For additional information,
visit the AAP Uniformed Services Section website
or contact CDR Gregory H Gorman, MD MHS FAAP
(greg.gorman@ymail.com)
2010 SAC Chairperson.*





Post 911 GI Bill Process

Beth Ellen Davis, COL (ret), MC, USA.

I have heard a lot of information rolling around, so thought I would share my experience with acquiring the GI BILL Benefit and transferring it to my kids for use during college this fall.

Many prior and current active duty personnel qualify for POST 911 GI Bill benefits for themselves. HOWEVER, only active duty or retired on or after 1 AUG 2009, qualify for transferring benefits to dependents. There are 5 temporary exceptions for service members nearing or with retirement orders in hand.

Here are the general steps involved (I would use a CAC enabled computer for easy access):

1. See if you qualify for benefits. You have to complete a VA FORM 22-1990. You can do this on line at www.gibill.va.gov. About 6 weeks later, you will get a letter with a “certificate of eligibility” and how many months of benefits you qualify for; the maximum is 36 months (or 4 nine month academic years).
2. Apply to transfer the benefits to dependents on www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB. The website will indicate at the top of the page that you have “submitted” transfer request and you have to keep going back to this page for 3-4 weeks until the service specific officer (usually someone at Personnel at Headquarters) checks off your DEERS etc, and the “submitted” changes to “approved” status.
3. Then, go back to the VA site and submit the VA FORM 22-1990e on behalf of your dependents who may take advantage of the benefits. They have to sign the form, if you send in a hard copy, but it can also be done on line. This is the duplicative step, where the student has to “request” the

benefits after you have “requested to give” the benefits to the student.....

4. Supposedly, the VA Education Officer at your regional VA site will be able to “instantly” marry up the Transfer approval with the other documents and a mere 6 weeks later, issue a “certificate of eligibility” to your dependents.
5. Then, go to the VA Officer at the school where you plan on using the benefits (if you don’t know because your child is still too young, hold onto the paperwork at this stage) with a copy of the dependent’s Certificate of Eligibility and student completes an “Enrollment Information Form” and that gets sent in together to VA. Some of the benefits are paid directly to the school and some of the benefits are paid to the service member on behalf of the student.

There are special circumstances such as the “Yellow Ribbon” program, or situations where spouses get even more coverage than dependent children. In addition to the VA website, the http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2009/0409_gibill/ site has a lot of links and more “layperson” instructions.

You can request that all 36 months be used on one dependent, or one month on all 36 dependents. Tom Philpott (the weekly writer of military updates) has had a few articles on the subject as well (see week of June 27, 2009).

I started this process in June 2009, and am currently at the place where we are awaiting the final “certificate of eligibility” for my son who will be a freshman at the University of Oregon (out of state tuition) this fall. You’ll hear a hoot if this all works!

Uniformed Services Educational Meetings at NCE

Sunday, October 18, 2009

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Section on Uniformed Services Selected Short Subject
Addressing the Mental Health Needs of your Patients

2-3:30 PM

Section on Uniformed Services Seminar
Grief and the Primary Care Pediatrician



44th Annual Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar (USPS)
Pediatrics in Family Centered Care
San Diego, California
March 7-10, 2010

*Sponsored by the AAP Section on Uniformed Services and the American Academy of Pediatrics
in collaboration with the Naval Medical Center San Diego*

Earn a Maximum of 24.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]

What to expect when you attend USPS 2010: Pediatrics in Family-Centered Care

This course reviews the most recent and scientific advances in pediatric medicine and their application to clinical practice. Key topics are covered by recognized experts in a variety of areas specifically designed to update today's health professionals providing care to infants, children, adolescents, and young adults, with information included for those deployed in operational and humanitarian environments. The course combines lectures, question-and-answer sessions, research presentations, and small interactive group sessions to allow course participants the opportunity to interact with distinguished faculty.

New for 2010!

Opportunity to Present Your Work

There will be a small group session on humanitarian missions that will be open to competition, and the winner(s) will be given the opportunity to present their work at the 44th USPS. More information to follow through the USPS Listserv and the course brochure.

Opportunity to Submit Questions to the Expert Before the Course

Those who sign up to attend any of the "Ask the Expert" small group sessions (topics include cardiology, gastroenterology, hematology/oncology, nephrology, and neurology/neurosurgery) will be given the opportunity to submit questions to the experts prior to the course. Experts will come to the course prepared to answer all questions that are submitted ahead of time. An email to solicit questions will be sent out three to four weeks prior to the course.

Don't Miss These Lectures!

Bruton Lecture: Policy Through the Eyes of the Child

Dr Judith Palfrey

Failure to Thrive: A Symptom, Not a Diagnosis

Dr Carol Berkowitz

Pediatric Obesity: The Role of Advocacy, Thinking Outside the Office Setting

Dr Christine Wood

Red Book[®] Update

Dr John Bradley

Register online at www.pedialink.org/cmefinder or call toll-free, 866/THE-AAP1 (866/843-2271)

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AAP designates this educational activity for a maximum of 24.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



Update your Personal Profile

An important service is available on the AAP Member Center. A Personal Profile has been added to provide you with an opportunity to view and update your contact information, demographic, and subspecialty information. Simply enter the changes into the form and our database will be updated the following day.

The online Member Directory should be your primary resource to locate colleagues. Physician Referral Service (PRS) should be used for patient referrals. These resources have the most accurate, up-to-the minute contact information available.

With these new changes and enhancements, we believe we can further improve service to members and the public. However, it is also an important time for our members to check their address and demographic information for accuracy. Please take the time to visit the Member Center and click on "Update Contact Information". If you prefer to contact us by phone or e-mail, you can call 866/THE-AAP1, or send an email to membership@aap.org.

**The AAP Section on Uniformed Services would like to thank
Abbott Nutrition and Mead Johnson Nutrition
for their contribution to the 2009 Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar (USPS).**

Editorial Office: Editor COL Richard Kynion • Email: richard.kynion@us.army.mil

Uniformed Services Section

The Section on Uniformed Services, founded in 1959, is dedicated to educating physicians on topics in pediatrics unique to the uniformed services, to providing a forum for pediatricians in the military and the Public Health Service, and to playing an advocate role on behalf of eligible pediatric beneficiaries and uniformed services pediatricians. In addition, the section provides consultation to the AAP Board of Directors upon request on issues relevant to the uniformed services. Membership in the section is open to all Fellows (including those in training) of the Academy who are active, retired, or former US military or Public Health Service; to uniformed counterparts from other countries of the Americas; and to civilian pediatricians with close ties to the uniformed services. The Section also has an affiliate membership category for physicians, nurses whose patient population is 50% uniformed services pediatric beneficiaries. Membership in 2009 exceeds 900. The Section on Uniformed Services hosts educational programs at the Academy's National Conference and Exhibition and holds its own organizational meeting at the Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar (USPS), a 4-day CME course held each year in late Winter - early Spring. USPS, attended by nearly 300 pediatricians annually. The USPS features topics of interest to pediatric primary care practitioners, additional plenary topics with unique relevance to uniformed pediatricians, and a variety of special interest seminars and workshops. USPS also features a Scientific Awards Competition (SAC) in categories including: (1) the Ogden Bruton Award for basic research, (2) the Andrew Margileth Award for clinical research, (3) the Howard Johnson Award for research during residency training, (4) the Leo Geppert Awards for brief clinical communications and research, and (5) the Val Hemming Award for clinical or basic science research submitted by a medical student. Finally, USPS includes awarding of an annual Outstanding Service Award, Dave Berry Award and an always fun and invigorating inter-service rivalry in the 'Jeopardy'-style James Bass Challenge Bowl. There are many opportunities for both formal and informal interactions with friends, colleagues, and leaders from both uniformed services pediatrics and from the Academy, including the AAP President. Joint Section programs at the Academy's National Convention and Exhibition have featured partnerships with other Section and focus on uniformed services-related pediatric topics. The Ogden Bruton Lectureship is among highlights of the NCE meeting for the Section. The Section, through an elected Section Chair and elected members of the Section Executive Committee, works closely with other AAP Sections and with the AAP Uniformed Services Chapters East and West. In addition, the Section works with the Pediatric Specialty Advisors of the respective service Surgeon General: the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; and numerous military medical facilities around the country and the world. The Section produces a triannual Uniformed Services Pediatric Newsletter featuring updates on Section, Chapter, and AAP topics and activities and maintains an active Section home page on the Internet.

This newsletter is the official biennial publication of the Uniformed Services Section, Uniformed Services Chapter East, and Uniformed Services Chapter West of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Statements and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Department of Defense, or of the Surgeons General.

