Greetings fellow Section Members! It was pleasure to see so many of you at the recent American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition right here in San Diego in October. For those of you who were not able to make it, you missed out on our inaugural “USPS- Lite” Section on Uniformed Services Section meeting. Due to the cancellation of our beloved Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar (USPS) beginning in 2013, the section petitioned the AAP to allow us to have our own section program at the annual NCE meeting. I would say it was a tremendous success. Huge thanks go out to all of our Section Executive Committee Members who were instrumental in the planning of the meeting to include: LTC Catherine Kimball-Eayrs, who is our program chair, Lt Col Cade Nylund, who is our Scientific Awards Chair, and the teams of committee members involved in the selection of the prestigious Dave Berry and Outstanding Service Awards that were presented to honorees from both 2013 and 2014 at this year’s meeting. A special thanks also goes out to our AAP Administrative Assistant Ms. Jackie Burke, who has been with our section for 15 years and was clearly instrumental in the success of this section program.

The section would also like to thank both Chapter West and Chapter East for their involvement in the planning and support of the USPS Lite programming. Our collaboration with the Chapters continues to be very strong. I am happy to report that this past year, with the assistance of the AAP team, we completed a Needs Assessment Survey of our membership. We had nearly a 20% response rate with great representation from all services. Although our membership numbers have been incredibly stable over the past 5-10 years, we continue to strive to increase membership, and improve the services offered to our members. We will continue to look for ways to highlight what it is we do as pediatricians caring for military beneficiaries and this means reaching out to both uniformed and civilian pediatricians who fill this role. In the era of increased scrutiny on travel, our Section will look for ways to partner with the Uniformed Services University (USU) and our other academic centers, to increase access to CME activities for those pediatricians on the front lines. Should you have other suggestions for our section, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to seeing you all at the 2015 AAP NCE in Washington DC, October 24-27, 2015.

Christine L. Johnson, MD, FAAP
CAPT MC USN
Christine.johnson@med.navy.mil
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USPS Lite at the 2014 NCE

Group enjoying USPS Lite at the 2014 NCE
Section on Uniformed Services

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

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Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007
Phone: 800/433-9016 or 847/228-5005
Fax: 847/228-7035
E-mail: membership@aap.org
Visit https://fs25.formsite.com/aapmembership/affiliate/secure_index.html for an application.

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American Academy of Pediatrics
Section on Uniformed Services
Esteemed Colleagues,

Greetings from Uniformed Services East Chapter! We are well into fall and the holiday season is fast approaching. We were recently privileged to be a part of the new form of USPS at the National AAP Convention in San Diego. The new USPS, called USPS lite, was the first USPS section meeting to be combined with the National AAP Convention. It was a great success and we hope more chapter members are able to attend in subsequent years. Highlights included watching pediatric residents from Naval Medical Center San Diego compete in a knowledge bowl against pediatric residents from UC San Diego and UC Irvine, receiving infectious disease updates on Ebola and Enterovirus, and even watching Hillary Clinton deliver a speech promoting literacy in honor of the unveiling of the AAP’s new literacy toolkit. Additionally, we were taught how to effectively run PCMH in the military by a panel of experts with innovative ideas.

Heartfelt congratulations were extended to Captain Emily McElveen who was awarded the 2014 Chapter East Outstanding Young Physician Award for 2014. Her noteworthy accomplishments included the development of a monthly base newsletter titled “Whippersnapper” and her advocacy for children while stationed at Osan AFB, Japan. As a reminder, we accept nominees from all services starting January 1, 2015 until May 31, 2015. Make a New Year’s Resolution to nominate your fantastic colleagues for this prestigious award. Nominees require submission of a current CV and a nomination letter to carolyn.famiglietti@us.af.mil.

We have updated our outreach and communication methods and now have a chapter Facebook page! Like us at https://www.facebook.com/UniformedServicesChapterEast. We intend to place important chapter updates such as CME opportunities, upcoming chapter and district meetings, leadership opportunities and openings, and grant opportunities on our Facebook page so be sure to check us out. We are open to any new ideas or ways to communicate. Please feel free to email any chapter leader or our executive director.

Combining our efforts with Chapter West and our respective districts, we plan to submit key resolutions at the AAP’s Annual Leadership Forum being held in March 2015. The proposed resolutions are as follows: 1) to help encourage individual chapters to reach out to the pediatricians on bases to invite them to participate in local CME and other chapter activities, and 2) encourage our civilian colleagues taking care of military dependents to ask about military affiliation on practice intake questionnaires in order to promote awareness and understanding of the potential needs of military children. We are interested in advocating for your needs and the resolution process is an effective way to communicate those needs to pediatricians within the AAP.

We hope that as the year winds down you will have a great end to 2014. Know the nobility of our profession in caring for military children who deserve our best. Remember, we are a voice for those children who do not yet have a voice. Thank you for your continued support of our chapter and the Section on Uniformed Services. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Chapter East Leadership

Eric Flake (President)
Dalila Lewis (Vice President)
Alex Holston (Sec/Treasurer)
John Campagna (Member-at-Large)

Daniel Kramer (Member-at-Large)
Kwabena Blankson (CATCH grant facilitator)
Mrs. Carolyn Famiglietti (Executive Director)

Uniformed Services Chapter East Update continued
Outstanding Young Pediatrician Award

Capt Emily McElveen (left) accepting the Outstanding Young Pediatrician Award from Col Eric Flake (right).

For more information or to join the section…visit our website at: http://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/Committees-Councils-Sections/Section-on-Uniformed-Services/Pages/default.aspx.

The US West Chapter Executive Committee was very grateful to witness the triumphant return of the USPS (Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar) this year at the AAP’s National Convention and Exhibit in San Diego Oct 11th-14th. Thanks in large part to dedicated leaders of the Uniformed Services Section and staff from the AAP, the USPS has returned as the DOD’s preeminent educational and advocacy event showcasing the work of military pediatricians and the ongoing unique needs of military children. In addition to the excellent USPS events this year, the Chapter conducted several critical activities highlighting the value of chapter membership.

At the USPS on Oct 12th, the Chapter presented its Pediatrician of the Year Awards. This year’s award winners were MAJ Sylvia Arora representing the Army, MAJ Katherine Charnock representing the Air Force, and LCDR Chris Foster representing the Navy. MAJ Charnock and LCDR Foster were in attendance at the USPS and received their award in front of the USPS audience. MAJ Arora was unable to attend the ceremony but had her award hand carried back to TAMC for presentation. Please start thinking about the deserving pediatricians within your commands for nominations for next year’s award.

**Resident/Fellow Chapter Travel Awards** – for the second year in a row, the US West Chapter Executive Committee voted to demonstrate its commitment to future pediatric, military, and AAP leaders by sponsoring pediatric residents or fellows from each of the training programs within the US West area to attend the AAP’s National Convention and Exhibit. The Chapter paid for registration fees, travel and expenses for four trainees. This expenditure for the Chapter is in line with one of our most important strategic objectives: developing future leaders for the Chapter, the AAP, and military pediatrics. This year’s award winners were CPT Megan Donohue and CPT Nicholas Carr from SAUSHEC, MAJ Brian Brennan from MAMC, and LT John Nevin from NNMCSD. The award winners were mentored by Chapter leaders at a special Chapter meeting as well as several other events held throughout the week at the NCE. Please start thinking about deserving trainee nominees for next year’s NCE. The Chapter would like to sponsor a trainee from each of the 4 training programs covered by the West Chapter. A special thank you to LTC Thornton Mu who coordinated this year’s resident travel awards and to MAJ (P) Jay Dintaman who spent many hours ensuring that all of the financial coordination necessary to execute this sponsorship occurred successfully.

On Sunday Oct 12th, the Chapter sponsored its annual Chapter meeting and social event at the Tipsy Crow in the historic Gas Lamp District of San Diego. A brief business meeting was conducted and attendees had the chance to fill out a needs assessment survey that will be used to help guide the Chapter in coming years. Appetizers were served and Chapter members got a chance to catch up with one another in a comfortable and relaxing environment. A raffle was held at the reception for all chapter members who brought a non-member to the reception. The winner, MAJ Katherine Charnock, won a voucher to cover next year’s registration fees to the NCE and USPS to be held in Washington, DC. A special thanks to MAJ Renee Matos for taking care of the details that made the Chapter reception a success.

The Chapter would like to add its thanks and congratulations to our very own COL (ret) Beth Ellen Davis who was the recipient of the 2013 Uniformed Services Section Outstanding Service Award.

*Continued on page 7*
received her award at this year’s USPS ceremony. Additionally, Dr. Davis was the co-author of the 2013 AAP Clinical Report entitled “Health and Mental Health Needs of US Military Children” and delivered a remarkable presentation at this year’s NCE with the same title. Congratulations COL Davis!!! We are very proud of you.

**Member Drive** – The US West Chapter is funded exclusively by member dues. Many eligible members don’t know that you can be a member of the Chapter without being a full member of the AAP. Although we would strongly encourage all pediatricians to consider full membership in the AAP, we would also welcome those who are only able to be a member of the Chapter at this time. The most effective way to gain new members is for current members to reach out to non-members and offer a personal story about what the Chapter does for military kids and their pediatricians. If you would like a list of those who are current Chapter members at your institution, please contact the Chapter Executive Director, Ms. Elina Ly.

**Special Achievement Awards** - This year’s AAP US West Chapter Special Achievement Awards were given to COL Aaron Pitney, Chief of the Department of Pediatrics at Madigan Army Medical Center and LTC (P) Loranee Braun, Pediatric Residency Program Director at Madigan Army Medical Center. COL Pitney’s citation reads: For his steadfast leadership of the Department of Pediatrics at Madigan Army Medical Center during a very challenging time of financial constraint and transition to a Patient Centered Medical Home. LTC (P) Braun’s citation reads: For her tireless commitment to the pediatric residency program at Madigan Army Medical Center. Both recipients were acknowledged for going above and beyond on behalf of military children and the pediatricians who care for them. Congratulations COL Pitney and LTC (P) Braun!!!!

**Chapter HPV Immunization Provider Recommendation Grant** – Nationally, HPV immunization rates are at 30% and at most DOD facilities are below the national average. The CDC’s Healthy People 2020 goal is to achieve 80% immunization of both girls and boys by their 13th birthday. In Jan 2014 the Chapter was awarded a $20,000 grant to execute a CDC/AAP provider recommendation education program across the US West Chapter region of influence. So far, team members, including MAJ Rachel Dawson from Ft. Hood, TX, MAJ Shana Hansen from SAUSHEC, and COL Jeff Green from TAMC have participated in executing this exciting grant. At MAMC, the training program was adopted by the Primary Care Service Line and the Primary Care Quality Management Group as an officially sanctioned Process Improvement Project. Education sessions have been conducted at 2 of the 9 major PCMH practices at MAMC. The remaining 7 practices will receive training before the end of the year. Additionally, training has been conducted widely across all PCMHs at Ft. Hood’s CDAMC by MAJ Rachel Dawson. MAJ Dawson has also conducted extensive training session for other practices at Ft. Carson, CO, Ft. Bliss, TX, San Antonio, TX, and Ft. Riley KS. Team members have also conducted training at Bassett Army Community Hospital in Ft. Wainwright, AK and at Elmendorf AFB in Anchorage, AK. If you are in the US West area and would like to receive HPV Immunization Provider Recommendation training, please contact one of the team members mentioned above to coordinate training at your site. Training funds are available through March 2015 and further funding and extension of training through the AAP and CDC is likely to occur.

**School Based Health Centers (SBHCs) as Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMHs)** - The SBHC concept continues to thrive across the US West Chapter. At Madigan, the SBHCs recently doubled the amount of time they are available to students by going from half days to full days at the two high schools
Uniformed Services Chapter West Update  
Continued from page 7

where they are operating and by adding a new middle school to receive SBHC services. A primary care quality management group project is underway at Madigan as well to encourage Family Medicine PCMHs to develop partnerships with nearby local schools replicating the Pediatrics approach. Also, MAJ Rachel Dawson continues to staff her project between Carl Darnall AMC at Ft. Hood and the Kileen ISD to set up the first SBHCs in the Ft. Hood area. The SBHC at Cole Jr/Sr. High on Ft. Sam Houston continues to operate and decrease barriers to teen health care as well. If you are interested in setting up your own SBHC, please feel free to contact Chapter leadership for more details.


Navy Pediatrics Specialty Leader Update

Hello again! It is my pleasure to write this update for the Navy Pediatric community. We remain incredibly strong! In the midst of a transition to the Defense Health Agency, a BUMED reorganization, a transition to electronic Graduate Medical Education Selection Board scoring, the introduction and stabilization of Primary Care Medical Home Port and close scrutiny on both travel and the overall functioning of the Military Health System, we remain strong and steadfast in our mission: to provide the best care for our pediatrics beneficiaries, the children of those in harm’s way.

We currently have 72 general pediatricians, 53 pediatric subspecialists, 10 serving in operational or leadership billets (to include 2 XOs and 1 Deputy Surgeon General) and we are training 44 residents in our 3 fully accredited and outstanding residency training programs. We continue to train Pediatric Subspecialists both in our Full-time In-service Fellowship programs (4 NICU, 1 Peds Neurology, 1 Peds Devo) as well as on Full-time Out-service funded fellowships (2 Peds Pulm, 1 PICU, 1 Peds Cardiology, 1 NICU, 1 Peds Heme Onc, 1 Peds Endocrinology, 1 Peds Genetics, 1 Peds Devo and 1 Academic Peds) and in Non-Active Duty Deferred training billets (1 PICU, 1 Peds Neuro, 1 Peds GI.) We have uniformed pediatricians at more than 20 locations both CONUS and OCONUS.

In the past year, we have served in leadership roles to assist BUMED and the DHA on a review of Tricare services covered for children, as well as initiatives to improve HEDIS and ORYX metrics, NPIC data (newborn birth trauma, etc.) and we continue to work together with our Air Force and Army colleagues to streamline our inpatient and outpatient electronic medical records with AHLTA TriService Workflow initiatives and Essentris Optimization. We have individuals serving on working groups looking at newborn Immunization, adolescent contraception and unwanted pregnancy and obesity initiatives, all while continuing to provide compassionate and competent clinical care in both the outpatient and inpatient settings.

It is the time of year for assignments and moves. I continue to do my best to advocate with our detailer to get the right person, to the right assignment. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly Christine.johnson@med.navy.mil or 619-532-9868.

It is a pleasure to continue to serve as the Specialty Leader for Navy Pediatrics.

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”  Dr. Seuss
Hello to everyone. I am so honored to be serving as your Pediatric Consultant. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you at the USPS lite and have spoken with many of you on the phone. I am happy to say we look well-manned and will likely be that way for the foreseeable future. I laud all of your efforts at the MTF’s. That really happens due to your blood, sweat and tears so thanks from AFMOA. I am truly here to serve you and help you execute that mission so call me when needed. I like to discuss things by phone as I find it is far more effective so when you email me, please give me a good contact number to call you back. I try to do that as quickly as possible and will shoot for a same day response in most cases.

We are approaching our PCS planning for 2015. If you have not already done so, ensure you have an up-to-date Airman Developmental Plan particularly if you have been 4 years on station and are vulnerable for a move. Your assignments officer is Lt Col David Zemkosky and he works at AFPC. Please feel free to contact either of us if you have concerns about assignment particularly if you have family issues we need to know about. We really are working hard to keep your careers on tract and keep your families safe and happy at the same time.

Just a couple if initiatives we are working here at AFMOA. I am close to getting funding issues for the Military Medical Humanitarian Assistance Course sponsored by USUHS resolved for your RSV requirements. This will allow you to obtain local funding for these courses without going through the CARD process. I am also working with Ophthalmology to try and procure central a vision screening device as a central buy. NPIC metrics are being reviewed and I have brought the AFMOA coding folks on line with assisting in accurate coding particularly with respect to things that affect newborn metrics. We have developed a Graduate Medical Education (GME) modeling tool and we are working on a rewrite of the Patient Centered Medical Home Air Force Instruction to allow GME sites to accurately reflect the GME mission into the staffing models. Finally, I am working hard to get you better tools to assist with getting folks to get in for their well child visits and ensure that the metric will accurately reflect early visits by civilian providers.

I always appreciate getting things that are working well out to the field. If you think you have a best practice, please email me so I can let others benefit from your experience. I will place those in my updates. If there are topics from sub-specialists you would like covered in my updates, please let me know and I will get that information out to you as well.

I really am excited to be helping you all on your journey. You are my favorite part of this job. I am in awe of how talented our career field has become and am amazed by the positions we have obtained all throughout our leadership chain. Please contact me when you need assistance donald.lane@us.af.mil; wp 210-395-9038; bb (210-723-4379).

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

Please submit your idea or article to:
Dawn Muench dawn.muench@gmail.com.
2014 Scientific Award Update

2014 was a large transition year for the Section on Uniform Services and USPS. While several changes were required to accommodate this transition, the goal to maintain the tradition of the high-quality SOUS scientific awards competition throughout this transition period was achieved. The most noticeable change was to the submission timeline, with initial abstracts now accepted December to February. Award winners and finalists are notified of final results by June which allows trainee winners and finalists to list their respective awards on GME applications in the fall. The invitation to present at the USPS program at the NCE annually will continue with the winners in the Howard Johnson, Andrew Margileth and Ogden Bruton awards categories invited to give platform presentations and all other finalists invited to present posters of their selected submissions.

This year as always produced an excellent turnout of submissions of superior quality. Over 70 abstracts were submitted representing diversity across services and geography. A special thanks is submitted to the judges and Tracey Coletta, without whom the SOUS scientific awards would not have been possible. Members are encouraged to keep up the great research and don’t forget: the 2015 scientific awards open for submission December 10th!

Major Cade Nylund, MD, FAAP
Section on Uniform Services
2014-2015 Scientific Awards Chair

2014 Scientific Award Results . . . Starts on Page 11

ANNOUNCEMENT

LEADERSHIP OPENINGS FOR SECTION ON UNIFORMED SERVICES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In March 2015, an election ballot for leadership positions on the Section on Uniformed Services Executive Committee will be available for all section members.

There will be two openings on the executive committee:

• (2) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITION (ARMY)

If you are interested in learning more about a leadership position on the Section on Uniformed Services, please contact Jennifer Hepps, MD, FAAP at jennifer.hepps@usuhs.edu or Witzard Seide, MD, FAAP at wizzy9183@hotmail.com.
Val Hemming Award

The Val G. Hemming Award, given by the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is an annual citation and award for the best paper by a Uniformed Services medical student. This award was first presented in Washington, DC in 2003 and is named in honor of Dr. Val G. Hemming whose devotion to medical education as Chairman of Pediatrics at Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences is legendary.

This year’s winner was 2dLt Perri Hopkins for “Epidemiology of Biliary Atresia in the United States”.
Leo J. Geppert Awards

The Leo J. Geppert Awards, given by the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, are annual citations and awards for the best case presentation and original research study by a Uniformed Services pediatrician for research in primary pediatric care. The award is named in honor of Dr. Leo J. Geppert for his many contributions to military pediatrics as the first Chief of Pediatrics at Brooke Army Medical Center and Chief of the first Department of Defense Pediatrics Residency Program.

Leo J. Geppert Research Awards

This year’s first place Leo J. Geppert Case Award winner was CPT Lauren Vasta for “Postpartum Depression: Improving Education and Screening in the Pediatric Primary Care Setting”.

2nd Place  LtCol Matthew Goldman, “A Targeted Educational Curriculum Intervention Improves Physician Nutrition Knowledge”.

3rd Place  LT Adam Van Den Boom, “Implementation of a Bronchiolitis Treatment Pathway at a Military Treatment Facility Significantly Reduces the use of Ineffective Therapies in the Inpatient Setting”.

Carolyn Sullivan (left) accepts LtCol Matthew Goldman’s 2nd place Leo Geppert Research Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right).

LT Adam Van Den Boom (left) accepting the 3rd place Leo Geppert Research Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right).

CPT Katherine Shedlock (right) accepts CPT Lauren Vasta’s 1st place Leo Geppert Research Award from Maj Cade Nylund (left)

Continued on page 13
Leo J. Geppert Awards  Continued from page 12

This year’s first place Leo J. Geppert Research Award winner was LT John Nevin for “A Case of Guillan-Barre with Improved Strength and Sensation in Response to Cooling Therapy”

2nd Place Tie
CPT Sarah Anisowicz, “Eradication of Mycobacterium abscessus pulmonary infection in a child with idiopathic bronchiectasis”

2nd Place Tie
LT Krystin A Engelhardt, “Pyloric Stenosis in Premature Infants”

LT John Nevin (right) accepting the 1st place Leo Geppert Case Award from Maj Cade Nylund (left).

LT Krystin A Engelhardt (left) accepting the 2nd place Leo Geppert Case Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right).

CPT Sarah Anisowicz (left) accepting the 2nd place Leo Geppert Case Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right).
Howard H. Johnson Jr. Award

The Howard H. Johnson Jr. Award, given by the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is an annual citation and award for the best research paper on a pediatric topic by a Uniformed Services house officer. Recognizing that the competitive nature of the other Uniformed Services Section research awards limited participation by house officers, the Executive Committee of the Uniformed Services Section established this award. It was designed to foster house officer research and was first given in San Francisco in March 1983. In 1989, the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics provided additional recognition and awards for individuals placing second and third in this competition. The award is named in honor of Howard H. Johnson Jr., whose devotion to house officer education as Chairman of Pediatrics at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center is legendary.

This year’s first place winner was Capt Allison M. Helfrich, “Late-Preterm Infants Have Higher Risk for Respiratory Syncytial Virus Hospitalization”.

2nd Place  LT Amy Sweigart, “Impact of Cost of Living and Food Costs on Food Insecurity”

3rd Place  LT Krystin A. Engelhardt, “Decreased Prematurity Rates in an Open-Access Universal Health Care System”

Finalist  LT Sebastian Lara, “Parental Intimate Partner Violence Impacts Children’s Well-child Care and Immunizations”

Finalist  CPT Robert J. McCully, “Impact of Using a Bilirubin Nomogram for Identification of Infants at Risk for Severe Hyperbilirubinemia on Length of Hospital Stay, Hospital Readmission, and Breastfeeding”
Ogden C. Bruton Awards

The Ogden C. Bruton Award, given by the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is an annual citation and award for the best paper by a Uniformed Services pediatrician on either basic research or applied research on the development, evaluation, or application of an emerging technology. The discoverer of the immunodeficiency disease bearing his name and organizer of the first pediatric residency program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

This year’s first place winner LCDR Shelton A. Viola, “Bone Marrow Stromal Cells from Acute Myeloid Leukemia Patients Release Exosomes that Rescue Leukemia Cells from Kinase Inhibitor Chemotherapy”

2nd Place Tie MAJ Anthony J. Recupero, “COX4 Overexpression in Metastatic Medullary Thyroid Cancers”

2nd Place Tie Maj Christopher A. Rouse, “Fetal Brain Damage Resulting from Minimal Maternal Alcohol Exposure and Antioxidant Modulation in Vivo”

Finalist Capt Daniel J. Adams, “The Role of HIV-1 V2-specific Antibodies in Mother to Child Transmission”

Finalist Maj Dalila Lewis, “Use of a Novel Neuroimaging Technique in the Diagnosis of Rare Pediatric Disorder”

Finalist LCDR Shannon M. Marchegiani, “Recurrent mutations in TWIST2 alter epithelial-mesenchymal transition and cause ablepharon macrostomia syndrome”

MAJ Anthony J. Recupero (left) accepting the 2nd place Ogden Bruton Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right)

LCDR Shelton A. Viola (left) accepting the 1st place Ogden Bruton Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right)
**Andrew M. Margileth Award**

The Andrew M. Margileth Award, given by the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is an annual citation and award for the best paper by a Uniformed Services pediatrician for research in a clinical area. This award was first presented in El Paso, Texas in March 1977. In 1988, the Uniformed Services Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics provided additional recognition and awards for individuals placing second and third place in this competition. The award is named in honor of Dr. Andrew M. Margileth for his many outstanding contributions to military pediatrics, both during his active military career and as a faculty member of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Medicine.

This year’s first place winner was MAJ Jody Hefner for “Comparison of Esophageal Clearance Times of Oral Budesonide Preparations”

2nd Place  **LCDR Benjamin Blevins**, “Influence of Neonatal Surgical Repair of Tetralogy of Fallot on Electrocardiographic changes, Arrhythmias, and Sudden Cardiac Death”

3rd Place  **LCDR Melissa A. Buryk**, “2-year Stability of T and B Cell Autoimmunity in New-onset Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)”

Finalist  **Col Daniel B. Bruzzini**, “The Knowledge, Confidence, Competency Method Validating Pediatric Critical Care Training Efficacy”

Finalist  **Capt Gayle D. Haischer-Rollo**, “Changes in Near Infrared Spectroscopy During Blood Transfusions in Neonates with Critical Congenital Heart Defects”

Finalist  **CPT Ashleigh Pavey**, “Validation of Non-invasive Measures of Body Composition in Infants Born Preterm: Waist circumference/length Ratio and Ponderal Index”

Finalist  **MAJ Katherine Q. Philla**, “Swallowed Glucocorticoid Therapy for Eosinophilic Esophagitis in Children Does Not Suppress Adrenal Function”

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**Letters to the Editor**

Have a concern about a feature or story that appeared in a past edition of the Uniformed Services Newsletter? Just want to comment on something related to uniformed services? We have a new feature, “Letters to the Editor.”

Please send any comments or concerns to Dawn Muench dawn.muench@gmail.com or Tracey Coletta tcoletta@aap.org. We will publish the letters and do our best to respond to your concerns.
MAJ Jody Hefner (right) accepting the 1st place Andrew Margileth Award from Dr. Andrew Margileth (left)

LCDR Benjamin Blevins (left) accepting the 2nd place Andrew Margileth Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right)

LCMR Melissa A. Buryk (left) accepting the 3rd place Andrew Margileth Award from Maj Cade Nylund (right)
Outstanding Service Award (OSA) Recipients

The OSA is awarded annually to a present or former Uniformed Services Pediatrician for outstanding lifetime services to the military and pediatrics. This special recognition is rotated among the US Army, Navy and Air Force and criteria for selection include: pediatric leadership, contribution to military medicine, contribution to the Uniformed Services Section and/or Military Chapter of the AAP, and a career of Scholarly Achievement. Potential recipients are nominated and selected by the Executive Committee, in conjunction with the pediatric specialty advisors. The award recipient is selected by vote of the award subcommittee and the Section of Uniformed Services Executive Committee.

The deserving 2013 (Dr. Beth Ellen Davis) and 2014 (Dr. Gary Crouch) OSA recipients were recognized at the 2014 AAP NCE USPS Lite Program.

Dr. Gary Crouch

Dr. Crouch’s Accomplishments:
Dr. Gary Crouch, Col, USAF, MC (Ret) is the Vice Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the USHSU in Bethesda, Maryland, a member of the clinical faculty at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda and a board-certified Pediatrician and Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist. He has a Master’s degree in Health Services Administration from the George Washington University’s School of Public Health in Washington, DC, and is a retired Colonel in the US Air Force. Dr. Crouch has held numerous positions across the spectrum of academic, clinical and investigative medicine to include serving as Program Director for both a General Pediatric Residency Program and a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship, membership and Chair of Institutional Review Boards and extensive basic science and clinical research experience, including serving as the institutional Principal Investigator for the Pediatric Oncology Group. He is a member of the Children’s Oncology Group and the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology.

An active member of the AAP, Dr. Crouch has served on Section Executive Committees for the Uniformed Services and the Hematology/Oncology sections. In these positions, he advocates for initiatives that advance and support pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists in their efforts to care for the world’s children.

Dr Crouch’s Words:
“Many thanks to my fellow AAP SOUS members for this award. It means a lot and is very much appreciated. I look forward to many more years of involvement in the Section and the AAP. Congratulations to all those who made the first AAP NCE “USPS Lite” a great success and a new tradition.”

Dr. Beth Ellen Davis

Dr. Davis’s Accomplishments:
Beth Ellen Davis MD, MPH, FAAP, retired as Colonel, US Army Medical Corps, and was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal (2009) for her military career contributions. As Program Director of the only DoD Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP) Fellowship, she trained a decade of military specialists. She has made numerous contributions to both AAP military chapters and the AAP Section over the past 20 years, culminating in Chair of SOUS Executive Committee (2005-2009). Her academic pursuits have resulted in military medical student, resident, and fellow teaching and she holds faculty appointments as Associate

Continued on page 19
Professor of Pediatrics at USUHS, Bethesda MD, as well as Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UW, Seattle, WA. She has over a dozen peer-reviewed publications, prioritizing research endeavors of rising junior scholars.

Dr. Davis has made significant contributions understanding the role of combat deployment in the lives of military families. Since 2001, her efforts to educate primary care providers have included clinical research, a Clinical Report (in press), development of a Pediatrics supplement, AAP website development, a PREP audio session, appearance on CSPAN, among numerous national and community presentations. Currently, Dr. Davis is the Director of the Clinical Training Unit at the Center on Human Development and Disability, University of Washington. She is the Principal Investigator and Director of UWLEND, a federally funded (MCHB) training grant for post-graduates who serve children with developmental disabilities.

Dr. Davis is a cum laude graduate of Davidson College, Davidson NC and completed her MD and pediatric residency at the University of Virginia. After ten years as a Army general pediatrician, Dr. Davis pursued a DBP fellowship at Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma WA and a MPH at UW.

**What the Outstanding Service Award Means to Me**

**COL (ret) Beth Ellen Davis MD MPH FAAP**

Although 2013 marked the cancellation of USPS, for me it will be remembered as bittersweet, for it is also the year I was awarded the AAP Outstanding Service Award. The OSA is such a meaningful award to me, because it recognizes service to the three keystone passions of my professional career (thus far): the military, being a pediatrician, and the AAP. I am honored and humbled to join a list of esteemed OSA recipients from Triservice Pediatrics, and to be recognized at the 2014 AAP NCE in San Diego CA, amongst friends.

Although outwardly, I may have “qualified” for the OSA because of longstanding service and work:

- to the military: since ROTC in 1979, through retirement in 2009, culminating with a Legion of Merit medal,
- to medicine: as an Army general pediatrician and then having the privilege to serve as the Director for the only active duty Triservice DBP Fellowship for almost 10 years, in support of clinical research and medical education initiatives,
- to the AAP: as an executive member and then Chair of the Section on Uniformed Services for many years, and active roles in Chapters and other functions.

It is really because of mentorship set before me by Outstanding Others that I was afforded opportunities to “Step up to the plate” and develop my motivations and passions. I will always be grateful to those whose footsteps guided me, including:

**Continued on page 20**
• COL Denise Cabeza, my first chief at FT Bragg NC who gently guided a group of brand new general pediatricians and supported our sense of urgency to “Make it better”. I have always been motivated by the activation of ideas. As Dr. Close (the actor Glenn Close’s father) titled a book while serving as a medical missionary in Africa, “the earth is not a resting place!”.

• COL John Pierce encouraged me, despite my inexperience and reluctance 25 years ago, to find a leadership role within Chapter East, and “lift where you stand” (as Col Randy Zernzach says). Wherever we are in the military, in Pediatrics, in the AAP, we can find a place for our motivation and passion to improve the lives of children. I see this every day in the work of the MAMC DBP Fellows who continue to be a great inspiration to me!

• CAPT Joe Lopreiato and Col Greg Toussaint, as the trio of USUHS MS-III clerkship directors, helped mature my passion for academic pediatrics and all levels of learners.

• COL Bill Walker, COL Pat Kelly, Capt Chris Plauche Johnson mentored, in their own ways, the passionate capacity to care for children with neurodevelopmental needs, and how to extend our reach outside the office --to schools, to camps, to policymakers leveraging our ability to serve this population. It takes a village, and we need to be actively involved in our medical neighborhoods.

• COL Errol Alden and Jackie Burke, who through their vision, determination, and “Leadiatrics” (a term coined by Lewis First at the PAS 2014) at the AAP, have helped Uniformed Pediatricians over the years “Unify their Voice”, whether by finding ways for military pediatricians to come together, or through initiatives to bring clarity to Military Pediatrics, for others.

The earth is not a resting place…..so step up to the plate……lift where you stand…..it takes a village…..be part of a unified voice, to improve the lives of military children, and all children. That is what the OSA means to me.

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**Outstanding Service Award (OSA) Recipients** *Continued from page 19*

**Dave Berry Awards Recipients**

Established in 2001, the Dave Berry Award recognizes an individual who:

• sets high standards for excellence in the practice of pediatrics

• holds significant promise for a career in military medical education

• is a caring, compassionate physician who serves as a role model for parent interactions

• leads a balanced life that acknowledges the many facets of a whole self: career, family, friends, community, spirituality, and physical health.

The 2013 and 2014 winners were awarded at this year’s conference:

**2013**

**Shawn McFarland, MD, FAAP** is a Lt Col in the US Air Force and currently serves as Chief of the Medical Staff of the 86th Medical Group at Ramstein AFB, Germany.

Dr. McFarland grew up in Vassar, Michigan and completed his undergraduate education Hope College in

*Continued on page 21*
Holland, Michigan. He was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1994 and entered the Air Force by direct commission. He completed his nurse internship at Keesler Air Force Base in 1995, followed by an assignment as a clinical nurse on both the Multiservice Unit and Emergency Room at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina. Major McFarland completed his Master of Public Administration in 1996 through Troy State University. This was followed by an assignment as clinical nurse and assistant nurse manager on the surgical unit at Wright-Patterson Medical Center, Ohio. In 1999, Major McFarland served as the Executive Officer the Commander of the 74th Medical Group before returning to nursing as the assistant nurse manager of the Multiservice Unit. That year, he also married his wife, Lt Col Debra (Olson) McFarland who he had met three years earlier at Shaw.

In May 2001, he assumed the duties of Executive Officer to the Air Force Materiel Command Surgeon. He earned his Doctor of Medicine in 2007 at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine and completed his Residency in Pediatrics at Wright-Patterson Medical Center and Dayton Children’s Medical Center in June 2010.

Dr. McFarland is board certified in general pediatrics and in addition to the Dave Berry Award, in 2013 he was recognized as the 366 Medical Group and Fighter Wing Field Grade Officer of the year, was selected as the 12th Air Force Outstanding Performer of the Year and for the Air Combat Command Field Grade Clinical Excellence Award for 2013.

Shawn, his wife, and their three children ages 9, 7, and 7 are enjoying their time in Europe.

2014
Christopher A. Rouse, MD, FAAP, is a Major in the US Air Force and currently serves as Medical Director for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and as Department Head of Neonatology at United States Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan.

A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, he earned his medical degree from Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He completed a residency in pediatrics at Travis AFB and a fellowship in neonatal-perinatal medicine at the San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium.

Dr. Rouse is very happily married to his wife, Rebecca, who is a family medicine physician. They have two young boys and spend most of their free time exploring the island and sea life of Okinawa.
**Ogden Bruton Lectureship**

The creation of USPS Lite this year meant the return of many long-held traditions such as the Outstanding Service Award, the Dave Berry Award, the Scientific Award Competition and Chapter Awards. These include the annual invited lectureship, Ogden Bruton.

This year’s Ellwood Lectureship was **COL (Ret) Thomas Burklow, MD, FAAP**.

In 1980, Colonel Ogden C. Bruton, MC, Ret, USA, contacted the American Academy of Pediatrics, to offer his support of a speaker for the AAP annual program of the Academy’s Section on Military Pediatrics. He suggested that a prominent pediatrician or pediatric subspecialty provider local to the meeting site be chosen annually and this tradition has continued since that time. In recent years, the Bruton Lectureship has been moved to the annual USPS meeting.

This year’s Bruton lecturer was COL Thomas Burklow, MD, FACC, FAAP. In addition, Col Mike Rajnik, MD, FAAP along with Peds ID fellow Capt Daniel Adams, MD presented an up-to-the-minute update on the ongoing Ebola and Enterovirus D68 outbreaks. This highly relevant information and their flexibility in preparing this last-minute talk were greatly appreciated by all.

Col Mike Rajnik (right) and Capt Dan Adams (left) presenting an update on Ebola and Enterovirus D68
James W. Bass Challenge Bowl at NCE

In August 2013, the SOUS executive committee petitioned the AAP to change the name of the NCE Challenge Bowl to the James W. Bass Challenge Bowl. The AAP graciously approved this request, in light of the cancellation of USPS and to honor and preserve the traditions of the Bass Bowl. The “new” bass bowl this year pitted three competitive Residency Programs from CA against one another: Children’s Hospital of Orange County and Rady Children’s Hospital put up a valiant effort but the Naval Medical Center San Diego Pediatric Residency Program claimed the title of champion in the final round by naming the US Surgeons General who had a background in Pediatrics. Way to go Navy in keeping the crown in the military!

My NCE Experience

Megan Donahue, CPT, MC, USA
PGY2, Pediatrics, San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium

Last month, I had the privilege of representing SAUSHEC Pediatrics at the AAP National Convention and Exhibition as program delegate thanks to sponsorship by the Uniformed Services West Chapter.

On Saturday, I attended the SOMSRFT (Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees) meeting, where I participated in Section elections as program delegate and learned about the new SOMSRFT advocacy project. For the past year, the Uniformed Services West Chapter has helped influence SOMSRFT policy and decisions with Dr. Sebastian Welsh from TAMC serving as the SOMSRFT District VIII Director. This year, our chapter continues to be represented through our new District Director, Dr. Erika Bernardo, from my own program at SAMMC. I am very excited about this year’s SOMSRFT advocacy campaign: FACE Poverty. The campaign hopes to fight the detrimental effects of poverty on children’s health through increasing Food security and providing improved nutrition, increasing Access to healthcare for all children, supporting healthy Communities, and preventing poverty through access to Education across the age spectrum from getting more children involved in pre-K programs and preventing high school dropout. The SOMSRFT advocacy agenda is in line with the overall AAP Agenda for Children 2014-2015 which places addressing Poverty and Child Health as a top pillar in Academy goals. Perhaps even more importantly, the goal of addressing poverty touches home to many in our military communities. Recent data collected by Feeding America, a charity consisting of food banks across the country, estimates that as many as 20% of the households seeking food at their food banks have at least one family member who is currently or has previously served in the military. In other words, potentially one in every five patient (families) we see on a daily basis may be threatened by food insecurity, despite the job security and healthcare security their sponsor(s) may have serving in the US Armed Forces. In my own practice, I can see this in the numbers of WIC prescriptions for formula and other foods I have already written, just 1.5 years into residency.

This year’s NCE also marked the return of USPS, in the form of “USPS Lite” a half-day session featuring lectures on the advancements in military medicine, updates on the current data and state of Enterovirus D68 and Ebola in- and out-side of the US. USPS Lite also featured awards recognitions of outstanding military pediatricians as well as featuring many of the top pediatric research projects. It was very exciting during the

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My NCE Experience  Continued from page 23

awards section to see one of my own program staff honored as the Air Force Pediatrician of the Year. It was also a great way to get to friends and colleagues I had not seen in some time and to get a glimpse into many of the research projects that are going on in military pediatrics. And now I have a goal to work with my fellow residents to make sure ours are also some of the posters being presented next year!

Between Section sessions, I was also able to attend many exciting lectures including the Red Book Update and a debate on whether the Academy should change its stance on (interactive) tablet use in toddlers. During the Red Book Update, members of the Red Book committee presented the data behind the new 2014 influenza and palivizumab guidelines. They also discussed changes to the HPV vaccine anticipated in spring 2015 which will entail a 9-valent vaccine strain, exciting for further protecting our children against up to 97% of oncologic HPV infections. The Tablets and Toddlers debate questioned whether it was appropriate for children under age 2 to use interactive games on tablet devices with the conclusion that there is not likely to be an official stance change in the near future but that perhaps there could be some learning in interactive and responsive-to-child tablet apps, especially if the parents/caregivers are engaging in the app with their children.

There are exciting things on the horizon for pediatrics and I am looking forward to next year’s NCE. Thank you once again to the USW Chapter for helping me to attend this year.

Be Informed!!!  Get Involved!!!

Join the Section on Uniformed Services LISTSERV® Today!

If you are interested in joining the Listserv, e-mail tcoletta@aap.org.
How to Use Big Data for Research at Your MTF

Can you be engaged in quality research at a small MTF? What if your department doesn’t have the funds for a research assistant or, if they do, the position approval is at Rock Island for a 5 year stint? What if you don’t know where to start?

The Military Health System (MHS) database is the largest comprehensive database of medical data in the U.S. That’s right - larger than Kaiser, and more comprehensive than Medicaid & Medicare. There are records for over 4 million children and adolescents spanning from 2002 to the present, including outpatient, inpatient, laboratory, referral, procedure, and demographic records. Most of your RVU, PCMH, and HEDIS metrics are derived from these databases by folks in your business office. However, this is also ideal for answering clinical questions or validating that clinical hunch of yours - and with less infrastructure than you would need for other types of research.

The term “big data” is currently a buzz word in both medicine and in science. Big data is a relatively new term to describe the exponential growth of available structured and unstructured data. Mining the ‘big data’ of the MHS does require some planning, training, and expertise as the MHS data would be classified as only partially structured data. There are limitations too in what is possible with data that is collected through normal day-to-day operations. The MHS data is not collected for clinical purposes and thus special preparation must be taken to utilize the data for research purposes. Check out the following guide for more information (http://www.tricare.mil/tma/privacy/hrpp/downloads/Guide_for_DoD_Researchers_on_Using_MHS_Data.pdf). Here is an overview:

- Planning: The MHS data - the diagnoses you enter in AHLTA, the results you look up in CHCS, and everything else - are contained in the MHS Data Repository (MDR). Access directly to the MDR is possible, however for the beginner MDR is difficult to use. The data is accessed on a UNIX server and to query the database a SAS (a professional statistical software program) program must be written and submitted. This requires a knowledge of SAS programming. For beginners, there is MHS Mart (M2), a web based interface that contains limited data (excluding labs) for only the the last 5 fiscal years. You will need to consult your IRB and submit your protocol - have them walk you through it (pro tip: don’t limit your clinical research question too much in your IRB protocol - be focused, but not overly so). After IRB approval, you will need to also obtain permission to access the data from TRICARE Management Activity. Lastly, you will need to apply for M2 access and be familiar with the data elements found on the Data Dictionary, an excel spreadsheet of all of the available fields in the database (http://www.health.mil/Reference-Center/Technical-Documents/2014/11/01/M2-Data-Dictionary). Once you have the approval, you can download the data from M2 to excel or other formats. These systems were originally designed for business operations, so there are just some things you won’t be able to get - but often there’s a surrogate or work-around. Check out the link below for info on applying and accessing the data dictionary. In the planning stages it may be worth consulting the Pediatric Clinical Research Team at USUHS.

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How to Use Big Data for Research at Your MTF  Continued from page 25

• Training: M2 can be self-taught, but the MHS offers the 4-day Working Information Systems to Determine Optimal Management (WISDOM) course several times a year at different locations. Get yourself on the list for the next course in your area, or ask about DCO mini-courses. If interested in research this course is very valuable as it also teaches the limitations of the data available.
  ◦ February 9-12, 2015  San Diego, CA
  ◦ March 16-19, 2015  San Antonio, TX
  ◦ May 4-7, 2015  Arlington, VA
  ◦ June 8-11, 2015  Arlington, VA
  ◦ September 14-17, 2015  Puget Sound, WA

• Expertise: You will need some expertise in how to properly ask a clinical research question and design a database study. Another basic skill is an understanding of ICD-9 codes. Ask around your MTF or department for help. Or better yet, take a course in designing clinical research or learning to use professional statistical software. A popular vehicle at Walter Reed Bethesda are MOOCs - massively open online courses. Sites such as edX and Coursera offer free courses in clinical research that include hands on training in using Stata and R, two other professional statistical software programs. The benefit of R is that it is free and open source (one resident learned R by taking a baseball statistics course through edX!). If interested in SAS there are free online courses available and a free copy of SAS. (https://communities.sas.com/community/sas-analytics-u)

Clinical research is possible as a military pediatrician at any duty location. It will take a little work to get started but the possibilities are endless. You’ve got access to a huge population of children and their parents with years of longitudinal, comprehensive data. In addition, the universal health benefit and the demographic diversity of the military, in theory, minimizes access to care and other biases seen in other populations.

CDR Gregory Gorman (Gregory.gorman@usuhs.edu)  
Maj Cade Nylund (cade.nylund@usuhs.edu)  
Pediatric Clinical Research Team/USUHS
Breastfeeding Coalition of the Uniformed Services (BECAUSE/BCUS)

BECAUSE/BCUS (“Because”) is an advocacy group of AMSUS, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, with representation from all branches of the uniformed services community who work collaboratively to protect, support and promote breastfeeding. We envision breastfeeding as the cultural norm among the uniformed services community. Our mission is to foster partnerships between each of the services to support the development of an overall Department of Defense Policy for parenthood including breastfeeding, the optimal infant nutrition.

Each branch of the uniformed services has its own policies regarding medical care and workplace regulations.

Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) may provide health care practices such as:
• Prenatal and staff breastfeeding education
• Peer counselor training
• Rooming in (some MTFs have no central nursery)
• Lactation consultant coverage
• Hospital policies based on the “WHO/UNICEF Ten Steps”
• Newborn Care Clinics for early follow up
• Referral to community support, i.e. WIC peer counselors, LLL mother-to-mother groups
• Collaboration with WIC Agencies
• Visiting Nurse Programs

Workplace support as determined by the service woman, her care provider and commanding officer include:
• 42 days paid convalescent leave which may be combined with up to 60 days of accrued leave
• Authorized paid breaks for milk expression
  ◦ 15-30 minutes every 3-4 hours for 12 months after delivery
• A specified term of “non-deployability” that varies with each service
• Transport support for pumped human milk

This information in part was authored by a member of BECAUSE and published in an AMUS quarterly newsletter in 2009. AMSUS is a member organization of the United States Breastfeeding Committee (2001-2015) and supported BECAUSE sessions at its annual meeting (2002-2012).

www.amsus.org
www.usbreastfeeding.org/competencies

Contact: Julia Block, CAPT, MC, USNR-Retired
Defense Health Agency Public Health Division

On 1 October, 2014, the Military Vaccine Agency – Vaccine Healthcare Centers Network (formerly known as MILVAX-VHCN) officially transitioned to the new Defense Health Agency Public Health Division. We are now known as the Defense Health Agency Immunizations Healthcare Branch, or DHA Immunizations.

Those who have run immunization clinics at your MTFs might know us from our website, www.vaccines.mil, which provides a wealth of clinical and military information about all vaccines approved for use in the U.S. Alternatively, you might know us from our Continuous Quality Immunizations Improvement Program (CQIIP) visits, conducted by our 19 Immunization Healthcare Specialists (IHSSs), located around the world, and responsible for providing education and training to over 1300 DoD immunization clinics. Each IHS is your local link to a team composed of nurse educators, nurse practitioners, and a physician who can provide assistance with everything from cold chain errors to vaccine-associated adverse event investigation. Finally, perhaps you’ve taken advantage of our Immunization University, at http://www.vaccines.mil/Training to meet the training needs of your clinic staff.

Our move to the DHA and our new name have been big transitions for us as an organization, but we hope they’ve been transparent to our colleagues at the operational level. Our web addresses and phone numbers have not changed, and we are still on call 24/7 for urgent clinical consults. We can be reached toll-free at (877) GET-VACC, or DSN 312-761-4245. Or you can email us at: DoDVaccines@mail.mil.

DoD has a great record for safety and compliance in our vaccine programs. We look forward to continuing to support your immunization work!

Infection Control in Cystic Fibrosis

Jane Gross MD, PhD was an invited speaker at the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference (NACFC) in October 2014. She presented the topic Overcoming Barriers to Infection Control in Cystic Fibrosis. The new guideline for Infection Control in Cystic Fibrosis was published earlier this year. The new guideline recommend strict implementation of infection prevention and control practices designed to minimize risk of acquisition of a new infection in a patient with cystic fibrosis. To meet this goal, the guideline specifically aims to limit direct and indirect contact between providers and patients as well as limit contact between multiple CF patients in the both the clinic and hospital settings. Tripler Army Medical Center’s Cystic Fibrosis Center recently managed an epidemic of Mycobacterium abscessus among its cystic fibrosis patients. This data was presented by Dr. Gross at the NACFC in 2013. She was invited again this year to present Tripler’s approach to implementing strict infection control measures in the CF clinic and hospital. This approach will serve as a model for infection control among patients with cystic fibrosis and will be standardized and implemented across the Tri-Sevices Cystic Fibrosis Centers next year.

Congratulations Dr. Gross for this well-deserved honor!
2015 Scientific Award Competition

The Scientific Award Committee of the Uniformed Services announces 2015 Scientific Award Competition. These winners will be recognized at the USPS Lite in Washington, DC at the AAP NCE in October 2015

Scientific Award Competition Call for Abstracts

Submissions will be accepted for the 2015 Scientific Awards Competition (SAC) starting 10 December 2014. Abstracts must be submitted NO LATER than 9 February 2015 using the link at the top of the SAC website at http://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/Committees-Councils-Sections/Section-on-Uniformed-Services/Pages/Rules.aspx. General as well as specific rules, along with exact updated submission dates can be reviewed on the website.

Six scientific awards will be given to honor research efforts by Uniformed Pediatricians at the USPS Lite, in 24-27 October 2015 in Washington, DC. The awards are:

**The Ogden Bruton Award**: 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**: 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**: for the best paper by a Uniformed House Officer (of any specialty) on a pediatric topic.

**The Leo Geppert Research Award**: 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**: for the best case report by a Uniformed Pediatrician. It is the only category that accepts case reports.

**The Val G. Hemming Award**: 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 Major Cade Nylund, MD, FAAP at cade.nylund@usuhs.edu.
Updated Message from the AAP Department of Membership

If your AAP membership expires soon, please watch your mail for your renewal invoice. You will receive an e-mail notifying you when your renewal invoice has been mailed. When you receive your invoice, please review it for accuracy. If you currently hold other AAP memberships, they will be on your renewal invoice in the following order:

- National membership
- Chapter Membership (Uniformed Services and State)
- Section membership(s)
- Council membership(s)

A couple of things to note:

1) The state chapter is added to all national renewal invoices regardless of current state chapter membership status.

2) Uniformed Services chapter membership is added to your invoice if you are currently a member or if you are associated with the military in the AAP database.

3) Chapter membership is not mandatory, though is strongly encouraged.

4) The Section on Uniformed Services does not charge dues. You can easily join the section online. Log on to the Member Center, in the Member Community section click the “Join a Section or Council” link.

Please Note:
Members can pay and/or edit their membership renewal invoice online at http://eweb.aap.org/myaccount. Log in with your AAP ID and password. Chapter, section, or council memberships can be removed from your invoice prior to entering credit card information. If you wish to change your member type or add additional chapter, section or council memberships please contact Member Services at 800-433-9016, ext 5897 or e-mail us at membership@aap.org.

Thank you for your continued membership and support of our mission.

Deployment and Military Medical Home Resources

Families in the uniformed services often face challenges with regards to deployment situations. The Deployment and Military Medical Home Resources on AAP.ORG provides pediatricians, both military and civilian, and other care providers with tools to address these needs.