Letter from the Chair

I am proud to announce that this is my last news journal report. The reason is that we will be stepping up to a full, peer-reviewed journal for our next issue. It is true that we were hoping for this to have happened by the time of this newsletter, but the logistics caused a slight delay and it is more important to do it right than fast. Most of the credit for this advancement goes to our chair-elect, Jen Daru, whose vision and incredible amount of work have led to this point. It is also another example of the support of the larger AAP for the PHM community in that the Academy will be our publisher. So, look for announcements regarding the editorial board and ways to submit in the very near future. It is incumbent on us all to nurture this new endeavor and make it succeed.

Of course there are many other activities that the Section is involved in. Other forthcoming publications include a clinical manual of PHM and PREP PHM. We are looking into other ways to facilitate recertification in addition to the current eQIPP module on inpatient asthma such as an SOHM sponsored QI project. We always welcome your suggestions for other products and activities.

In separate news, the health care debate has been reopened (OK, so maybe it never closed) and there will clearly be ramifications for children’s health in general and PHM in particular, although it is very difficult to predict at this time. What is critical is for each of us to stay informed and to become advocates. The AAP regularly posts updates...

2010 SOHM Abstract Research Award Winner

Reducing Catheter-Associated Blood Stream Infections in a Pediatric Inpatient Unit: Proven Strategies in a Novel Setting

Anand K. Sekaran, MD1, Stephen Neff2 and Robert Englander, MD, MPH1, 2

1Division of Hospital Medicine, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford, CT, 2Quality Division, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford, CT.

Purpose: Catheter associated blood stream infections (CA-BSI’s) remain a major concern in pediatric hospitals. Attention has been focused on reducing these infections in the intensive care setting. No published study has described an infection reduction program in a general pediatric inpatient unit. By using...

Save the Date!!!

2011 National Conference & Exhibition
October 18-21, 2011 ~ Boston, MA
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

Call for Abstracts now open! — Details on p. 4
Our Vision
The Section on Hospital Medicine of the American Academy of Pediatrics is dedicated to the health of all children in the hospital setting through advocacy, education and service—incorporating the core principles of safety, effectiveness, timeliness, efficiency and equity in family-centered health care.

Our Mission

Advocacy
The Section is dedicated to being a leader in inpatient Pediatric Hospital Medicine in the Pediatric community—advocating for the health and safety of hospitalized children.

Education
The Section is dedicated to being a leader in educating health care providers, patients and families.

Service
The Section is dedicated to being a leader in identifying the professional needs of Pediatric Hospitalists.

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Pediatric Hospital Medicine 2011
Keeping the Focus - Sheltering the Child in the Healthcare Reform Storm

Join the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM), the Academic Pediatric Association (APA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for Pediatric Hospital Medicine 2011, the leading conference in Pediatric Hospital Medicine. Held from July 27-31 in Kansas City, MO., at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, PHM2011 offers valuable networking opportunities, new educational tools, the Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care Support pre-course, posters and exhibits. We are proud to announce this year’s keynote speaker is Carolyn M. Clancy, MD, Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

Register now and learn how to:
• Identify opportunities and describe mechanisms to conduct, complete and present pediatric inpatient research
• Apply knowledge gained to implement advances in practice management and hospital systems to benefit your patients, hospital and practice group with specific attention to billing and coding, program leadership and quality initiatives
• Update your practice in clinical areas related to visual diagnosis, advances in radiology, critical care, use of advanced diagnostic tools and other hot topics!

Sponsored by the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), the Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care Support (PFCCS) course, July 27-28, 2011, immediately precedes PHM2011 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, MO. For more information about PFCCS or to register, visit www.sccm.org or contact SCCM Customer Service at 847-827-6088 or info@sccm.org.

♦ Register for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine conference at http://www.hospitalmedicine.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Education/PediatricHospitalMedicine/home.htm, and


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Letter from the Chair (Continued from p. 1)

on current federal and state issues, and I encourage everyone to join FAAN (Federal Advocacy Action network) for email updates. The Section is looking into ways to monitor the effects of health care reform and other impacts of the economy on pediatric inpatient care. This is another opportunity for members to get involved with their ideas and experience.

I want to acknowledge Corey Lachman, who is rotating off the Executive Committee (EC) after serving as the liaison from the Section on Medical Students, Residents, and Fellowship trainees. Corey was an active member of the EC and his insights were valued. He will not be fading away as he will continue pursuing one of his ideas to promote mentorship within PHM, particularly for residents and young physicians outside of large PHM programs. Look to the LISTSERV® for further details.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for continuing to pay your dues in this tough financial environment. I know the economy has impacted everyone and choices are being made on how to spend limited budgets. The Section membership totals have remained solid, which reflects the vibrancy of our PHM community and, I hope, the value you each see in membership. Maintaining and adding to that value is a key concern of the EC, and we are always looking for additional ideas. The new journal will be a member benefit. We work hard to make the summer PHM meeting (July 27-31, 2011 in Kansas City) charge as low as possible. Please let us know what else we can do for you.
proven catheter-care practices, we aimed to reduce the rate of CA-BSI's in the pediatric inpatient unit. By using proven catheter-care practices, we aimed to reduce the rate of CA-BSI's in the pediatric inpatient setting.

Anand K. Sekaran, MD, FAAP, is currently the Medical Director for Inpatient Services at Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford. He is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Dr Sekaran received his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley and his MD from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. He completed a pediatric residency at Children's Hospital Oakland and for the past ten years has been a pediatric hospitalist in both academic and community hospital settings. He is a fellow of the AAP and an Inaugural Fellow in the Society of Hospital Medicine.

In his role as Medical Director at Connecticut Children's, Dr Sekaran's work involves clinical care, education and quality improvement. As an educator he has received multiple teaching awards from both medical students and pediatric residents. In 2009 he received an AAP travel grant to attend the NICHQ quality conference where he learned many of the principles used to undertake this study. One of his primary interests is the use of standardized checklists and pathways to improve inpatient pediatric care.

Do you have an interesting clinical case to share with your colleagues?

The Planning Committee for the 2011 Pediatric Hospital Medicine conference has dedicated two sessions to “Clinical Conundrums.” Each session will consist of three Case presentations, which will each last about 20 minutes. If your case is chosen, you will be given about 10-12 minutes to present the case and then allow for about 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

For the Clinical Conundrums, we are in search of interesting or challenging cases that have a definitive diagnosis, but initially presented as a diagnostic dilemma or as an unusual presentation of a common illness.

You will be recognized as a presenter at the conference. Unfortunately, we can offer no other honoraria or financial support. Please submit a brief case report (less than 250 words) that includes your name, key discussion points and suggestions for style and format of presentation. If applicable, please include a list (or actual attachments) of supporting clinical information, such as radiographs, pathology slides, etc. The entire submission is expected to be HIPAA compliant. Please send submissions to Abraham Jacob, MD at akj@umn.edu.

Submissions are due by March 28, 2011.

Please make the subject line of the email “Clinical Conundrums” with a short descriptor (e.g., “Clinical Conundrums-Kawasaki Disease”). Cases will be chosen and presenters notified by April 15, 2011. Final drafts of power point slide presentations will be due by May 1, 2011.

Thank you in advance, and we look forward to reviewing your submission.
Sunday, October 16, 2011

8:30 am  Poster Session and Presentation of the 2011 Pediatric Hospital Medicine Abstract Research Award

9:30 am  Safety and the Pediatric Hospitalist
Faculty:  Shannon Phillips, Chief Safety Officer, Cleveland Clinic

10:30 am  Break

10:45 am  Introduction to Lean-Six Sigma Tools for the Pediatric Hospitalist
Faculty:  Matt Morrissette, President, Lean Healthcare MB; More Effective Consulting, LLC

11:45 am  Section Business Meeting "Grab Lunch and Talk"

12:45 pm  Break

1:00 pm  IT and the Pediatric Hospitalist
Faculty:  Kevin Johnson, Vice Chief Bioinformatics, Professor of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital

2:00 pm  Infectious Disease Update for the Pediatric Hospitalist
Faculty:  Russell Steele, Division Head, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Ochsner Children’s Health Center

3:00 pm  Adjourn

Call for Abstracts

Submission deadline:  April 15

The SOHM annual abstract award recognizes outstanding research presented during the SOHM academic and scientific program at the AAP’s National Conference & Exhibition (NCE). The award includes an honorarium and a plaque.

Case presentations are not eligible.

If you are interested in being considered, please forward your abstract using the NCE submission process by April 15th at http://aap.confex.com/aap/2011/cfp.cgi. Details can be found on the NCE web site at http://AAPexperieNCE.org.

Questions?  Contact Carolyn Mensching at abstracts @aap.org.
Section on Hospital Medicine Election — Online Ballot due March 31!!

Your Nominations Committee is very proud to present you with an exceptional set of four candidates for the one open seat on the AAP Section on Hospital Medicine Executive Committee. Each candidate is highly qualified and dedicated, and each candidate will bring a slightly different perspective to the six member group that guides the activities of the SOHM. Please review their statements carefully, and vote for the candidate you feel is best qualified and best represents your vision for the Section. We are confident that each of these candidates will perform admirably. Our hope is that you as section members will demonstrate a high turnout worthy of these candidates that further demonstrates to the AAP Board that the SOHM is comprised of active members. Additionally, there are two by-law amendments up for review.

Please help us meet our goal of 50% voter turnout. This would certainly help gather additional attention for our section and our field.

TO VOTE: Click on http://www.aap.org/elections to view the online ballot and biographical information on the candidates. Use your AAP ID and password to log in. If you’ve signed up for www.healthychildren.org you will need to use your email address instead of your AAP ID.

2010 SOHM Research Award-Winning Abstract
Reducing Catheter-Associated Blood Stream Infections in a Pediatric Inpatient Unit: Proven Strategies in a Novel Setting

Anand K. Sekaran, MD, FAAP, Stephen Neff, MD, MPH, Robert Englander, MD, MPH
Division of Hospital Medicine, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford, CT
(1)Quality Division, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford, CT

Purpose: Catheter associated blood stream infections (CA-BSI’s) remain a major concern in pediatric hospitals. Attention has been focused on reducing these infections in the intensive care setting. No published study has described an infection reduction program in a general pediatric inpatient unit. By using proven catheter-care practices, we aimed to reduce the rate of CABSI’s in the pediatric inpatient setting.

Methods: Following a literature review and consultation with NICU and PICU leaders, a central line maintenance care bundle was developed for the pediatric inpatient units. The bundle focused on proper hand hygiene, sterile barrier, thorough scrub and dry, limiting line access and encouraging prompt line removal. Education to MD and RN staff occurred with description of the care bundle and its success in other units. The bundle was employed for care of all central lines on the inpatient unit. Using an observation checklist, bundle compliance was audited and recorded. All elements of the bundle had to be completed to be considered compliant. The main process measure was compliance with the maintenance bundle. The main outcome measure was the rate of CA-BSI’s on the three different inpatient units.

Results: During the study period of December 2008 to September 2009, 20 CA-BSI’s occurred with a total of 6,899 line days. The CA-BSI rate for the inpatient units decreased from 2.77 (cases per 1000 line days) to 2.24, a 19% reduction. The unit with the highest baseline rate saw the greatest improvement, achieving a 41 % reduction in rate over the study period. From March 2009 to September 2009, 282 line maintenance events were audited. Compliance with the bundle increased from 85 % to 100 % over this period.

Conclusion: Compliance with best practices in central line care can be improved through education and frequent auditing. Our data show that strategies which reduce CA-BSI’s in the intensive care setting can be applied successfully in the inpatient pediatric setting, particularly in units with currently high rates. There remains no benchmark data for the rate of CA-BSI’s in general pediatric inpatient units. Collaboration and further research are needed to better define the optimal maintenance care bundle for the general inpatient pediatric setting.
**Got Transition** is the new National Health Care Transition Center supported by a cooperative agreement between the US Maternal and Child Bureau/HRSA and the Center for Medical Home Improvement (CMHI) at Crotched Mountain Foundation. Through partnerships among youth, families, health professionals, and policy makers, **Got Transition** will focus on the implementation and dissemination of health care transition best practices in primary care medical homes and specialty settings for youth and young adults.

**Got Transition** will utilize the quality improvement methods and expertise of CMHI to support three learning collaboratives of pediatric and adult primary care medical homes and specialty clinics in Washington DC, Boston, and Denver. These diverse practices will implement and test office-based structures and processes for health care transition to demonstrate their feasibility and value. These tools will be assembled into a Health Care Transition Change Package. Based upon memoranda of understanding with the major primary care professional organizations (American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Physicians), the Health Care Transition Change Package will be disseminated as best practice through these organizations’ continuing education and quality improvement venues.

Social marketing of health care transition tools and ideas will underpin the development of a national learning community of youth, young adults, and families. The youth program manager (Mallory Cyr) and family leader (Eileen Forlenza) will utilize social networking technology and the center’s new website ([www.gottransition.org](http://www.gottransition.org)) to develop a dialogue for this learning community. The website will also have information and tools for health professionals and policy makers. Cyr and Forlenza will co-host a web-based talk show called WGTY.

Through its partnership with the National Alliance for the Advancement of Adolescent Health, **Got Transition** will explore health care transition trends, needs, and state level activity from national survey data and state Title V block grant reports as well as from the work of state D70 grant programs and projects. The information collected will be compiled in a user-friendly format and made available on the **Got Transition** website.

**Got Transition** will utilize what is learned from practice-level implementation, youth and family networking, and policy research and analysis to affect public and private policy to improve access to high quality health care transition services and to assure adequate incentives for health care professionals to provide such services.

**Got Transition** is governed by its Health Care Transition Cabinet made up of youth and family advocates, health professionals, policy makers, and policy analysts. The headquarters is located at the Center for Medical Home Improvement in Concord, NH, under the direction of program manager, Ann Walls, National Youth Program Manager, Mallory Cyr, and co-PIs, Carl Cooley and Jeanne McAllister. A 25-member National Health Care Transition Advisory guides the center.

Contact: [ann.walls@cmhi.comcastbiz.net](mailto:ann.walls@cmhi.comcastbiz.net) CMHI, 18 Low Ave, Concord, NH; 603-228-8111 Supported by cooperative agreement U39MC18176 HRSA/US MCHB

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**young careerists & residents subcommittee**

[http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/residents_subcomm/](http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/residents_subcomm/)

**Section on Hospital Medicine**

[http://www.aaphospmed.org](http://www.aaphospmed.org)

We invite you to visit the Young Careerists & Residents Subcommittee page of the Section on Hospital Medicine website. We hope the information posted there can guide you to the answers you’re looking for.

Elena Aragona, MD, Subcommittee Chair

[EAragona@tuftsmedicalcenter.org](mailto:EAragona@tuftsmedicalcenter.org)

For Mentorship opportunities visit [http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/residents_subcomm/residents-mentorship.htm](http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/residents_subcomm/residents-mentorship.htm).
SOHM Award and Grant Opportunities
http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/hospcaregrants.htm

Pediatric Hospital Medicine Abstract Research Award

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2010 Winner
Anand K. Sekaran, MD, FAAP
Abstract: Reducing Catheter-Associated Blood Stream Infections in a Pediatric Inpatient Unit: Proven Strategies in a Novel Setting

Legislative Conference Travel Grant Program

Add to your skills while adding your voice! Represent the Section at the Academy's annual Legislative Conference. SOHM covers registration, as well as airfare, hotel, meals, and ground transportation. If you are interested in being considered, please send a copy of your CV along with a 500 word or less essay to Niccole Alexander at nalexander@aap.org by the first Monday in January. The essay should note why you think you should be selected to represent the Section at the Conference and what you hope to gain from the experience.

2010 Winner: Arti Dilip Desai MD FAAP

Visiting Professor Consultation Grants Program

The Visiting Professor Consultation Grants Program was created by the SOHM Executive Committee in 2008 to assist hospitals and group practices in assessing and developing their Pediatric Hospital Medicine Programs.

To be eligible the applicant/sponsor must be a member of the Section.

Each award provides a $3,000 honorarium for a two-day consultation. This honorarium does not include travel, hotel or meals. It is expected that the selected program will provide for these expenses. Selected programs should, if possible, suggest a consultant who is qualified to provide the requested assistance. These services may include, for example, information on how to start a program, practice management, and increasing the program’s academic involvement.

2010 Recipient
East Tennessee State University

PHM Conference Resident Travel Grant Program

The SOHM Resident Travel Grant Program offers $500 scholarships to 3 Residents who are interested in attending the annual Pediatric Hospital Medicine Conference – held in late July/early August. The primary goals of the SOHM Resident Travel Grant Program:

• To educate resident physicians on the overall field of Pediatric Hospital Medicine;

• To present background and information on the Pediatric Hospitalist profession; and

• To offer a relaxed atmosphere where resident physicians are able to network with Pediatric Hospital Medicine leaders and potential mentors.

All applicants must submit letters of interest and CVs by e-mail only to Niccole Alexander at nalexander@aap.org by February 15th. Recipients will be notified by April 15th.

2010 Resident Grant Winners:
lena Aragona; Kevin Nelson; Waheeda Samady; and Corey Lachman (Appointed Liaison)

SOHM Award and Grant Opportunities

♦ PHM Abstract Research Award Winner
♦ Legislative Conference Travel Grant Program
♦ Visiting Professor Consultation Grants Program
♦ PHM Conference Resident Travel Grant Program

See http://www.aap.org/sections/hospcare/hospcaregrants.htm for detailed information on each grant opportunity.

PedJobs Resource Center

Employers are VERY much in need of subspecialists of all kinds, and are having difficulty finding them. Many employers do post their openings for subspecialists, as well as general pediatricians, on www.pedjobs.org. PedJobs is receiving about 350,000 hits every month.

Many of you may not be familiar with PedJobs. Since 2001, PedJobs has been the official AAP employment resource. Since May 2005, we use a vendor that provides PedJobs with very sophisticated tools. There are many options for posting jobs, including online and print in Pediatrics and/or AAP News. Employers can search the CV database and find candidates who may not directly apply for their jobs. Job seekers can search, set up job agents and RSS feeds, view the locations of the job on Google Maps, and upload their CVs and cover letters. Jobs are posted for clinical, academic, locum tenens, and other niches. We also provide a growing Career Resource Center with career information. Visit PedJobs at www.pedjobs.org and explore what is available.
WANTED: Child Life Specialists, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners!

If your responsibilities include general inpatient care, you can become an Affiliate Member of the Section on Hospital Medicine.

The total cost for Affiliate Membership is $60 — no additional fees whatsoever!
Visit us at www.aaphospmed.org.

Attention Pediatric Hospitalists!

SOHM is launching a Mentorship program to provide residents interested in the field of Pediatric Hospital Medicine with further insight into career decisions. We’re looking for physicians willing to provide an “educational consult” to new hospitalists by answering specific mentee questions.

Please visit our Mentorship web page for information and to apply to be a mentor:


Visit the SOHM eLibrary, now containing the SOHM LISTSERV® Archive. Access to these resources is open to anyone who registers—not just section members or listserv® subscribers. You can use the library to search an archive of the LISTSERV®, browse a library of files for clinical, educational and administrative use and centralize your access to hospitalist online tools.

The SOHM eLibrary is always looking for clinical guidelines, sample order sets, protocols, past lectures, etc. To upload documents, data, presentations, etc., follow the instructions noted on www.sohmlibrary.org. Remember, this resource can only be as valuable as members make it so please contribute by submitting.

Liborio (Lee) LaRussa, MD, Webmaster
lee@larussafamily.com

www.sohmlibrary.org