MOCA-Peds for Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Heather French MD, MSEd

Beginning in 2020, the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) is launching an alternative to fulfill the medical knowledge requirement (Part 3) of the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program in Neonatal Perinatal Medicine (NPM). Previously, the NPM recertification examination served as the only option to fulfill the Part 3 requirement. Maintenance of Certification Assessment for Pediatrics, or MOCA-Peds, is an alternative to taking the NPM recertification examination. MOCA-Peds is NOT a replacement for the initial certification examination for NPM.

MOCA-Peds is a web-based assessment program for pediatricians using multiple choice questions (MCQ) that are clinically relevant. Instead of a single exam day, pediatricians can demonstrate medical knowledge and clinical judgment in a flexible and dynamic model that emphasizes continuous learning that is better aligned with the changing environment of clinical practice. MOCA-Peds uses an online platform for assessment of knowledge that will be conducted in 5-year MOC cycles. During each 5-year MOC cycle, participants are automatically enrolled in MOCA-Peds. If preferred, MOC participants can opt out of MOCA-Peds and instead sit for a proctored NPM recertification exam at a secured testing center every 5 years (for an additional fee).

MCQs will be based on 45 learning objectives drawn from the ABP NPM content outline that reflect medical knowledge required for clinical practice. A subset of MCQs will be based on recently published articles that will be provided to participants at no additional charge. The learning objectives assessed by MOCA-Peds will change annually.

- Up to 20 MCQs will be delivered electronically to participants every quarter. MCQs can be answered in one or many sessions. Questions not answered by the end of the quarter will be marked incorrect.

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MOCA-Peds for Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

- MOCA-Peds MCQs can be accessed and answered on any computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone with internet access.
- The 4 lowest scored quarters of the 5-year MOC cycle will be dropped and won’t be counted toward a participant’s final score. A standardized score scale ranging from 1 to 300 will be used. The passing scaled score is 180.
- MCQs are open book. Participants must work alone to answer MCQs but can use resources such as books and the internet to help answer questions. Each MCQ must in answered in 5 minutes.
- Immediate feedback is provided after answering MCQs including the rationale behind the correct answer and supportive references.
- Throughout the MOC cycle, raw score performance and scaled score performance will be updated on a participant's MOCA-Peds dashboard.

MOCA-Peds participants will receive 5 points of MOC Part 2 credit each year if a scaled score of 180 is achieved annually. If a participant isn’t passing MOCA-Peds by the end of year 4 of the 5-year MOC cycle, he/she will have to take and pass the proctored NPM recertification exam to maintain certification. Participants who opt out of MOCA-Peds for Part 2 credit.

MOCA-Peds will be aligned with a participant’s 5-year MOC cycle. Participants will be automatically enrolled in MOCA-Peds at the beginning of their next 5-year MOC cycle. Individual MOC cycle dates are listed within one’s ABP Portfolio. The MOC enrollment fee ($1330 in 2020) will not change with the addition of MOCA-Peds.

MOCA-Peds for NPM was based on the MOCA-Peds pilot project for general pediatrics during 2017 and 2018. There were over 11,000 pediatricians who participated in the pilot project (73% general pediatricians, 27% subspecialists including 697 neonatologists). More than 97% of participants reported they learned, refreshed, or enhanced their medical knowledge through participation in MOCA-Peds. The majority of subspecialty pilot participants (96.1%) preferred MOCA-Peds for their subspecialty certification over a proctored exam.

For more information, please visit the ABP’s MOCA-Peds website https://www.abp.org/mocaped and your own ABP Portfolio dashboard to determine when your next MOC cycle begins.

View From the Chair: An Unorthodox Column

Mark Hudak MD, FAAP

As I sit down to write this column in December with the goal of choosing content that would be relevant come publication time, I am overcome by the stark reality and the unprecedented breadth of danger to the world’s children both now and, increasingly so, into the future. As pediatricians and as parents, it is critical to understand the threats and then to mobilize effectively to address them.

Thesis: Climate change poses the greatest existential danger to children today.

True fact: Climate change is real.

The scientific evidence unambiguously confirms that humankind is responsible for the unprecedented rapidity of climate change that has outstripped the adaptive capabilities of the natural ecosystems. The cryosphere is melting: The summer polar icecap is nearly gone; the frozen tundra in Alaska, Scandinavia, and Russia is disappearing; large chunks of Antarctic glaciers have broken from the continent. Look no further than what we have witnessed in our country during our lifetime. No true glaciers remain in Glacier National Park. Conifers in 70,000 square miles of forest in the Rocky Mountains have died off due to shorter less severe winters, longer warmer summers, greater drought, and the ascendance of tree-killing insects. The colorful coral reefs off the Florida Keys are fading due to warmer waters and increased oceanic acidity. Sea grasses off the western coast have plummeted by 90% in some areas. Average US temperature has risen 1.2-1.8°F from 1896 to 2016 and, without intervention, is expected to increase a further 2.5°F by 2050. Shorelines are retreating and some coastal urban areas are experiencing flooding in calm weather.

Throughout the world, climate change will have adverse effects on the supply of clean fresh water, agricultural productivity, the output of ocean fisheries, patterns of human migration, pestilence, pollution, and human disease.

Scientists over the past decade several times have escalated estimates about the pace of climate change and its effects. The world is unprepared to deal with the consequences. There will likely be conflict and wars related specifically to access to natural resources and patterns of human migration.

As you are reading this, we are well into the democratic process of choosing candidates who will vie to become our next national, state, county, and city leaders. I would argue that there is nothing more important than that these future leaders embrace the science of climate change and work collaboratively in this country and with leaders of
other countries to decelerate its rate of progression. Every policy and every consequential decision must be considered in this light.

The United States is the largest generator of CO2 per capita, yet the only major country in denial on this issue. Yes, there will be considerable pain in adopting effective measures to combat climate change, but continued delay will be even more painful and will risk passing the point of irreversibility. It should not be that the only solution for mankind, as Steven Hawking said in 2017, is that “humans need to leave Earth” to ensure humanity’s survival.

While climate threat presents the greatest threat to children, there are numerous other immediate dangers to the health and well-being of children. We are fortunate to be members of the American Academy of Pediatrics, which as an organization has tirelessly worked to advocate on behalf of children in these areas. Let us choose our future leaders through the prism of how they stand on these issues.

- We must promote the principle that all children should have access to quality and affordable health care. Any future health care related legislation must recognize this principle. It is alarming that the percentage of uninsured US children less than 19 years of age increased from a historic nadir of 4.9% in 2017 to 5.5% in 2018.
- We must strongly advocate for the ability of the Medicaid program to pay for current care. In fact, we must advocate for greater Medicaid benefits in some areas. We must be clear-eyed about threats to the Medicaid program from block grants or other forms of capitation, Medicaid waivers that impose parental work requirements, and administrative policies that reduce access or delay eligibility.
- We must continue to demand action that is likely to reduce gun-related mortality and injuries.
- We must advocate for a society that will treat all of its citizens - irrespective of sex, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic status, religious beliefs, or political affiliation - with respect, fairness, and compassion and for a society that recognizes that each child should have a safe and loving environment in which they can develop their full potential.
- We must promote the science behind childhood immunizations and proper child nutrition, the importance of good education, and the effects of pollution and environmental exposures such as vaping on the health of children. And then we must advocate for legislation and policies that respond to these true facts.

So, facts matter. Honesty matters. Words and principles matter. Courage matters. And the leaders we choose must matter. We have work to do.

National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) and National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (NANNP) Report

Media Esser PhD, NNP-BC, APNP, CWN

Neonatal Nurse Education and Clinical Resources

NANN has had an exciting year and plans to continue the momentum with the release of podcasts. The NANNcast will be releasing its first episode in late December. Listen to NANNcast on Spotify, Apple Podcast, Pocket Cast, YouTube, and Podbean. Stream the trailer now on NANN’s YouTube page or by searching “NANNcast” in the search bar of your preferred podcast platform.

The NANN Research Summit will be in Scottsdale, AZ for its 15th year, March 24-26, 2020. Eighteen abstracts have been accepted and reflect a variety of NICU nursing topics. Main topics include: Human milk and feeding, nursing care, educational initiatives, and nursing science. The Summit will also integrate four doctoral-prepared mentors to work with the participants to provide feedback and support in the continuation of clinical inquiry in the NICU. This year the members of the SoNPM will join in networking with all of the participants during a dinner reception on March 25th, 2020. For more information about the 2020 Summit: http://nann.org/education/research/research-summit

The 35th Annual NANN Education Conference was held on October 9-12, 2019 in Savannah, GA and was the most successful conference thus far. Some of the 2019 conference topics may be purchased individually or as a bundle of four topics together. Available topics include: Challenging NICU Parents: How to Deal as Told by NICU Parents Themselves; Building a Bridge: NRP to PALS, Meeting the Resuscitation Needs for the No Longer “Newly Born” Infant in the NICU; Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy in the Age of Dr. Google; Ultra-thin, Adhesive-less Epidermal Electronic Systems with In-sensor Analytics for Neonatal Intensive Care; Transcatheter Closure of Patent Ductus Arteriosus in Premature Babies Less Than 2kg; Supporting Auditory Development in the Premature and High-risk Infant: We Don’t Get Do-overs!

Best of NANN session recordings make a great group educational opportunity for unit learning, lunch and learns, or chapter events. For special group pricing, contact NANN Member Services at (800) 451-3795 or info@nann.org

The 36th Annual Educational Conference will be held in New Orleans, LA. For more information: http://nann.org/education/annual-meeting/annual-meeting

Interested in submitting a research survey? NANN members can distribute surveys to thousands of neonatal
Getting to Know…
James Barry MD, District VIII Representative

Medical School and Training I attended medical school at Creighton University School of Medicine. I completed my pediatric residency at University of Michigan School of Medicine and my neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship at University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Current Position I am an Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Section of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. I also serve as Medical Director of the University of Colorado Hospital NICU, Anschutz Campus.

Family and Pets My wife, Liberty, is a Family Medicine physician whose work I greatly respect and admire. I’m glad someone can care for those scary adults! We met amongst cadavers in medical school. The formaldehyde clouded her frontal lobe or her vision, not sure which, or even if it matters. Thankfully, she still has not come to her senses, as I have been blessed to be on life’s journey with her for the last 22 years. Our son, Colton, is a freshman at the University of Michigan studying mechanical/biomedical engineering and entrepreneurship. He is excited about the possibilities and now understands his parents do actually know a thing or two. Our daughter, Reece, is an amazing and brilliant high school freshman and gymnast. She astounded us one afternoon this past summer when she informed us that she had started her own business. I was skeptical until she showed me her site on Etsy complete with a detailed budget and a well-defined ROI (SunshineScrunchieCo if you want to check it out). We also have two dogs: Grey, our fly-fishing companion; and Glimmer, my daughter’s companion.

What Would People Be Surprised to Learn About You I grew up in a ranching valley, population 100, in southwest Montana where cattle outnumbered humans on the order of 100 to 1. I went to a two-room school house and K-8th had a total of 14 students. The first birth I ever witnessed was that of a calf that required the assistance of a tractor and chains for delivery. At that moment, even as a preschooler, I assumed that “there must be a better way” to deliver and care for newborns. This has been a slogan of mine for a while.

Favorite Vacation of All Time Costa Rica - the flora, the fauna, the volcanoes, and the people were incredible. Also, there’s nothing like a little danger to blaze a vivid lasting memory. I was fishing (actually hand lining) in a small pond with two boys under the age of eight in a rudimentary wooden boat with a “guide” (very loose term, actually just a local high schooler with scant understanding of fishing). As we were poling around the pond (no paddles to be found), we came across a long snake swimming a few feet (within striking distance) from the boat. The “guide” nonchalantly told me that he had seen the same snake bite a cow in the recent past. The cow died five minutes later. Needless to say, I poled us skimming across the pond and ran us to the car in no short order. Later, I discovered it was the fer de lance, the most venomous snake in Central America. The owner quietly offered that a guest was bitten by a fer de lance at the same lodge a week earlier and no one knew if he survived or not. Last they saw the poor guy, he was writhing around in the back of an old rusty truck heading to the nearest medical care three hours away. I did not sleep very well that night!

If You Weren’t a Neonatologist, You Would Be A fly fishing guide and ski instructor somewhere in the Rockies. I would have my outdoor seasons covered.

Best Advice for Early Career Neonatologists Neonatology is a team sport. Traditional medical training has focused too much on developing individual skills and knowledge. You would be wise to deliberately learn how to be a good or better team member and a leader of teams.

Most Important Thing You Have Learned in Your Career Being an effective physician is more often about your understanding of and interaction with people than your treatment decision.

Best or Favorite Childhood Memory Many a day with my father in the mountains. He was the best.

Your Hidden Talent Making my teenage daughter embarrassed on a daily basis.
The Best Thing About where You Live
I can ski, golf, and fly fish all in one day and have done so on occasion.

I’ve Recently Been Inspired By
I have been inspired by a patient’s mother to use social media as a tool for change. It just so happens she, Amy Jo Martin, wrote a book about it, Renegades Write the Rules. I now know she is quite well-known and helped many others such as Shaquille O’Neal and the Phoenix Suns improve their image through social media. I now have a Twitter and Instagram account. I know many of you already do this, but I am well behind the times.

Favorite Movie
Star Wars – I love good triumphing over evil against all odds and the mythology of it all.

Favorite Way to Relax After a Hard Day
Cautiously casting a size 16 grey parachute Adams to a large unsuspecting brown trout that is gently sipping caddis in a foam line several feet from a cottonwood-lined bank on a freestone river. It is a perfect windless evening, a little after dusk minutes after the sun has dipped behind the nearest mountain, at that moment when the water develops a silver, mercury-like mirrored sheen, during an abundant caddis hatch so thick that one can only breathe with a closed mouth to prevent inhaling the bugs. In the near distance, I can hear my son, Colton, fishing his favorite spot just downstream, let out a “Woo-hoo” as he plays a large rainbow that performs a characteristic aerial while my dog, Grey, hurriedly splashes through the water to reach him in time to nuzzle the fish upon release. The rest of my family is huddled around a crackling campfire along the river bank spectating the entire series of events. No worries here.

Who Would You Like to Swap Lives With For a Day
Carli Lloyd in the 2015 World Cup Final against Japan, when she scored a hat trick in the first 16 minutes. One goal roofing the keeper from mid-field. Truly amazing! I would just like to know what she was thinking and to feel the exhilaration coursing through her body during that game. Next, I would choose Ignaz Semmelweis, a 19th century obstetrician, on a day that he convinced his colleagues that good hand hygiene could decrease mortality rates. I could learn a lot from his approach. Lastly, JK Rowling, just to be engulfed by true imagination.

Current Book I Am Reading
Powder: The Greatest Ski Runs on the Planet.

NANN Report
Continued from Page 3
nursing professionals by reviewing this link for instructions and completing the application form for approval: http://nann.org/uploads/Education/2019_Research_Survey_Instructions_and_Application_Form.pdf [Disclaimer: NANN is neither an active sponsor nor participant of approved research surveys. NANN does not collect or monitor survey data related to approved research surveys. It is the sole responsibility of the researcher to collect the data for his/her survey. In addition, NANN is unable to share member contact information with researchers.

Advocacy
NANN will once again sponsor NANN members to attend the three-day Nurse in Washington Internship Program in Washington, DC, March 2020. For more information: https://www.nursing-alliance.org/Events/NIWI-Nurse-in-Washington-Internship

Parent/Family Education
The NANN website continues to offer a variety of parent and family educational and support resources including Baby Steps to Home, a free online resource available to all hospitals across the country and customizable: http://babystepstohome.com/

NANN also continues to offer an extensive list of resources for families in the Advances in Neonatal Care: Family Teaching Toolbox. http://nann.org/education/educational-products/family-patient-education-products.

ONTPD Update
Heather French MD, MSED
It is a great honor to take over the role of Chair of ONTPD (Organization of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Training Program Directors) from Kris Reber. Kris skillfully led ONTPD for the past two years and we are grateful for her leadership and wisdom. We also thank Taylor Sawyer for his service on the Council for the past four years. A warm welcome is extended to the newest members of ONTPD Council – Alison Falck, Heidi Karpen, and Patrick Myers.

We had great attendance for our fall ONTPD meeting at the annual AAP meeting in New Orleans. The Boot Camp for new and established PDs and APDs, directed by Liz Bonachea, Melissa Carbajal, and Melissa Bauserman, was full of helpful information for fellowship program administration as well as a great opportunity for networking with new and old colleagues. Topics covered included fellow recruitment, on-boarding, faculty engagement with teaching/mentoring, and professional development. The speakers at the ONTPD meeting provided important updates from the ACGME, ABP, SoNPM, TECaN, and COPS. Committee updates were
ONTPD Update

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provided and break-out sessions were held to discuss important issues for PDs and APDs. Important information including changes to the Common Program Requirements (CPRs), online tracking for fellowship through the ABP (as of October 15, 2019), and innovative educational programming within fellowship programs was presented. Slides from the fall ONTPD meeting are available on the ONTPD website.

We will hold our annual ONTPD spring meeting on the morning of May 4th, 2020 in Philadelphia during the PAS meeting. This meeting will focus on scholarship activities during fellowship.

Our ONTPD sub-committees remain active and continue to work on initiatives to support our NPM PD/APD community. We encourage your feedback and participation in the ONTPD through communication with the council, attendance at meetings, and involvement with committees.

National Neonatology Curriculum Committee (Chair Heather French): The ONTPD National Neonatology Curriculum for physiology is continuing to expand with Flipped Classroom materials continuing to be posted for new topics. New topics under development are Neurology, MFM, QI, and Research Methodology. The RCT comparing learning outcomes and preference between traditional didactic and flipped classroom learning closed to data collection in September 2019. Data analysis is underway with hopes for presentation at PAS 2020. Development of the Neonatology Simulation curriculum, led by Lindsay Johnston, is almost complete with over 50 cases being written and piloted by simulation educators. Where appropriate, simulation cases will be linked with physiology topics to provide additional opportunities to reinforce physiologic concepts. Additionally, an online neonatology-focused ECMO course, led by Lindsay Johnston, is under production by national experts in neonatal ECMO. This course will include Flipped Classroom guides to work through ECMO scenarios and emergencies and ECMO simulation exercises. MedEd On The Go (MedEdOnTheGo.com) is continuing to support this work by providing a free, online platform to house videos and supporting educational materials for learners. Supporting educational materials for facilitators have been moved to the ONTPD website. Additional research projects are underway to determine best practices in flipped classroom facilitation (Alison Falck, Margarita Vasquez) and a cost analysis of standardized education (Melissa Carbajal, Rita Dadiž, Heidi Karpen).

Standard Forms Committee (Chair Heidi Karpen): Standard forms that are useful for fellowship PDs have been uploaded to the ONTPD website. We will continue to update this resource.

Fellowship Director Mentorship Committee (Chair Melissa Carbajal): We continue to facilitate pairing mentor/mentee relationships among APDs and PDs. If you are interested in serving as a mentor or would like to be paired with a mentor, please email Melissa Carbajal (mmcarbaj@bcm.edu).

Website Committee (Chair Patrick Myers): Patrick has worked hard to optimize our ONTPD website with the help of the AAP staff. We will continue to provide resources for PDs through the website. He is developing a location on the website to post job opportunities for fellows and 4th year fellowships.

Important Dates to Remember:

Spring ONTPD Meeting at PAS - May 4th, 7-9am
Annual NPM PD/APD Boot Camp - October 1st, 3-6pm (Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition)
Annual ONTPD Reception - October 1st, 6-9pm (Sponsored by Abbott Nutrition)
Fall ONTPD Annual Meeting at the AAP NCE - October 2nd, 9am-4pm

MidCaN Rising Star…

Trent Tipple MD, FAAP

What has been your education and career path so far? A Hoosier by birth, I received my undergraduate education at Butler University and my medical degree at Indiana University School of Medicine, both in Indianapolis. After completion of pediatric residency and neonatology fellowship at Columbus Children’s Hospital and The Ohio State University, I served as an Assistant Professor for eight years. It was a transformative time to be in Columbus as Columbus Children’s grew into what is now known as Nationwide Children’s Hospital. In 2014, I moved to the University of Alabama at Birmingham as an Associate Professor. This fall, we relocated to Oklahoma City where I now serve as Section Chief of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics, and the Children’s Hospital Foundation Reba McEntire Endowed Chair in Neonatology at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. I have an active laboratory-based research program that merges redox biology with lung development, injury, and repair in order to develop novel therapeutic approaches to prevent BPD. I have been
fortune to develop my career with NIH funding including T32, K12, K08, and R01 grants. I am most grateful for the opportunity to create a lab-based environment that has served as a platform to mentor undergraduate students, residents, fellows, and non-clinician PhD trainees.

What do you hope to accomplish in the next five years? My relocation comes at a transformative time for The Children’s Hospital, the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Oklahoma City, and the state of Oklahoma. Unlike many facilities, all deliveries in the OU system occur within The Children’s Hospital. I am fortunate to have talented and passionate colleagues in the Section of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. We will create an interdisciplinary Women & Infant’s service line that will integrate pre-, peri-, and postnatal care of moms and babies in our state. As one who grew up in a small farming community, I appreciate the challenges of resource limitations. We will use technology to improve support for front-line providers. We have partnered with the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine to create an integrated Perinatal Research Center within which all lab-based pregnancy and neonatal research will occur. Finally, we will create an interdisciplinary follow-up program that will enable us to better define the short and long-term risks associated with surviving extreme prematurity. These platforms will create novel training, career development, and leadership opportunities for trainees and faculty.

What was the best advice you’ve gotten? Be selfless.

What advice would you give to your TECaN colleagues? Introduce yourself to anyone you would like to meet. I would also ask for their advice on the types of opportunities that will keep them actively engaged in academic neonatology.

What was smartest career move you’ve made thus far? Asking for advice and following it.

What would you like to change about your career or life if you could have a do over? I would be a better listener.

What helps to balance career and out of hospital life? My family and I have been through a lot together and they keep me grounded. We love to travel together but also prioritize frequent one-on-one time. My wife and I take mini-getaways for a few nights each year. My son and I celebrated his high school graduation with a trip to Turkey this past summer. Most recently, I’ve discovered how relaxing a pointless drive to nowhere can be when your daughter is the DJ and you’re singing at the top of your lungs.

What made you get involved with MidCaN and what do you hope that the group will do? I simply wanted to know other neonatologists in my generation. We were trained at a time of rapid expansion of our field with myriad private practice opportunities, strained NIH funding, and a desire to live life differently than our predecessors. As the traditional academic model evolves, I want to ensure that MidCaN advocates for the ways in which our field must similarly evolve to accommodate the talented and passionate generation coming after us.

Women in Neonatology

Renate Savich MD, FAAP

The Women in Neonatology (WiN) group continues to expand and develop new programming to address issues faced by WiN. At the AAP NCE in New Orleans, we had an amazing session for the 50 women that attended. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Rhonda Acholonu enlightening us on “A PDSA Approach to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.” Her talk was a timely reminder on how we can address gender disparities in medicine, starting with how we write letters of recommendation for other women.

The Steering Committee for WiN had a strategic planning meeting at the new AAP offices this past summer. First of all, we now have an official steering committee! The current Chair of the WiN Steering Committee is Marilyn Escobedo and the Chair-Elect is Renate Savich. Other members of the Steering Committee are Christiane Dammann, Clara Song, Krithika Lingappan, Shazia Bhombal and Namrita Jain. In the future, we will have a Past Chair, Chair and Chair –Elect, each for two-year terms and six standing members with up to two three-year terms. We have also established six standing committees based on the feedback from our surveys:

- Leadership
- Advocacy
- Health/Wellness
- Mentoring and Career Development
- Membership
- Networking and Communication

We are now sending out a call for WiN members to these committees. Several of you have already signed up. If you are interested in participating in one of the committees, please send an email to Monique Phillips at AAP: mphillips@AAP.org. Let us know if you are interested in leading one of the committees as well.

We have also been very productive in the area of advocacy. With the leadership of WiN, the Section on
Women in Neonatology
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Neonatal Perinatal Medicine submitted a resolution to the AAP Annual Leadership Forum that the AAP take a lead role in establishing an important parental leave policy for families in the US. We are advocating for a minimum of 12 weeks paid parental leave for both parents that are working. You may have seen that this is an increasingly important topic in the US, as we are the only developed country without an impactful parental leave policy. Please let us know if you are interested in work on this advocacy project!

The new WiN website is up and active: https://services.aap.org/en/community/aap-sections/sonpm/. We have two new Website Editors: Jessica Madden (Jessica.w.madden@gmail.com) and co-editor Karen Hussein (karen.hussein@gmail.com). Please send them an email if you find something of importance for the website. As the website becomes more robust, we will have rotating features of interest, highlight the great things you do, and send out important articles. Several important articles on gender equity were just published in *Pediatrics*. “Women in Pediatrics: Progress, Barriers, and Opportunities for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion” should definitely be on your reading list! (%Pediatrics. 2019 Nov;144(5). pii: e20192149. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2019-2149)

We are really looking forward to our two-day WiN meeting in Scottsdale, AZ to be held March 29th and 30th, 2020. The meeting will start right after the Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies ends at noon on Sunday. The 3rd annual WiN meeting at Scottsdale is committed to promoting the wellness and careers of women in neonatology. WiN aims to form a national network of women neonatal intensivists, promote women into leadership positions, support research and educational endeavors, and support mentoring and advocacy for gender equity. Come and connect! We will have discussions about WiN initiatives, breakout sessions, and networking activities. We are requesting that attendees offset some of the food and beverage costs for the three meals with a $25.00 registration fee. We will have preregistration on line, as well as at the time of the meeting. Thank you to SoNPM for supporting ten TECaN travel grants to the WiN meeting in Scottsdale.

Our keynote speaker this year, Dr. Bonnie Koo, will be sharing strategies on how to manage the unique financial complexities we face. Dr. Koo is a dermatologist, mother and creator of Wealthy Mom MD site, which fills in the “enormous gap in knowledge and resources not only on how women physicians should manage money, but also how they should tackle the rising cost of childcare, divorce, elder care, and other unique concerns for us breadwinning women.” She is a frequent guest on the *Hippocratic Hustle* podcast, discussing financial topics with host Dr. Carrie Reynolds. Dr. Koo’s mission is to empower physicians to build wealth toward financial independence and enable them to build the life they want.

We will also have another WiN Happy Hour at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in Philadelphia. Last year was a great opportunity to catch up with all of you and learn more about your successes and challenges. More details to follow.

Thank you all for your great enthusiasm and interest in WIN. The monthly WiN Newsflash, edited by Namrita Jain, has received tremendous feedback. Current and past WiN Newflashes can be accessed on the WiN website. We will also send out biweekly wellness features. We are also accepting nominations for the WiNovation Award - an annual award recognizing women neonatologists whose work has contributed towards progressing the role of women in neonatology in an exemplary manner. Please contact WiN Chair Marilyn Escobedo (Marilyn-Escobedo@ouhsc.edu) for questions or suggestions.

TECaN Update
Ashley Lucke MD, FAAP

Happy New Year from TECaN! We’re excited for all the great things 2020 holds in store for our members! Since overhauling the Executive Council structure in 2019, our Committee Chairs focusing on Education, Membership, Research and Quality Improvement, Advocacy, Career Development and Leadership have been hard at work leading their committees. Below is a list of our TECaN resolutions for 2020!

1. Launch our very own TECaN podcast series to bring career guidance, educational resources, leadership guidance, job search tips and all things TECaN right to you! Look for an email blast with logistics of how to download and locate the podcasts on the Section listserv in the future.

2. Award scholarships to attend the Scottsdale Workshop on Neonatal Perinatal Practice Strategies and AAP
Laissez les bon temps rouler - let the good times roll! A good time was had by all at the 2019 AAP NCE in New Orleans where the Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine (SoNPM) held three sessions.

The first session was dedicated to the human microbiome. The microbiome has been a very hot topic of discussion at many different levels. It has been stated that maintenance of a healthy, diverse microbiome promotes immune development and that an imbalance (dysbiosis) between the types of organism present in an individual’s can contribute to a wide range of conditions of ill health that can result in later diseases such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, cancer, autoimmune disease, necrotizing enterocolitis, premature birth and asthma. Starting the discussion was Joseph Petrosino from the Baylor College of Medicine discussing current laboratory methods used in examining the microbiome. Historically study of a microbe required culture-dependent techniques; it was necessary to grow an organism in the laboratory in order to study it. This discussion centered on culture-independent techniques such as whole genome sequencing and 16S ribosomal RNA that analyzes the DNA extracted directly from a sample. Dr. Petrosino also discussed current work from his Center for Metagenomics and Microbiome Research. Rodney Dietert went on to discuss how pregnancy and birth are the greatest environmental and microbial transitions that an infant will face across life. Planning for a healthy microbially complete infant begins with the pregnant woman. Because the microbiota is malleable, it is an ideal target for improving health. Josef Neu provided an in-depth review on antibiotic use in preterm infants and its effects on intestinal microbiome, metabolome and inflammatory mediators. Finally, Jae Kim discussed the establishment of stable microbial communities within the gastrointestinal tract.

The next session was a partnership with the Section on Breastfeeding. This session was led by Lars Bode who discussed the mechanisms by which human milk oligosaccharides are involved in immune development and health outcomes of mothers and infants. Tarah Colaizy provided a comprehensive review on the use of donor milk and its health impacts on preterm infants. Aloka Patel discussed hospital-based strategies to improve mother’s own milk use for NICU infants. Sarah Taylor ended the session by discussing optimizing mother’s milk and nutrition following NICU discharge.

Simulation-based learning has gained center stage in clinical learning. The last session of the Program partnered with the Section on Simulation and Innovative Learning Methods. Spearheading this interactive session was Taylor Sawyer, Chair of the AAP Section on Simulation and Innovative Learning Methods, and Lou Halamek, Stanford University Medical Center, Director of the Center for Advanced Pediatric and Perinatal Education (CAPE). Utilizing videos, they focused on effective ways to conduct post-event debriefings in healthcare which are facilitated discussions of a clinical event with emphasis on learning and performance improvement.

The 2019 SoNPM Program in New Orleans was very educational and a great success! I thank the Planning Committee and our partner sections for their contributions to the Program. Save the date for the 2020 SoNPM Program at the NCE to be held in San Diego, CA on October 2-5.
2020 AAP NCE SoNPM Program in San Diego, CA

Clara H Song MD

The 2020 Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine (SoNPM) Program at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Convention and Exhibition (AAP NCE) will be held in San Diego, CA. As always, the weekend program will kick off with the annual fall meeting of the Organization of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine Training Program Directors (ONTPD) on Friday morning, October 2. We’ll round out the evening with the Poster Abstract Session and Reception.

Saturday morning opens the platform presentation portion of the annual Scientific Session. The top ten abstracts are invited to present oral platform presentations. From these ten, the two most outstanding will be awarded the 2020 SoNPM Young Investigator Awards. Throughout the weekend, we will also recognize the Marshall Klaus Research Grant recipients and honor our colleagues with the Neonatal Landmark Award, the Avroy Fanaroff Education Award, the Neonatal Pioneer Award, and the “Nobel Prize of Neonatology,” the Virginia Apgar Award.

A feature character of the 2020 program will be the neonatal cardiac patient. A joint session with Section on Cardiology & Cardiac Surgery will open the discussion on the multidisciplinary team approach to caring for these vulnerable neonates. Neonatal intensivists, cardiologists, and surgeons will talk through the pre- and post-operative assessment and management, non-invasive technologies for hemodynamic assessment, defining the elusive hemodynamically significant PDA, and transcatheter closure of the PDA.

The conversation will continue on Sunday, October 4 to focus on cardiopulmonary dysfunction of the preterm and critically ill neonate with such topics as transitional circulation, left ventricular function and the effect of the vascular bed, myocardial dysfunction in disease states as HIE and CDH, controversies in the management of hypotension, and precision medicine in hemodynamics. Two concurrent interactive group forums will happen on Sunday afternoon, “Case-based Discussion on the Hemodynamics of Term vs. Preterm Physiology, PPHN and PDA” and “Neonatal Cardiovascular Compromise: Interpretation of Echocardiogram and Hands-on Simulation-based Assessment.”

Experts in this specialized field of neonatal hemodynamics will travel from across the country to join the conversation: Gabriel Altit MD, Laurie Armsby MD, Carl Backes Jr. MD, Shazia Bhombal MD, Maky Fraga MD, Regan E. Giesinger MD, Patrick McNamara MB BCH, Shahab Noori MD, Rune Toms MD, Victor Levy MD, and more.

Of course, our annual TECaN and MidCaN receptions will happen on Saturday night. WECaN will lunch on Saturday.

Women in Neonatology (WiN) will have an extended lunch meeting with keynote speaker Catherine DeAngelis, the Editor-in-Chief Emerita of JAMA.

Connect in the discussion. You will have a front row seat! Can’t wait to see you all!

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Ronald L Ariagno MD, FAAP
Kimber Padua BS

This article will briefly describe the development of the 2019 Neonatal Intensive Care Units (154) and Neonatologists (941) California Web Directory (for public view see: nicu-directory.cpqcc.org). See original article in Journal of Perinatology for more details about the history of directories and goals for this project (15 March 2018, https://doi.org/10.1038/s41372-018-0097-8).

Chronology for Initiation and Funding (18 months):

The California Association of Neonatologists (CAN) Board of Directors approved and provided seed funding, along with David Stevenson, Chief of the Division of Neonatal and Developmental Medicine at Stanford, for the Web-Based Directory Project. Mead Johnson Nutrition (original funders of Directory Project 1994-2011) provided a grant. Dilip Bhatt (original author of national and California directories through 2011), with Marian Adams and Janice Stillwell, obtained all of the current data for California. Fibonacci Web Studio (https://fibonacciwebstudio.com/) collaborated with Dr. Bhatt and Ms. Stillwell to transfer PDF data into a web platform. Henry Lee and the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaboratives (CPQCC) at Stanford, Dr. Bhatt, and Ron Ariagno presented the original proposal to CAN. Kimber Lee Padua, Clinical Research Coordinator for CPQCC, and Meera Sankar, Chair of CAN Research Committee, contributed. The leadership from CAN and CPQCC and the potential to link to the existing California NICU database have been key to the success of the Project.

Technical Details on Development:

The NICU Directory website uses the Pantheon platform (https://pantheon.io/company) linked to CPQCC website, which has the NICU clinical data. Pantheon is a “weops platform” for Drupal, which allows for a high-performance hosting platform. Drupal (https://www.drupal.org/) is a free open-source content management framework, which
supports the concept that CPQCC and NICU teams can collaborate and innovate. Patheon and Drupal were primarily chosen because they are user-friendly, have capability to download new data, and are easy to navigate and to share data with others when permitted.

Each center was listed by California city with the address, phone number, fax number, NICU medical director and email. Each center’s level of practice, number of NICU beds, availability of hypothermia treatment for hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, and use of inhaled nitric oxide are listed. The Neonatologists, Neonatal Nurse Practitioners, Neonatal Physician Assistants, Perinatologists (Maternal Fetal Medicine specialists), Hospitalists and Pediatric Surgeons, if relevant, are provided.

In the web Directory, there are tabs for Centers, NICU Medical Directors and a People Directory. The Centers tab is categorized by Training Centers, California Children’s Services (CCS) Approved NICUs, Non-CCS NICUs, Clinics and other facilities. The NICU Medical Directors page shows a list of medical directors matched with their respective NICUs. The medical director name is a hyperlink that links to their personal page within the directory. The NICU is a hyperlink that links to that center's page. The People Directory is organized alphabetically by last name, and has an available search bar to look up providers, with hyperlinks to each of their personal pages within the directory. There is also a separate tab for User Guide, for members to refer to the basic steps of managing their profiles or centers, as well as a Feedback tab for members to offer input to improve the website.

Next Steps and Goals:

Ron Ariagno presented the California Web Directory to the SoNPM Executive Committee at the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) National Conference and Exhibition (NCE) 2019 for review and to initiate discussion for approval and support for establishing a National Web Directory. The California Web Directory also has complete information for our nine training programs, which was reviewed with Organization of Neonatal Perinatal Training Program Directors (ONTPD) leadership at the AAP NCE 2019. They will survey program directors and their programs to decide what data are important for a National ONTPD Web Directory (last update was 2011).

California is planning a Clinical Regulatory Research Web Directory. To qualify, NICUs must have resources to achieve the scientific rigor beyond what is usually considered adequate for routine clinical trials. The nine training center NICUs have many affiliate NICUs that could be incorporated into a research network to potentially maximize participation of virtually all NICUs. A search function could easily identify sites that have the capacity to collaborate in multiple settings (e.g., NICU and outpatient clinics) and to track performance conducting various types of trials.

Conclusion:

For the Web Directory(ies) to be successful it requires: 1. Consensus from neonatologists, clinical programs and ONTPD for ownership and inclusivity; 2. Commitment to updating online; 3. Flexibility to add new information/links (e.g., include information on all subspecialists who make highest level of intensive care feasible); 4. Plan for sustainability; 5. Agreement on what information is essential for training, clinical practice and research with the ultimate goal to improve training, clinical care and outcomes for mothers and infants.

2020 Spring Workshop
March 27-29, Scottsdale, AZ

Krithika Lingappan MD, FAAP

The 2020 Workshop on Neonatal Perinatal Practice Strategies is to be held again this year at the beautiful Double Tree Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale, AZ on March 27-29, 2020. The planning committee has put together an exciting collection of speakers, interactive breakout sessions and thought-provoking talks and workshops. This unique conference aims to empower leadership, provide a forum for networking, guide change, encourage quality and promote advocacy among care providers in neonatology.

This meeting provides the attendees with the opportunity for closer interaction with AAP leaders and speakers in an ideal setting. The topics are carefully selected to cater to a wide range of neonatology providers and all stages of neonatologists from trainees and early career to more senior neonatologists.

The meeting kicks off with a unique session on neonatal coding offered on Friday morning by Dr. Edward Liechty and group with a case-based discussion of various clinical scenarios as they relate to coding and billing. New this year, there will be a clinical leaders forum for medical directors and quality directors, also on Friday morning. Led by Drs. Munish Gupta, Jim Barry and Jessica Davidson, the forum aims to become an annual gathering for clinical directors and will provide training and mentorship for these roles.

We are very happy to have our Apgar Awardee Dr. Barbara Schmidt present the Butterfield Lecture on Friday afternoon titled “Caffeine for Apnea of Prematurity - the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” Dr. Barbara Schmidt has been instrumental in leading some of the most important RCTs in neonatology including the Trial of Indomethacin Prophylaxis in Preterms (TIPP Trial) which showed that the high rate of mental and motor deficits in these children is
2020 Spring Workshop

Continued from Page 11
not improved by prophylactic treatment with indomethacin. She is also the PI of the Caffeine for Apnea of Prematurity (CAP) trial, which enrolled over 2,000 VLBW infants in North America, Europe, Israel and Australia. This trial has shown that caffeine therapy for apnea of prematurity improves the rate of survival without neurodevelopmental disability after very preterm birth. In addition, she was the lead on the Canadian Oxygen Trial (COT), which compared the effects of targeting lower or higher oxygen saturations in extremely preterm infants on the rate of death or disability at 18 months. This will be followed by a talk by Dr. Satyan Lakshminrusimha on “Advances in Neonatal Resuscitation - Oxygen, Chest Compressions and Epinephrine.” Dr. Satyan’s research focuses on resuscitation physiology and this talk will inform the audience on new insights on resuscitation practices. Dr. Anne Ades will talk about making the delivery room as efficient and safe as an airplane cockpit. Mark Del Monte JD, CEO of AAP, will provide an update of national health care policies as they pertain to neonatologists. This will be followed by a reception for all the meeting registrants, speakers and AAP leadership.

On Saturday morning, three concurrent breakout sessions have been planned with an early career, management or clinical focus. These are designed to be small group sessions to allow maximum attendee engagement with the speaker. Several cutting-edge and practical topics will be discussed including: Sustained inflation - biological plausibility versus therapeutic efficacy, practical aspects of performing clinical or translational chest imaging in neonatal patients, regulatory requirements and patient safety in the NICU, advocacy for the early career neonatologist, working with your lawyer to prepare a successful defense, what you should know before choosing a leadership position, building a comprehensive and successful strategic plan for your NICU, the evolving definition of BPD.

Dr. Stephanie Kukora will lead the Saturday afternoon workshop, “Medical Improv for Fostering Wellness and Resilience in the Workplace.”

The session from the Committee on Fetus and Newborn of the AAP on upcoming clinical reports will start off the Sunday morning session. This will be followed by a talk by Dr. Jason Woods on newer imaging modalities for the phenotyping and management of BPD. Mr. Jeff Kaas (kaastailored.com) will talk to us about the lean methodology, reducing waste and learning how to adopt continuous improvement as a culture.

Throughout the meeting, Dr. DeWayne Pursley will be eliciting responses and opinions from the attendees about the topics that are being addressed through the interactive use of the Audience Response System. Attendees will be able to obtain MOC Part II credit through completion of pre- and post-meeting questions.

Coding Question
Edward Liechty MD, FAAP

You attend the C-section delivery of a 26 week infant. At delivery, the infant breathes spontaneously with moderate tachypnea and suprasternal retractions. You administer 6 cm H2O CPAP via T-piece resuscitator. The infant does not become apneic or require PPV in the DR. Birth weight is 0.900 kg. After transfer to the NICU, the infant’s respiratory distress worsens, and you perform ET intubation and place an UAC. Chest x-ray shows diffuse severe atelectasis and air bronchograms.

Correct CPT coding for this infant:
A. 99465, 31500, 99468
B. 99464, 99477
C. 99464, 99468

Identify the incorrect ICD-10 code:
A. P28.5 Respiratory failure of newborn
B. P07.25 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 26 completed weeks
C. P22.0 Respiratory distress syndrome of newborn

Answer on page 15.

Calendar of Meetings
33rd Annual Gravens Conference on the Physical & Development Environment of the High Risk Infant
Clearwater Beach, FL
March 4-7, 2020

Perinatal Workshop
Scottsdale, AZ
March 27-29, 2020

District VI Conference
Chicago, IL
September 11-12, 2020

AAP National Conference & Exhibition SoNPM Program
San Diego
October 2-6, 2020

VON Annual Quality Congress
Chicago, IL
November 5-8, 2020

Hot Topics
Washington, DC
December 5-9, 2020
Many focused career groups: Early career (TECaN), mid-career (MidCaN), senior (WECaN) are planning to have networking opportunities during the meeting. The Women in Neonatology (WiN) group will be holding their 3rd annual meeting after the Workshop this year with great speakers and sessions.

I would like to thank all the Planning Committee members and the AAP staff who have worked hard to organize the 2020 meeting. This meeting is truly unique and offers topics imperative to the practicing neonatologist. We hope to see many of you at Scottsdale!

**ANNOUNCING! SoNPM Clinical Leaders Forum for Medical Directors and Quality Directors**

Increasingly, NICUs are appointing medical directors and quality directors specifically charged with directing and improving the clinical service. Substantial anecdotal evidence suggests training and mentorship for these roles is often lacking. While researchers, educators, and clinicians have numerous professional societies and organizations that provide them with community and support, there does not appear to be an equivalent professional “home” for clinical leaders.

The AAP Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine (SoNPM) seeks to help fill this gap by developing a community of NICU clinical leaders. As a community, we will delve into topics critical for leadership of a clinical service, ranging from patient safety to quality improvement to regulatory requirements to team dynamics. This learning community will be anchored by an annual meeting at the SoNPM Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies, held each spring in Scottsdale. In between the annual meetings, regular communications will support the group’s work throughout the year.

Potential areas of focus for the Clinical Leaders Forum are many, and include: Conducting a root cause analysis; organizing morbidity and mortality conference; creating and maintaining a quality dashboard; understanding Joint Commission and other regulatory requirements; writing guidelines and policies; developing leadership skills; achieving academic success and promotion as a clinical leader; and more. For these topics, we will pursue structured education and training, as well as using the group’s expertise to learn and share through survey and open discussion.

Our Clinical Leaders Forum will launch at the 2020 Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies with a meeting on Friday, March 27, 2020, from 8am to 11am. The main conference begins that afternoon at 1pm. There is no additional fee to attend the Clinical Leaders Forum, but participants must be members of the AAP SoNPM.

The meeting is open to NICU medical directors, NICU quality directors, and neonatologists interested in these types of roles. To join the Clinical Leaders Forum in Scottsdale, or to express interest in being part of this new community, please complete a short survey at: https://hms.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5iNH8Tt9Tds7H. For more information about the Workshop, visit https://shop.aap.org/2020-workshop-on-neonatal-perinatal-practice-strategies-scottsdale-az/. If you are very excited about this Forum and would like to help us plan the meeting, or if you have other questions or ideas, please reach out! We hope you will join us!

**SoNPM Clinical Leaders Forum Planning Committee**

Munish Gupta (mgupta@bidmc.harvard.edu)
Jim Barry (James.barry@cuanschutz.edu)
Jessica Davidson (jessica.davidson@hsc.utah.edu)
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**In Memoriam… Lois Johnson-Hamerman**

Lois Johnson-Hamerman died on August 10, 2019. She was born in Newcomb, NY, a small town in the Adirondacks. She attended Cornell University and received her MD from University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1952. She completed an adult medicine internship at University of Minnesota Hospital and a pediatrics residency at Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati.

From 1955-1958, she studied bilirubin-induced brain injury and the etiologies of kernicterus at SUNY Brooklyn. She continued her research at Albert Einstein Hospital before relocating to Philadelphia in 1963 to work at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Hospital. She remained at Pennsylvania Hospital for 40 years.

Dr. Johnson-Hamerman worked closely with PICK (Parents of Infants and Children with Kernicterus) and developed the Kernicterus Data Registry which reminded newborn caregivers that kernicterus still occurs and that it is important to do bilirubin screening in newborns prior to discharge. She was awarded the 1996 Bilirubin Club Award for her contributions to bilirubin research and prevention of kernicterus.

Her outside interests included the piano and the violin. Her husband of 57 years, Conrad Hamerman, died in 2014. They were members of the Philadelphia Museum of Art and supported the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Pennsylvania Ballet, and the Opera Company of Philadelphia. She is survived by a daughter, granddaughter, brother, and sister.

Adapted from *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
**MidCaN Update**

**Dena K. Hubbard MD, FAAP**

MidCaN members met informally at NCE in New Orleans. Our first event was held Friday afternoon in a joint session on mentoring with WECaN. This was followed by the poster walk and SoNPM reception. Saturday night we had a great turnout at the MidCaN reception despite being held in room 399, the furthest from the front entrance! Cheers to those who took the hike to get there, we all got our steps in for the day!

Speaking of steps, two MidCaN members stepped up and started their terms as district representatives on the SoNPM Executive Committee after NCE. Congrats again to Alexis Davis (IX) and Josh Petrikin (VI)!

The next official MidCaN meeting will be Friday morning March 27th at the SoNPM Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies in Scottsdale. This will include the Clinical Leaders Forum led by Munish Gupta and an interactive session on creating your leadership elevator speech.

The focus area for MidCaN in 2019-2020 is leadership development. MidCaN hosted their first quarterly webinar August 13th, “Setting Career Goals and Defining Your Success,” presented by Steve Olsen (SoNPM member) and Mary Anne Jackson (Peds ID). This presentation was informative and inspiring. It was recorded and is available for viewing on the new and improved website. Subsequent webinar topics include developing your leadership skills, creating your elevator speech, leading QI efforts, and financial planning. Stay tuned for next webinar date which will be announced soon. Please share with your colleagues and institutions, as these webinars are not limited to MidCaN or even SoNPM members. Additional leadership resources are coming soon to the MidCaN website.

Be on the lookout for the inaugural MidCaN Newsflash set to release in January 2020. This will be a regular feature to share and advertise MidCaN opportunities, events, and resources. This project is being led by Eric Horowitz, Andrea Duncan, Mobolaji Famuyide, and Dan Malleske. Tara Randis and Andrea Duncan are directing website content and updates. Reach out to any of these individuals if you have an idea or resource to share for the newsflash or website.

Save the date: January 14th at 2 pm CST for “MidCaN Coffee Break Discussion on Leadership,” presented by Heather Kaplan and Elizabeth Rogers. This interactive virtual journal club will begin with the review of two Harvard Business Review articles as a framework for sharing challenges and lessons learned in our leadership positions within our divisions, departments, and institutions. Check your email for further details.

**Current MidCaN opportunities:**

MidCaN members are currently reviewing, editing and creating content related to neonatology for HealthyChildren.org. If you are interested in joining this effort, please email Dena Hubbard (dkhubbard@cmh.edu). Each article can have up to two authors and provides a great opportunity to collaborate with TECaN or WECaN members.

MidCaN subcommittees and committee leaders are listed below. If you have an interest in joining one of these committees, please email MidCaN Co-chairs Alexis Davis asdavis@stanford.edu and Dena Hubbard dkhubbard@cmh.edu.

- **Leadership/Career Development:** Heather Kaplan and Alexis Davis
- **Mentorship:** Bolaji Famuyide, Kurlen Payton, Dan Malleske
- **Physician Wellness:** Fola Kehinde and Dena Hubbard
- **Advocacy:** Tara Randis and Josh Petrikin
- **QI:** Munish Gupta

If you are a mid-career neonatologist 7-17 years out of fellowship, you are a MidCaN member! There is no extra cost to your AAP/SoNPM membership to participate in MidCaN activities. Join the listserv and we’ll keep you informed about resources and opportunities within the SoNPM and AAP. We are here for you and because of you!

If you would like to join the MidCaN listserv or are interested in becoming more involved, please email MidCaN co-chairs Alexis Davis asdavis@stanford.edu and Dena Hubbard dkhubbard@cmh.edu. We hope to see you in sunny Scottsdale!

**WECaN Meets at NCE**

**Stephen A Pearlman MD, MS, FAAP**

WECaN had another successful meeting at the NCE in New Orleans. Our meeting began with a brief business meeting to discuss the future directions for our special interest group and topics for future meetings. One suggestion made is that WECaN take on a special project to work on and we are hoping to get suggestions from our membership. Regarding topics for future meetings we are considering retirement planning, developing one’s outside interests, wills and trusts, different models for cutting back and if and when someone should stop teaching. Again, we welcome additional topics, comments on these topics and suggestions for speakers.

Following the business meeting, Scott Duncan MD, MHA, FAAP, Director of Neonatology at the University of Louisville and Secretary/Treasurer of WECaN, gave a wonderful talk about creating your legacy. He drew on his
experiences of knowing Billy Andrews, one of the legends of neonatology who passed away earlier this year. Scott used Billy’s life and achievements as a touchstone for how one can go about creating a legacy.

After Scott, Carl Bose MD from University of North Carolina and Ann Stark MD, from Beth Israel in Boston, gave a fireside chat about mentorship. WECaN was very fortunate to have these two outstanding clinicians and academicians who have mentored and continue to mentor many individuals over the years. Next, Dena Hubbard MD, from Children’s Mercy in Kansas City and a MidCaN member, and Ashley Lucke MD, from Children’s National in DC and a TECaN member, set us straight on what they need from a mentor at the respective stages in their careers. A robust discussion involving audience members ensued and valuable learning took place.

We will be planning our next meeting for the Neonatal Perinatal Practice Strategies Workshop in Scottsdale next spring. As always we welcome feedback from all WECaN members. If you would like to join our group, please contact Stephen Pearlman spearman@christianacare.org or Scott Duncan scottd.duncan@louisville.edu. We will add you to the listserv that will keep you up to date on WECaN happenings.

CODING ANSWER (Question on page 12)

The correct CPT coding for this infant is C.

99464 is Attendance at delivery (when requested by the delivering physician or other qualified health care professional) and initial stabilization of newborn. All DR procedures and therapy up to but not including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (PPV and/or chest compressions) are included in the intraservice work of this code.

99465 is Delivery/birthing room resuscitation, provision of positive pressure ventilation and/or chest compressions in the presence of acute inadequate ventilation and/or cardiac output. In this case CPAP, but not PPV, was employed, so 99465 may not be reported, even though the CPAP was delivered by a T-piece resuscitator. A common question is, “Why is CPAP not considered resuscitation?” Historically, 99465 was patterned on and justified by analogy with 99250 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (e.g., in cardiac arrest). Clearly, CPAP alone would not justify 99250.

31500 is intubation, endotracheal, emergency procedure. This procedure is bundled with 99468, and cannot be reported as the intubation was performed after transfer to the NICU.

The incorrect ICD-10 code is A (P28.5 Respiratory failure of newborn). An ICD coding principle is that the most specific code should be used and signs/symptoms that are inherent in the specific code should not be coded in addition. For instance, since wheezing is inherent is acute asthma, one would not code asthma and wheezing concurrently. Since respiratory failure is inherent in RDS, it is not proper to code both RDS and respiratory failure. Furthermore, an “Excludes 1” notation exists for these two codes. Excludes 1 means “these codes should never be used at the same time” unless the conditions are not related, but in this instance they are. It is possible to get an initial denial of payment if P28.5 and P22.0 are used together.

You may however, and should, use the verbiage “respiratory failure” in your documentation. Suggested admission or progress note documentation would be: “This infant continues to require mechanical ventilation for respiratory failure secondary to respiratory distress syndrome.” This will signify to an auditor that a critical care CPT code is justified.

Complete ICD-10 coding for this infant is:
Z38.01 Single liveborn infant, delivered by cesarean *
P07.03 Extremely low birth weight newborn, 750-999 grams
P07.25 Extreme immaturity of newborn, gestational age 26 completed weeks
P22.0 Respiratory distress syndrome of newborn

*Z38.xx codes are used only at the birth hospital. If the infant in the scenario had been transferred to you from a referral hospital, you would not use Z38.01
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**CONNECTICUT**

*Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford*

We congratulate James Moore who was the 2019 recipient of the Graham’s Foundation Award for Contributions to Neonatology, presented by the Graham’s Foundation in New York City, November 7, 2019. We congratulate Naveed Hussain who won Best Platform Presentation at the AAP Section on International Child Health for his work in India, “Safe Care, Saving Lives.”

Mishika Malik received a travel award for her work on the “Impact of Dietary Carbohydrates on Cytotoxin-Producing K. Oxytoca: A Potential Pathway to NEC.”

We were pleased to host our 4th Annual Symposium on Neonatal Advances that took place on September 19, 2019. This year the focus was on nutrition. Speakers included Michael Georgieff who spoke on the IUGR baby, Sarah Taylor on vitamin D health, David Adamkin on the use of human milk and fortification, Dena Goldberg on indicators of malnutrition, Marion Groetch on food allergy, and Betty Vohr on growth outcomes. David Adamkin gave the Memorial Lecture for Jeff Bartlett, who suddenly passed away this year.

SAVE THE DATE! Connecticut Children’s and the University of Connecticut will be hosting our 5th annual Symposium on Neonatal Advances on September 24, 2020 at our location in the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in Farmington, CT. The 2020 program will focus on updates in respiratory care and will feature Waldemar Carlo, Bradley Yoder, Hareesh Kirpalani, Vinneet Bhandari, and Sara DeMauro.

We welcomed Veronica Fabrizio to our faculty. She graduated from her neonatology fellowship at Yale in June and will be working with our clinical research team at the Connecticut Children’s Human Milk Research Center.

Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital

Harris Jacobs will be retiring in January 2020. Harris has been a valued member of the Yale neonatology faculty for over three decades. He is a nationally respected and innovative investigator in addition to being a gifted clinician and teacher. His work advanced our understanding of pulmonary physiology, in particular, surfactant physiology. In more recent years, he has served as the Chairman of Pediatrics at the Bridgeport campus of the Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital. We wish him years of relaxation and fun in his retirement, and thank him for doing so much for babies, families, his trainees, and his colleagues.

Mark Mercurio was an invited speaker for Bioethics Week in November at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, speaking on, “Approaching Ethical Dilemmas in Neonatology.” He also spoke at Medical Grand Rounds for Holocaust Remembrance Week at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto on, “The Legacy of the Nazi Physicians: How the Holocaust Informs Medical Ethics.”

SAVE THE DATE! The Second Annual Richard A. Ehrenkranz Neonatology Symposium will be held at Yale School of Medicine on April 20, 2020. Speakers will include Alan Flake, Camilla Martin, Richard Martin, Mark Mercurio, Angela Montgomery, and Jon Tyson. There will be a social event the evening before to give old friends a chance to catch up. The 2019 Symposium drew a large national audience and the same is expected for an excellent conference in April. More information to come. Any questions, please contact Valencia Culbreath, at valencia.culbreath@yale.edu

Caty Buck and Sarah Taylor will be serving on the Journal of Perinatology Editorial Board starting in January 2020.

**MAINE**

Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor

Our community extends its deepest thanks to Mark Brown, who is retiring after more than four decades in newborn medicine. We wish him the best in the next phase of his adventures!

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Baystate Medical Center, Springfield

We want to thank Rachana Singh, Medical Director of our NICU and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UMass-Baystate, for her countless contributions over the past 15 years to our Newborn Division, the Department of Pediatrics, Baystate Medical Center and the children/families of Western Massachusetts. It is truly our loss, and she will surely be missed, as she departs Baystate to join the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center as the Associate Chief of Neonatology and the Director of the Neonatal Fellowship Program. We would like to welcome Amy Blake who is returning home to western Massachusetts and joining our pediatric faculty at UMass-Baystate in our Division of Newborn Medicine. Amy will later be joined by Kate Horan, another Massachusetts native, and former Baystate pediatric resident, as she completes her neonatology fellowship at Jackson Memorial Hospital-University of Miami.

Robert Rothstein continues to serve as Interim Division Chief of Baystate’s Division of Newborn Medicine and champions NICU Solutions for Patient Safety (SPS) quality improvement. Our NICU, with JoAnne DeStasio redirecting our PICC team and NICU nursing practices surrounding CLABSI, was awarded the Annual Baystate Medical Center 21st President’s Excellence Award-Distinguished Performer Quality Category.

Our thriving newborns thank Laura Madore for her innovative research on breast milk macronutrient analysis and addressing racial disparities influencing the provision of breast milk for our preterm infants. We thank newborn hospitalist Mustafa Caylan as he continues to shape Baystate Children’s Hospital’s first Pediatric Palliative Care program.

We extend a special thanks to our “family” of per diem neonatologists: Stephen Bean, Thomas Campfield, Barbara Kelly, Kathleen Meyer and Gary Rockwell for providing exceptional care to our newborns and needed relief to our faculty as we rebuild our Division. The success of our Telemedicine Program for Retinopathy of Prematurity Evaluation, pioneered by Rachana Singh, has sparked interest in a new application for Telehealth in the care of newborns at risk for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. Again, with Rachana’s vision, we are excited to launch a telemonitoring program for a subset of our substance exposed newborns to be transitioned early on to their own homes for rooming-in, prior to, and in hopes of preventing, the initiation of pharmacotherapy. The program will allow for home monitoring and support for both mothers impacted with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) as well as their infants with focus on maternal adherence to medications for OUD treatment, preventing postpartum relapse, depression, and improvement in infant growth trajectory and enrollment in EI programs. This work is supported by grant funding provided to Baystate Medical Center through the MA state budget for year 2020.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

We are excited to highlight our Department Chair, DeWayne Pursley, who recently received two extremely prestigious awards. In October, BIDMC presented DeWayne with the Daniel J. Jick Excellence in Leadership Award for his 28 years of service as a physician-leader in the community and dedication to compassionate, innovative patient care. In December, Harvard Medical School recognized DeWayne with the Barbara J. McNeil Faculty Award for Exceptional Service. This highly selective award was established “to recognize and celebrate faculty who have set the standard for service at HMS/HSDM through their personal initiative in providing service and engaging others to do the same.”

Our department was proud to host Rear Admiral Wanda Barfield as she was honored with the Marie McCormick Lectureship in Neonatal Health Services Research and Epidemiology on November 7, 2019.

Dara Broszky and Cami Martin recently released the 3rd edition of Neonatology Review with enhanced content and visuals. This edition is a five-volume study guide, available in black and white and in color. The books are available at http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/neonatologyreview.

With the integration of BIDMC and Lahey Hospitals, we eagerly welcome the neonatologists based at Beverly Hospital and Winchester Hospital to our department. These
outstanding physicians will continue to provide care at the Lahey Hospitals as well as in the NICU at BIDMC, while pursuing a wide variety of academic interests. Welcome Asimenia Angelidou, Maushumi Assad, Kimberlee Chatson, Ivana Cullic, Gearing Deno, Justin Goldstein, Aimee Knorr, Jennifer Lee, Karen McAlmon, Iris Streimish, Nancy Weinschenk and Diana Yanni.

We are also excited to welcome Amy Fan to our department! Amy is a primary care pediatrician in our community and will join our newborn nursery Cochran Newborn Service.

Boston Children’s Hospital

In September 2019, Christos Papadelis moved to Fort Worth, TX to become the Director of Research at the Jane and John Justin Neurosciences Center at Cook Children’s Health Care System. We wish him well in this new role!

Ellen Grant received a R01 for her project, “Novel MRI Assessment of Placental Structure and Function throughout Pregnancy,” and gave keynote presentations at the International Workshop on Pediatric Neuroimaging and the NICHD Neonatal Research Network Steering Committee.

Khoi Im received the AHA grant, “Developing a Predictive Model of Fetal to Neonatal Brain Development in Congenital Heart Disease.”

Philip Levy will be honored as the keynote speaker of the Hemodynamics Club at the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Conference in May 2020.

Eric Greer received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Our newest faculty member, Elizabeth Taglauer, was awarded the European Young Investigator Exchange Program Award by the Society for Pediatric Research.

We are very excited to share numerous recent achievements from our outstanding fellows: Lauren Frazer was appointed President-elect of the Society for Pediatric Research’s Junior Section. Julie Thai won the Hot Topics in Neonatology Fellow Award for her project on reducing antacid use in the NICU and presented her work at the Hot Topics in Neonatology Quality Day. Samantha Enstad and Emily Herzberg received travel grant awards from the Vermont Oxford Network.

Helen Healy, Alejandra Barrero Castillo and Jonathan Levin received TECan travel awards for the AAP NCE. Jonathan also received an award and excellence in research grant from the Neonatal Cardiopulmonary Biology Young Investigators Forum.

Boston Medical Center

We welcome Bharati Sinha, who is returning to BMC to be the Director of Quality and Safety for Newborn Medicine.

Meg Parker, Elisha Wachman, Bernadette Levesque, and Vincent C. Smith were all promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine.

Elisha Wachman continues to earn well-deserved national attention for her pioneering work to improve the care of mothers and newborns impacted by perinatal opioid use. She and her team were awarded a $1.8 million grant from the NIDA Clinical Trial Network for a randomized study of different formulations of buprenorphine for pregnant women with opioid use disorder. They hosted Melania Trump at Boston Medical Center to share their comprehensive program to support these families.

Bobbie Philip published her new book entitled The Breastfeeding Blueprint.

Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston

Mandy Belfort and her team were awarded funding from the National Institute for Integrative Healthcare for the Nourish randomized trial of individually targeted human milk fortification.

The “My Brigham Baby App” was launched by Carmina Erdei and team. This tool provides multiple opportunities for families to join their baby’s care even when not present in the NICU.

Sailaja Ghanta, Foti Spyropoulos, and fellow Jon Levin presented at the sixth annual Neonatal Cardiopulmonary Biology Young Investigators Forum. Saila and Jon were honored with Young Investigator Awards for their presentations. Also, Saila was recently elected to the Society for Pediatric Research.

The 4th New England Neonatal Neurocritical Care Conference led by Terrie Inder and Mohamed El-Dib was held in October 2019 and was a great success. This year’s conference again focused on neuromonitoring and neuroimaging, and brought together 100 medical professionals to learn about the interpretation and clinical application of neonatal aEEG, NIRS, HUS, and MRI technologies. Be on the lookout for the announcement for next year’s conference!

South Shore Hospital, South Weymouth

South Shore Hospital was selected to participate in the National Action Partnership to Promote Safe Sleep Improvements and Innovation Network. The national initiative seeks to make safe sleep and infant breast feeding the national norm, and thereby reduce infant deaths. The South Shore team is led by Eyad Zahr.

Bonnie Arzuaga has the role of Site Principal Investigator at South Shore Hospital for a NIH-funded project entitled, “Antenatal Consultation Practice at Extreme Prematurity: Can We Elicit Families’ Values, Preferred Language and Consultation Approach to Improve Decision-Making and Satisfaction?” The project is led by Christy Cummings from Boston Children’s Hospital.

Zuzanna Kubicka and the nursing staff at South Shore Hospital are changing the model of NICU care from Family-Centered Care to Family-Integrated Care (FICare). The FICare model recasts the role of NICU nurses as mentors, models and educators for families of convalescing preterm infants and makes the family members active participants in the bedside care of their baby, including as participants and presenters on daily NICU rounds. An app for tablets and smart phones has been created to facilitate parental education and the app is available at the Apple Store and Google Play (South Shore Health NICU Family Integrated Care).

Tufts Medical Center, Boston

Jill Maron was recently awarded a R01 from NICHD for her project, “Salivary Diagnostics for Sepsis Screening the Newborn,” which seeks to combine the latest technological advances for biomarker quantification with non-invasive salivary diagnosticians to develop a comprehensive salivary infection-screening platform into neonatal care.

Jill Maron was named Co-Editor-in-Chief of Clinical Therapeutics, and has given several recent invited lectures, including at the 2019 New York Regional Neonatology & Perinatal Symposium, at the 2019 American Dental Education Association Annual Meeting, and at the recent NICHD Clinical Scientist Investigator Meeting.

Jon Davis is the Chair of the Steering Committee of the NICHD HEAL Initiative OBOE study, the largest longitudinal study of infants with antenatal opioid exposure to date, seeking to combine developmental assessments, serial MRIs, and parental and environmental assessments to better understand long-term outcomes of infants at risk for NAS.

Jon Davis was awarded the Zucker Family Prize from Tufts University School of Medicine for an outstanding research career.

Tufts is very excited to welcome Rachana Singh from Baystate who is joining us as Associate Chief of Neonatology and Director of the Neonatal Fellowship Program.

Geoff Binney has been named Chair of Pediatrics at Tufts Medical Center.

UMass Memorial Children’s Medical Center, Worcester

UMass Neonatology was excited to host the annual Griffin Conference this past November. This year’s event, led by Organizing Committee Chair Sanjay Aurora, brought together our community to hear outstanding presentations on BPD, shared decision-making, point-of-care ultrasound, and more. SAVE THE DATE! Next year’s Griffin conference will be November 20, 2020. Feel free to contact Sanjay at Sanjay.aurora@umassmemorial.org to get involved with next year’s planning.

RHODE ISLAND

Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, Providence

Joseph Bliss presented on candidal colonization in newborns at the International Association for Dental Research in Vancouver, BC in June.

Adam Czynski presented at the Rhode Island Idea Symposium in June and at the Marché of
North America (MONA) Conference in Chapel Hill, NC in October on care of newborns with neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, including information on a new multi-state randomized trial.

Martin Kesler was invited to share his respiratory physiology and mechanical ventilation expertise at a number of events including the XVI International Symposium on Mechanical Ventilation in Neonatology and Pediatrics in São Paulo, Brazil; the Workshop on Neonatal Ventilation in Traunstein, Germany; the First Russian Congress of Pediatric Anesthesiologists and Reanimatologists in Moscow, Russia; the IPOKRaTES Clinical Seminar at the Helen Children’s Hospital in Zhengzhou, China; the Guangzhou International Infant Chronic Lung Disease Forum in Guangzhou, China; the Best of IPOKRaTES: An Update in Neonatology in Naples, Italy; and the 39th Annual Symposium Advances and Controversies in Neonatal Medicine in Nashville, TN.

Abbot Laptok presented the 2019 John S. Curran Endowed Lectureship in Newborn Health at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL in November. His talk was entitled, “Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy: Outcomes with Therapeutic Hypothermia.”

Beatrice Lechner presented on a variety of topics related to ethics and palliative care at the Organization of Neonatal Training Program Directors meeting in New Orleans, LA; at the European Neonatal Ethics Conference in Southampton, UK; and at St. Mary’s Hospital in the National Health Service in Manchester, UK.

Barbara Stonestreet participated in a video-assisted NIH Neuroscience Special Emphasis Panel on “The Blood-Brain Barrier, Neuromuscular System and CNS Therapeutics.”

Betty Vohr was invited to present her ongoing work on improving long-term outcomes for preterm infants at the 26th International Perinatal Collegium in Porto Carras, Greece; the 4th Annual Symposium on Neonatal Advances in Farmington, CT; and at the 43rd Miami Neonatology Conference in Miami Beach, FL.

Women & Infants Follow-up Clinic held a Reunion Party celebration on September 15, 2019 for former premature babies < 1250 grams at birth and born in 2015 that spent time in our NICU. Children and their families were treated with a magician, ice cream, cake, activity tables and balloon animals.

**District II: Angel Rios**

**NEW YORK**

Bernard and Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at the Albany Medical Center

Congratulations to Upender Munshi, Jennifer Cerone and Angel Rios for organizing a successful 11th Annual Current Topics in Neonatal Nutrition and Advances in Neonatal Care in Tarrytown, NY. Guest speakers included Richard Polin, Susan Lynch, Aloka Patel, Jochen Profitt, Ian Griffin, Rick Guidotti, Sagori Mukhopadhyay, Alan Fleishman, and Sara Ramei. Special thanks to this year’s moderators: Sergio Golombek, Deborah Campbell, John Zupancic, and Andy Hopper.

Good luck and farewell to Angel Rios who, after 20 years of incredible service, will be moving on to his new role as a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington/Seattle Children’s Hospital where he will be the Associate Director of the UW Medical Center NICU.

Children’s Hospital at Montefiore/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx

Congratulations to Suhas Nafday who was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics and Sheri Nemerofsky who was promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics.

Kudos to Mariam (Susan) LaTuga on her election to the Society for Pediatric Research.

Suhas Nafday is site PI for the NIH-funded, eight-site multicenter consented pilot newborn screening study, ScreenPlus, being conducted in NYS. Parents are offered the option to have their babies screened for an additional 13 disorders beyond the current 47 disorders tested. The results of the study will provide critical information about whether these disorders should be added to routine newborn screening panels nationwide.

Suhas Nafday was keynote speaker at the 3rd Annual Patient Safety Conference, More to Healthcare: Perception vs. Reality, New Delhi, India from February 1-2, 2019. He shared perspectives on “Engaging Family Caregivers as Partners in Transition” and “Safe and Cost-Effective Approach to Improve ICU Care Utilizing Multifaceted QI Methodology.”

Farewell to Angel Rios, dear friend, colleague, and former neonatal fellow (1989-1992) and faculty member (1992-1999) at Montefiore-Einstein who has relocated from Albany Medical Center to Seattle, joining the faculty at the University of Washington School of Medicine and Seattle Children’s Hospital. Angel has also been the conference organizer for the Annual Update in Neonatal Care and Neonatal Nutrition conference held in Tarrytown, NY for the past 11 years and served as the AAP District II representative to the Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine. In recognition of his many contributions, friends and colleagues presented Angel with a gift to support his passion for photography and a crystal award acknowledging these important roles and his dedication to his patients, their families and his community.

Thomas Havranek will be assuming responsibility for the Annual Update in Neonatal Care and Neonatal Nutrition Conference held in Tarrytown, NY.

Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital, Valhalla

Farewell and good luck to Sergio Golombek who will assume the role of Division Chief at Joseph M. Sanzari Children’s Hospital/ Hackensack University Medical Center, NJ in 2020. He will continue as president of the Ibero-American Society and History Chair, AAP Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine.

Edmund LaGamma has received funding from Mallinckrodt to study the effects of iNO during PRBC transfusions with Rachana Singh at Baystate Children’s Hospital, University of Massachusetts and Uduak Akpan at East Carolina University Hospital.

The RPC at MFGP began a neonatal teledermatology program with Kingston Hospital’s level I newborn program in 2019. Heather Brumberg received a site-grant from the NYS DOH to expand this program to other hospitals in our network.

Due to high utilization, we are expanding our regional NICU in 2020 by nine beds to a total of 58 beds; we are grateful to be able to serve even more patients in our Lower Hudson Valley catchment area.

Congratulations to Shetal Shah, who assumed the post of AAP Chapter 2 President in July. He was instrumental in helping push Nassau County legislation to prohibit the sale of flavored vape products at the state and county level and has been recognized for his work in combating anti-vaccine misinformation as well as coordinating pediatric statewide advocacy efforts to pass legislation which allows only medical exemptions from school vaccination requirements.

Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital/New York Presbyterian

Elvira Parravicini and the Neonatal Comfort Care Program received the 2019 ASTRA AWARD from The New Jersey Communication, Advertising and Marketing Association for best print media – brochure.

Rakesh Sahni was appointed a member of the American Board of Pediatrics Sub-board of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

The Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital NICU was chosen as a VON Center of Excellence and asked to present our work on parent engagement in NICU discharge for the VON NICQ webinar on December 11th.

Amelic Collins was selected to be a member of the Society for Pediatric Research.

Richard Polin is Co-PI for the NANO (NICU Antibiotics and Outcomes) Trial which has received funding by the NICHD.

Educational grants from Mead Johnson, Abbott Nutrition, Vapotherm, and Prolacta were awarded to support the Annual Alumni Memorial Lectureship at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital on December 5, 2019. The theme was neonatal resuscitation and guest speakers were Stuart Hooper, Anup Katheria, and Georg Schmolerz.

Elvira Parravicini received a donation of $25,000 from the Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund in support of the Neonatal Comfort Care Program. She received grant awards from the AAP Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine, Abbott, Mead-Johnson, and...
the Al Smith Foundation to support the program, “Next-Level Perinatal/Neonatal Comfort Care Training: Creating an Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Plan for Each Baby and Their Family” that will take place on June 19-21, 2020 at Mailman School of Public Health.

Congratulations to Amelie Collins who was the winner of the Young Investigator Al Cassady Award at the 2019 Perinatal Research Society Annual meeting in Minneapolis.

Martha Welch was awarded $4.5 million in gifts for the Nurture Science Program in Pediatrics.

Richard Polin was guest speaker at Ipotekates in Naples, Italy in November 2019. He spoke at Cool Topics in Neonatology 2019 in Melbourne, Australia; at the Maternal & Infant Health conference in Oaxaca, Mexico; at Neonatus 2019 in Warsaw, Poland; and at Haifa University in Haifa, Israel.

Kristina Orfali was invited to give four lectures at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris-Sorbonne on “Bioethics and Religion: A Comparative Perspective France - USA” and “The Impact of Religion in Clinical Practice in the US.” She was also invited to give a lecture at the British University in Egypt on “Medical Interventions in the Interest of Others” in Cairo.


New York Health and Hospital Elmhurst/Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Congratulations to Uday Patil, who was promoted to Director of Neonatology.

Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadows

Congratulations to Rita Verma who recently was appointed Director of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

Rita Verma was invited to deliver the keynote speech at the International Conference in Pediatrics and Neonatology, discussing “Controversies in the Current Treatment of Hypotension in Premature Neonates” in July in Amsterdam.

Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center Northwell Health, New Hyde Park

We welcomed Naomi Cohen who joined us from NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi Medical Center.

Vita Boyar presented on Neonatal Coding at an AAP-sponsored coding webinar in June. In October, she spoke on, “Evaluation of Safety and Efficacy of a Concentrated Surfactant Gel in Management of Complex Neonatal and Pediatric Wounds” at Fall Symposium on Advanced Wound Care in Las Vegas, NV.

Vita Boyar was promoted to a Board Member of the International Society of Pediatric Wounds and spoke at their 7th annual meeting in November in Houston, TX.

Mariana Brewer received the Mentored Pediatric Service Line Research Grant for Early Career Investigators for $75,000 starting July 2019. She was a recipient of the Diversity Enhancement Award to attend the 42nd Annual Conference on Shock where she presented research at the plenary session.

Robert Koppel was promoted to the rank of Professor of Pediatrics at Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

Shahana Perveen was invited as a keynote speaker at International Conference of Pediatrics, Neonatology and Perinatology held in Rome in October where she spoke about her work on antenatal inhibition of arginase activity.

Stony Brook Children’s Hospital

Stony Brook Children’s Hospital just opened its new 104 pediatric beds (including 10 beds in PICU and a 10-bed inpatient psychiatric unit) in October 2019.

Welcome to our new incoming fellows joining the Division of Neonatology: Sara MardanLou and Lale Akaydin.

Welcome to our new faculty additions! Stephanie Kyo completed her fellowship at Yale and joined Stony Brook in September as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics. Surabhi Aggarwal came from Kapi’olani Medical Center in Honolulu as Assistant Professor in Clinical Pediatrics. Surabhi completed her fellowship at Stony Brook Children’s and we are happy to welcome her back!

Echeyzona Maduekwe was promoted to Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics.

Joseph Decristofaro was promoted to Professor of Clinical Pediatrics.

University of Rochester Medical Center-Golisano Children’s Hospital

Congratulations to Gloria Pryhuber on her recent NHLBI/NIH and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory award and renewal for her grant titled, “Biorepository for Investigation of Diseases of the Lung (BRINDL) – Phase II”.

Gloria Pryhuber received a Lung Biology Pilot Award from University of Rochester Environmental Medicine for a grant titled, “Characterization of Antigen Presenting Cell Subset Diversity and Function in Pediatric Lungs from Children Suffering Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia.”

Congratulations to Ravi Misra for his TCORS (NIH Prime) grant award titled, “Evaluating the Regenerative and Anti-Inflammatory Potential of Primary Adolescent and Adult Human Airway Cell Culture Models to Flavored Juul.”

Congratulations to Kristin Scheible, who received an Interim Funding Award from the University of Rochester for her grant titled, “Alternative Pathways to Protection: Mechanisms of T Cell Activation and Mucosal Homing in Fetal-Derived Naive T Cells.”

DELWARE

Christiana Care, Wilmington

Stephen Pearlman was the keynote speaker at a QI conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The conference was supported by Fundasamin which is an Argentine foundation for maternal-child health. Dr. Pearlman gave three talks on QI methodology, QI tools and management of data and culture.

Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington

On December 8-11, 2019, Nemours-sponsored Hot Topics in Neonatology will take place at a new venue in National Harbor, MD. For over 30 years, Hot Topics has been the premiere neonatal conference, with more than 1000 neonatologists and perinatologists from around the world attending yearly. The conference features internationally-known faculty, poster sessions, critical reviews and debate about promising new therapies.

On September 12, 2019, the Advanced Delivery Unit officially opened as part of the Nemours & Christiana Care Advanced Delivery Program. We have performed our first two deliveries with babies and mothers doing well. We estimate 30-50 deliveries in the first year with the opportunity for growth. The Program is being led by Co-Medical Directors, Joanna Costa, Nemours neonatologist, and Margaret R. Chou, Christiana Care Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

We are pleased to announce Elizabeth O’Donnell has been named Interim Division Chief, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children (N/AIDHC). Dr. O’Donnell has been with N/AIDHC since beginning her pediatric residency in 2011. She completed fellowship training through the Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University and joined N/AIDHC as an attending physician in 2017. In her role as Interim Division Chief, Dr. O’Donnell will have oversight for all the day-to-day activities for the Department and will advance the quality, research, and teaching activities of the Division.

MARYLAND

Johns Hopkins Children’s Center, Baltimore

After 23 years at Johns Hopkins, Susan Aucott will be leaving to take on a new challenge as the Director of Neonatology at Greater Baltimore Medical Center in Towson, MD.

Maureen Gilmore will take on the responsibility of Medical Director of the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center NICU. She previously served as the Medical Director for the Bayview NICU for many years, and has completed four years as the Interim Director of Pediatrics at Bayview.

We are pleased to welcome Kartik Makker to our Division. He is joining us from University of Florida College of Medicine.
Congratulations to **Raul Chavez Valdez** on his promotion to Associate Professor of Pediatrics.

Congratulations to **Chris Golden** on his promotion to Associate Professor of Pediatrics.

**Janine Bernardo**, current 2nd year fellow, has been elected to the TECA Executive Counsel, University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore

**Cynthia Bearer** will be returning to Cleveland and Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital, Case Western Reserve University as Division Chief of Neonatology to continue to conduct research, train future physicians and scientists, and care for infants in their NICU. Since 2008, under her leadership, the Division of Neonatology at UMD has more than flourished. She has served on numerous institutional committees, established the J. Tyson Tidion Award and Department of Pediatrics Faculty Research Day, facilitated the Richard Schwartz Prize in Neonatal Research, and served as Chair of the Research Committee. Dr. Bearer has been elected to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of Pediatric Research for a second term.

**Dina El-Metwally** is the new Interim Division Chief of Neonatology at University of Maryland. Dr. El-Metwally continues to lead the clinical service in the NICU as Medical Director.

**Rose Viscardi** is the new Associate Chair of Clinical Research for the Department of Pediatrics at UMSOM and will foster an increase in funded clinical research projects. Dr. Viscardi is also the Associate Director for Johns Hopkins University-University of Maryland Clinical Translational Science Award KL2 (JHU-UMD CTSA-KL2) that fosters career development awards.

**Alex Medina** is the new Associate Chair of Basic Science Research for the Department of Pediatrics at UMSOM who will foster increases in funded basic science research projects at UMD.

**Natalie Davis** is the new Director of Resident Research for the Department of Pediatrics at UMSOM and will be overseeing the pediatric residency longitudinal research track.

**Jocelyn Leung**, Medical Director of the NICU at UM Prince George's Hospital Center received the NICU Leadership Award from the University of Maryland Capital Region Health and was recognized at the Women's Health Awards and Recognition Dinner on November 9, 2019.

**SriPriya Sundararajan** was recognized for her outstanding mentorship and transformational impact on medical students at the 42nd annual Medical Student Research Day at UMSOM.

**Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia**

Congratulations to the following neonatologists who were named to the Early Career Faculty Honor Roll for 2019 by the CHOP pediatric residents: *Nicolas Bamat, Summer Elshenawy, John Filbotte, Elizabeth Foglia, and Jennifer James.*

Michael Posencheg was elected to a three-year term on the American Academy of Pediatrics Executive Committee of the Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, representing District III.

After 25 years of leadership, dedication and clinical service, *Jacquelyn Evans* has retired from CHOP/UPenn.

**Elizabeth Foglia** was appointed to a two-year term on the Neonatal Resuscitation Program Steering Committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Congratulations to **John Chuo** who was selected as one of the 2019 CIO 100 Award Winners for his submission, “Reducing Parental Stress in the NICU Using Digital Technology.” The CIO 100 is a highly competitive program, with more than 400 applicants. This honor is a great testament to the innovative use of IT and the business results these teams have achieved.

Congratulations to **Anne Ades** who was elected to the American Pediatric Society.

The 15th Annual Advances in Neonatal Perinatal Medicine conference was, once again, a huge success. This year’s guest speaker was **Annie Janvier**, neonatologist, clinical ethicist and author from the University of Montreal, Canada and Hôpital Sainte-Justine.

**Heather French** has been appointed Chair, Organization of Neonatal Training Program Directors.

Due to construction on the CHOP campus, the Regional Neonatology Boot Camp, previously directed by **Heather French** and **Anne Ades**, will be moving to Yale University for the foreseeable future. **Lindsay Johnston** will take over as Boot Camp Director.

Save the date for the Sixth Annual Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Chronic Lung Disease Conference - next year expanding to 1½ day conference to be held on March 10 and 11, 2020 at the Union League of Philadelphia. Learn more: [https://chop.cloud-cme.com/default.aspx](https://chop.cloud-cme.com/default.aspx)

Save the date for the Annual Knisely Lectureship at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia on Tuesday, April 14th, 2020 in Stokes Auditorium at 11am. This year’s guest speaker is **Shoo Lee**. Dr. Lee is the Paediatrician-in-Chief for the Sinai Health System in Toronto, Canada. A neonatologist and health economist, he is also the Director of the Maternal-Infant Care Research Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital, Associate Member of the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute and a scientist at the Institute of Clinical Evaluative Studies. He is Scientific Director of the Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and a Professor of Paediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Public Health at the University of Toronto.


**Fellowship News**

Congratulations to **Taylor Wild**, recipient of the Trojan IV Award for the resident who “has demonstrated extraordinary support for his/her colleagues, and excels in fostering camaraderie within the residency program.”

Congratulations to **Michelle Pena** who was appointed to the TECA Executive Council as one of three newly elected Regional Fellow Representatives.

Congratulations to **Chris Thom** for selection as the 2020 CHOP Physician Fellow Distinguished Research Trainee Reward. He received an American Society of Hematology Abstract Achievement Award and his 2019 Senior Fellow K-Readiness Pilot program was selected for funding. Chris also received the Marshall Klaus Neonatal-Perinatal Research Award sponsored by the AAP.

**Heidi Herrick** was the winner of the Trainee Travel Award for the TIAE Poster at CHNC.

**Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia**

**Tracey Harris** joined our program this past August following her fellowship at Penn State Medical Center Hershey.

**Rachel Fleishman** joined our program from St. Chris.

**Lauren Johnson** continues as Interim Site Director for the Geisinger Wyoming Valley (GWV) NICU in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Lauren has succeeded in attaining level III NICU status as of October 2019, following the successful recruitment of Jayesh Shah and Gurdeep Atwal, who joined Patricia Spitale and Eileen Tengco. Dr. Tengco previously practiced at the level IV NICU in the Janet Weis Children's Hospital at Geisinger in Danville and is now bringing her expertise in simulation training to Northeastern Pennsylvania. The GWV NICU is the first and only NICU in Luzerne County.

**Newborn Special Care Associates/Abington Hospital/Jefferson Health**

We’ve brought on three new physicians since the spring. **Erin Cipko** joined our practice in April, **Endla Anday** joined our practice in July, and **Jessica S. Gaulton** joined our practice in September.

**CRNP Rachel Carr** will be join us January 1, 2020.

We are saying goodbye to **Ara S. Moomjian**, who will be retiring from clinical practice as of December 31st, 2019 after 37 years in the Special Care Nursery at Abington Health.

**Penn State Children’s Hospital, Hershey**

Thanks to **Christiana Oji-Mmmu**, Penn State NICU was mentioned in the January 2020 issue of National Geographic.
Congratulations to Kristen Glass and Christiana Oji-Mmuo for being elected as members of the Society for Pediatric Research.

Congratulations to Dawn Phlipot, Adrienne Gasda, and Monica Hardy for achieving Clinical Ladder IV and to Elissa DeCarlo for achieving Clinical Ladder III.

Tammy Corr has been invited to sit on the Multi-Disciplinary Work Group for Dauphin County, as part of the Pennsylvania Plan of Safe Care, to develop a plan of safe care for any child with prenatal drug exposure.

Jill Arnold has achieved NEA-BC certification.

Meeakshi Singh was elected as one of the Top Physicians under 40 by the Pennsylvania Medical Society.

Jeff Kaiser will begin working on a NIH Study Section (NST-1) for NINDS Clinician Scientist Mentored Training grants.

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Philadelphia

We welcome Joshua Erickson, Kamelia McRae, Mary Elizabeth Pease and Nneka Ugwu as new 1st year fellows in our Division.

We wish our 2019 fellowship graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors. Mitali Sahni is an attending neonatologist at Sunrise Children’s Hospital in Las Vegas, NV. Jessica May-Rabbach is an attending neonatologist at Lakeland Regional Medical Health Center in Lakeland, FL. Sudip Sheth is an attending neonatologist at Texas Tech University in Odessa, TX.

Folasade Khinde was promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Drexel University College of Medicine.

Shadi Malaeb was promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Drexel University College of Medicine.

The following faculty are leaving or retiring: Endla Anday, Vinite Bhandari, Harbhajan Chawla, Rachel Fleishman, Jan Goplerud, and Suzanne Touch.

Alison Carey is the new Division Chief of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

Ogechukwu Menkiti is the new Medical Director of the St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Maria Delivoria-Papadopoulo will host the 22nd Annual Day of the Newborn Symposium: An Investment in Our Future on January 31, 2020 at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children.

Robin Steinhorn is the keynote speaker.

WASHINGTON DC

Children’s National Medical Center

Sudeepa Basu has been elected to the Society for Pediatric Research.

Anna Penn will be leaving Children’s National Hospital to become Chief of the Division of Neonatology at Columbia University.

Pangiotis Kratimenos has been granted an internal award from CNRI for his research on “Mechanisms of Adaptive Learning Deficits due to Cerebellar Injury in Prematurity.”

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and Georgetown University Medical Center

Lewis P. Rubin has joined us as Professor and Vice Chair for Research, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. Dr. Rubin’s scientific research focuses on pregnancy and newborn nutrition and development, nutritional neuroscience, developmental epigenetics and genomics, and clinical trials. Dr. Rubin received his MPhil and MD from Yale University and trained in pediatrics, newborn medicine, and molecular endocrinology at Harvard. Before being recruited to Georgetown, he was a faculty member at Brown University/Womens & Infants’ Hospital of Rhode Island and Professor and Chief of Neonatology at the Cleveland Clinic, University of South Florida, and Texas Tech. He holds leadership positions in the American Pediatric Society, American Society for Nutrition, and International Carotenoid Society. Dr. Rubin has been appointed to the Governing Committee of the Medical Nutrition Council of the American Society for Nutrition.

Lewis Rubin is the keynote speaker at the International Conference and Annual Meeting of the Korean Society of Cancer Prevention and visiting professor, Ewha Womans University, both in Seoul, South Korea in December.

Pinaki Panigrahi joined as a Professor in the Division of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center this year. He has made seminal contributions linking the role of gut microbiome to neonatal sepsis and necrotizing enterocolitis. He published the largest clinical trial of probiotics to prevent neonatal sepsis in Nature. His work has been funded by NICHD and the Gates Foundation. At Georgetown, he is heading a cross-departmental International Microbiome Program engaged in exploring the role of microbiome, diet, and other exposures in the pathogenesis of a range of conditions spanning from infections, inflammation, to childhood obesity and cancer.

Siva Subramaniam, Professor of Pediatrics and Division Chief, Division of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, received the 2019 Interfaith Leadership Award presented by the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington.

The Neolog, a new code sheet designed by Jane Germano, former fellow, and Deborah Hoy, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, to promote accurate documentation during neonatal resuscitation is now part of the NRP Instructor Toolkit.


NORTH CAROLINA

Duke University, Durham

Since June, P. Brian Smith, was awarded two additional grants reflecting his expertise in clinical trials and clinical trial infrastructure. NICHD awarded him funding for planning the HEALTHy Brain and Child Development Study, a large cohort study of infants with exposure to maternal opioids. He and Rachel Greenberg were also provided support within the Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) initiative to coordinate two clinical trials in infants with Neonatal Opiate Withdrawal Syndrome.

Sharla Rent has joined the faculty after finishing fellowship at University of Michigan. She will focus on gaining clinical research organizational skills as she continues her involvement with TECA/ and global health initiatives.

Kristin Weimer joined the faculty after finishing her Duke neonatology fellowship, and has received funding to build on work with Sallie Permar on epidemiology, prevention and treatment of congenital and postnatally-acquired CMV.

Trevor Burt joined the Duke faculty from UCSF and his lab will continue work on questions related to development of the fetal and early neonatal immune system.

One of our Duke faculty, Eric Benner, was the single recipient of Duke’s CTSI Transformative Funding Agreements (CTSI Accelerator) Award. The award supports Eric’s drug development work on oxysterols to improve neurologic outcomes after inflammatory postnatal injury.

Agnes Chao, 2nd-year neonatology fellow, was named a Katz-Denny Fellow within the Duke University/University of North Carolina Unified Program for Therapeutics in Children (UPTiC) T32 training program.

2nd-year fellow, Sarah Bernstein, was named Chair of the Career Development and Leadership Section in TECA/.

Women’s Hospital of Greensboro/Cone Health

The NICU at Women’s Hospital of Greensboro/Cone Health, which has been a free-standing women’s hospital since the early 90s, is moving into a newly constructed bed tower on the campus of the mothership general hospital, Moses Cone. Like many other recently opened or renovated units, it will have single-family rooms, but it will be different from most in that it will offer couplet care rooms in which NICU babies will be cared for in the same rooms as their mothers.

TENNESSEE

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville

It is with great sadness that we say good-bye to two Vanderbilt colleagues. Christoph Lehmann left VUMC to join the faculty at University of...
Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX to become Director of the new Clinical Health Informatics Center. Elizabeth Harrelson will be stepping down as Medical Director of our Level II NICU at Maury Regional Medical Center to join the Neonatology group at St. Thomas Murfreesboro in Murfreesboro, TN.

In February, the Division welcomes a new neonatology faculty member. Dennis Slagle will join our faculty at our neonatology center at Tennova-Clarksville in Clarksville, TN.

Michael DeVoe will assume the role of Interim Medical Director at Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, TN after the New Year. He is also the Project Lead for the Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care project on Opioid-Exposed Newborns.

L. Dupree Hatch was awarded a three-year grant from the Gerber Foundation entitled, “Developing and Testing a User-Centered Ventilator Weaning System for Critically Ill Neonates.”

L. Dupree Hatch, Elaine Shelton, and Jennifer Sucre will be inducted as new members of the SPR at the 2020 Annual PAS Meeting.

Jennifer Herington was awarded a NIH R01 entitled, “Pre-clinical Studies to Repurpose FDA-approved Drugs for Tocolytic Use.”

Maria Krakauer was named Program Director for our Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program. She also led two national workshops on Flipped Classroom Teaching at the Association for Pediatric Program Directors annual meeting.

Lauren Sanlorenzo was accepted to the American Academy of Pediatrics Young Physicians Leadership Alliance, a three-year training program designed to develop leadership skills of early career pediatricians. She was also named site coordinator for The PASSIVE study (Prevalence Study of Severe BPD Ventilation), a multi-center descriptive study aimed to compare different ventilator modes and settings being used with severe BPD across the BPD Collaborative.

Hendrik Weitkamp successfully directed the 39th (and his first as director) Annual Neonatology Symposium at Vanderbilt. (L to R) Course Director Eva Dye, Jayant Shenai Keynote Speaker Michael Georgiess, Symposium founder Jayant Shenai, and Course Director Joern-Hendrik Weitkamp.

therapists, nurses and others from the region and across the US. Stephen Patrick gave the Teresa and Byron Pollitt Family Chair in Fetal & Neonatal Medicine Visiting Professor’s Lectureship at Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles/University of Southern California in September. In September, he was the plenary speaker at the Annual Poverty Research and Policy Forum on Human Services Programs and The Opioid Crisis, sponsored by the Office of Human Services Policy, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, US Department of Health and Human Services in Washington DC. In October, he was the plenary speaker at the AAP NCE in New Orleans session, “Newborns Exposed to Substances: Understanding Their Needs and Supporting Their Caregivers.”

Scott Guthrie was a co-organizer, moderator, and speaker at the Baku International Neonatology Conference in Baku, Azerbaijan in October. He also directed a hands-on workshop to teach attendees how to administer surfactant using the LMA and other NICU procedures. The trip included a visit to the Azerbaijan Medical University and the Pediatric Research Institute. Other US speakers at the conference included: Zuzanna Kubicka (Boston Children’s, District I), Kari Roberts (University of Minnesota, District VI), Prem Fort (Johns Hopkins All Children’s, District X), and Natasha Halasa (Vanderbilt Peds ID).

Scott Guthrie received the Physician of the Year award from the West Tennessee Chapter of the March of Dimes.

Jeff Reese gave the Jerry Elliot Memorial Lectureship, “The Problematic PDA: Finding Laboratory Solutions for a Perplexing Vessel,” at the 45th Annual Mead Johnson Northeastern Conference on Perinatal Research in Chatham, MA on Oct 16-18, 2019. Jeff Reese was an invited speaker at the Second Annual International PDA Symposium, Memphis, TN, where he spoke on “Mouse (And Other) Models of PDA.”

From the 39th Annual Neonatology Symposium at Vanderbilt. (L to R) Course Director Eva Dye, Jayant Shenai Keynote Speaker Michael Georgiess, Symposium founder Jayant Shenai, and Course Director Joern-Hendrik Weitkamp.

Three of our fellows were awarded training grants: Meredith Campbell, the NIH Vulnerable Children T32 Grant; Lindsey Knaake, the National Library of Medicine T15 Grant; and Lindsay Sternad, the NIH PRactice Outcomes Research in Effectiveness and Systems Science (PRoRESS) T32.

Save the date for The 40th Annual Neonatology Symposium which will be held November 12-13, 2020 in Music City! Looking forward to seeing everyone there next year! For further information on content and registration, contact Angie Tune (angietune@vumc.org).

VIRGINIA

University of Virginia, Charlottesville

UVA Children’s Hospital had eight programs ranked in the 2019-20 USNWR Best Children’s Hospital Survey. The neonatology program was ranked for the 6th consecutive year. Our neonatal transport system was also recently accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems.

Jennifer Burnsed was recently awarded the Best Bedside Manner award for neonatology by OurHealth Magazine, a regional health care publication. Her research on hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy and the NICU’s NeuroNICU program was also recently profiled by the local NBC affiliate.

David Kaufman spoke at the International Lactoferrin Conference in Lima, Peru in November. He spoke on “Optimizing Lactoferrin Dosing: Have We Been Studying the Right Dose?”

Jonathan Swanson spoke at the annual Innovations in Neonatal Care conference in Austin, TX. His talk was on “Redefining Necrotizing Enterocolitis.” He also was a guest lecturer at Medstar Georgetown on developing an exclusive human milk diet program. With the help of Hannah Gall, he led a Helping Babies Breathe program in Djamag, Togo in September.

Brooke Vergales had a well-received platform presentation at the 2019 AAP NCE. She spoke on our implementation of remote home monitoring of a home NG feeding program. Congratulations to Brooke Vergales on being promoted to Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program Director starting in January 2020.

Many thanks to Karen Fairchild for her decade plus leadership in the Fellowship Program Director role.

Susan Almarode was recently awarded the National Association of Neonatal Nurses 2019 NNP Excellence Award.
**District V:**

**Beena Sood**

**INDIANA**

Indiana University School of Medicine/Riley Children’s, Indianapolis

Melinda Markham joined the IUSM faculty as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, who will transition into the role of Fetal Center Medical Director in 2020.

Matt Durbin won the James Sutherland Junior Faculty Award at Midwest Society for Pediatric Research.

Jo Ann Matory was recognized by Stepping Stones of Women in Leadership as having achieved significant accomplishments in medicine and science.

Edward Liechty was awarded a $469,000 grant from the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health for his project, “Multisite Efficacy and Safety Trial of Intrapartum Azithromycin in LMICs.”

**MICHIGAN**

Wayne State University, Detroit

In honor of Ronald L. Poland (first Chief of the Division of the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at WSU Department of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital of Michigan, and Hutzel Women’s Hospital) the first Ronald Poland and Seetha Shankaran Annual Invited Lectureship was held on October 17-18th, 2019. Kristi Watterberg was the keynote speaker.

Seetha Shankaran delivered the Gerald Merenstein Lecture at the AAP NCE SoNPM meeting.

University of Michigan/C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital, Ann Arbor

Steve Donn retired to active emeritus status in March 2019.

Jenni Bermick and Stephanie Kukora were promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor.

Karl Desch and Naomi Laventhal were promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

John Barks is serving as Division Chief/Service Chief of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

Shannon Vandervenent is our Division Administrative Assistant.

The Brandon NICU Medical Director is Bob Schumacher.

Rebecca Vartanian is our Division QI Lead and is Medical Director for Respiratory Therapy, C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital.

Gary Weiner serves as Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Director while Ashley Przybyski is Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Administrator.

Kate Stanley is Medical Director for Revenue Integrity, C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital.

Naomi Laventhal is Faculty Ethicist for Michigan Medicine Program in Clinical Ethics.

Karl Desch is PI for BIGBiRD (Biobank to Illuminate the Genomic Basis of Rare Diseases). Third-year fellow Carly Gisondo was awarded Best In-training Paper at the AAP NCE Section on Transport Medicine.

Three fellows graduated in 2019. Kate Brune is at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. Brittany Burns-Jackson works at William Beaumont Hospital/Oakland University, Royal Oak, MI. Sharla Rent has joined Duke Children’s Hospital and Health Center, Durham, NC.

Three fellows joined our program in 2019. Mary Alice Reineohl is from Spectrum Health/MSU/Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. Katelyn Roberts is from Indiana University. Gretchen Stepanovich is from Eastern Virginia Medical School/Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters.

**OHIO**

Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital, Cleveland

We are pleased to announce that Cynthia Bearer has joined our Rainbow team as Division Chief of Neonatology. Dr. Bearer completed a BA with honors in mathematics from Smith College, a PhD in biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University, and a MD from The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She became an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University in 1994 where she was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics with tenure. In 2008, she moved to University of Maryland School of Medicine to become the Mary Gray Cobey Professor of Neonatology. In 2009, she became Chief, Division of Neonatology and in 2012, Associate Chair for Research. She is actively involved in research, education and service. She has published extensively on fetal and pediatric environmental health. Her research has received funding from NIH, CDC and US EPA. Dr. Bearer is Editor-in-Chief of Pediatric Research.

The Division is extremely grateful to Michele Walsh for her leadership as Division Chief since 2011. Michele remains in the Division, continuing clinical work and her work on many research and QI endeavors.

Rita Ryan has joined us as faculty in the Division of Neonatology. Dr. Ryan received her medical degree from SUNY-Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse and stayed there for her residencies postgraduate. Dr. Ryan then did her fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. She was on the faculty at the University of Rochester for 11 years, then became Chief of the Division of Neonatology in Buffalo in 2000. During these years, Dr. Ryan was Fellowship Director in both Rochester and Buffalo, and became the Chair of the ONTPD. Dr. Ryan then went to the Medical University of South Carolina to be the Chair of Pediatrics. After five years as Chair, Dr. Ryan became a full-time member of the MUSC Division of Neonatology. In October, she moved from MUSC to join us in Cleveland.

Peter MacFarlane has been appointed as the William and Lois Briggs Research Chair in Neonatology.

Fellow Zeyar Htun presented a poster at the VON Quality Congress on a collaborative effort between neonatology, pediatric anesthesiology, and Rainbow Quality to reduce hypothermia in neonatal patients in the OR.

Pediatric resident Richelle Reinhardt, with neonatology faculty mentors Mary Nock and Anna Maria Hibbs, presented a poster on reduction of anti-acid medication use in the NICU at the AAP NCE Section on Quality and Patient Safety program in New Orleans.

In spring 2020, Richard Martin will speak at the Recent Advances in Neonatal Medicine Conference in Wurzburg, Germany, and the European Neonatal Ventilation Conference in Montreux, Switzerland.


**District VI:**

**Joshua Petrkin**

**ILLINOIS**

Rush University Children’s Hospital, Chicago

We would like to welcome new faculty to our division: Jieun David joined in September 2019 after completing fellowship at LAC+USC Medical Center and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Chirag Talati joined in September 2019 after completing fellowship at the University of Mississippi.

Andrew Berenz received research funding from Little Giraffe Foundation for “Lactoferrin Dose and the Effect on the Intestinal Microbiome of Preterm Infants.”

Aloka Patel was invited to speak at the University of Michigan and NCCS Retreat Meeting in June 2019 and at the AAP NCE in New Orleans in October 2019 about hospital-based strategies to improve mother’s milk use in the NICU.

University of Illinois, Chicago

Anantha Harijith was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure at UIC in the spring of 2019. He has recently received three grants: R01 from NICHD entitled, “Role of Novel SphK1 Inhibitor, PF543, in Therapy of Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia and Airway Remodeling;” transformational grant from American Heart Association on the role of S1P receptor in bronchopulmonary dysplasia and airway remodeling; and Chiesi Research Foundation grant on developing the role of SphK1 inhibitor, PF543, as a surfactant co-administered drug in bronchopulmonary dysplasia.

Howard Hast was appointed as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in 2019. Dr. Hast is a
board-certified pediatric critical care specialist who has chosen a new career as a NICU hospitalist.

Wenxiang Luo is Research Assistant Professor in the Section of Neonatology. Dr. Luo is the Co-Director of the Neonatology Laboratory, in partnership with De-Ann Pillers. He is an active scientist and mentor, and is Co-Investigator on the Gerber Foundation grant that is studying urine metabolomics.

Uwa Montgomery was appointed as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in 2019 and will serve as a NICU hospitalist. Dr. Montgomery is board certified in both internal medicine and pediatrics and completed a fellowship in palliative care jointly at Stroger Cook County Hospital and Rush University.

Shannon Murphy is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and serves as a NICU and general pediatrics hospitalist.

In September 2019, De-Ann Pillers was invested as the Dharmapuri Vidyasagar Professor of Neonatology at UIC. Dr. Pillers is the Program Director of the Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship at UIC, which has recently expanded to a capacity of nine fellows. She is also site PI for the NICHD Pediatric Trials Network, the IBTR Therapeutics Connection Probiotics study, and the Shire/Takeda Footprints study.

De-Ann Pillers serves as the neonatology site PI for “Butterfly Study to Assess the Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of Intravitreal Aflibercept compared to Laser Photocoagulation in Patients with Retinopathy of Prematurity.”

Aarti Raghavan is the Medical Director of the NICU and is the new Director of Patient Safety for the Department of Pediatrics. Aarti completed a MS in Patient Safety at UIC in 2019.

Phornphat (Paul) Rasamimisi is the Medical Director for Neonatology for Labor & Delivery and the Director of the NICU Follow-up Program. Paul is currently enrolled in a clinical and translational research program at UIC. He is site PI on Study of Attitudes and Factors Effecting Preterm Infant Care Practices to determine the US national prevalence of adherence to each AAP recommended preterm infant care practice (safe sleep, breastfeeding, and smoke exposure) and to determine the maternal and infant health characteristics associated with the prevalence of each practice.

Joann Romano-Keele was appointed to Assistant Professor on the tenure track in the Department of Pediatrics. Her focus is on the neonatal microbiome and she is currently being mentored by Jun Sun, Department of Medicine, UIC.

Arvind Shukla is an Associate Director of the UIC Illinois Department of Public Health Administrative Perinatal Center as a content expert in neonatal medicine.

Arvind Shukla received the Distinguished Physician Award from the Indian American Medical Association of Illinois in November 2019.

Hernan Sierra-Fernandez serves as the Director of Neonatal Informatics and is jointly appointed as a Clinical Informaticist for the Chief Health Information Office for UI Health.

Nishant Srinivasan is the Associate Director of the Neonatology Fellowship Training Program and was appointed to the UIC Illinois Department of Public Health Administrative Perinatal Center as a neonatology educator with emphasis on neonatal simulation.

Anshul Arora and Vrinda Arora completed their fellowship training in 2019 and accepted positions at Phoenix Children’s Hospital.

Nicole Glaser and Zaynab Kadhem were appointed as Clinical Research Coordinators in the Section of Neonatology in 2019.

Joe Greenia serves as the Program Coordinator for the Fellowship.

Shirley Scott is the Executive Director of the UIC IDPH Administrative Perinatal Center and Joann Sorce was recruited as the Educator for the Center in 2019.

KANSAS

Sunflower Neonatology Associates, Overland Park

This summer, Sunflower Neonatology Associates was pleased to welcome Rebecca Verhaeghe to our group. Dr. Verhaeghe earned her medical degree from A.T. Still University of Health Sciences-Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, MO. She completed her pediatric residency at the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa and her neonatal-perinatal fellowship at St. Louis University in 2019. Dr. Verhaeghe’s background includes participation in several clinical and bench research projects during her career and she has presented her work in poster and oral presentations.

Robert Holcomb, Medical Director for the HCA Midwest Neonatal Transport Team, and the entire MN TT Transport Executive Staff is proud to announce that the team has entered a new phase, evolving into a dedicated, specialty transport service with expanded capabilities to offer rotary service, vastly expanding our catchment area to provide life-saving care.

MINNESOTA

Children’s Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul

Children’s Minnesota continues to grow the unified neonatal program and recently welcomed Lia Gravari from the University of Louisville where she has been on the faculty for the last several years, as well as Jennifer Berger from the University of Iowa and Abby Faulman from the University of Colorado fellowship programs.

MISSOURI

Children’s Mercy, Kansas City

Joshua Petrkin was elected to be the District VI representative to the SoNPM Executive Committee and began his service on November 1st. The Division of Neonatology at Children’s Mercy Kansas City is indebted to Josh for his example and is excited for his regional and national leadership opportunity.

Tamorah Lewis was accepted for membership in the Society for Pediatric Research.

Tamorah Lewis was selected by administrators, faculty, staff, and students at the University of Missouri-Kansas City to be a mentor/leader in an inaugural mentoring/leadership program called STAHR (Students in Training, in Academia, Health, and Research).

In August 2019, Steve Olsen co-presented “Setting Career Goals and Defining Your Success,” on an AAP SoNPM MidCaN webinar.

Ayan Rajgarhia recently took over the reins as Editor of the Articles of Interest section on the AAP website under the SoNPM. In his role as Editor, he is now responsible for summarizing the relevant neonatal literature published in high impact journals every month along with his team. Articles of Interest enjoys a wide readership and remains the most popular section on the website.

Venkatesh Sampath continues to maximize his efforts with both R01 funding for his research on SIGIRR and NEC in premature infants and spreading his knowledge through invited lectures. He recently spoke at the NEC Society Meeting, Ann Arbor, MI.

Howard Kilbride was a panel discussant for the 3rd Annual Symposium on Neonatal Resuscitation at the University of Oklahoma in September 2019.

Dena Hubbard provided guest commentary on behalf of the AAP in the Kansas City Star op-ed, “We Must Find Real Solutions to Gun Violence.”

Dena Hubbard presented at 2019 AAP NCE at the Section on Administration and Practice Management Program, “Combatting Burnout: Rediscovering Why We Love Pediatrics.”

Joshua Petrkin and Dena Hubbard served as two of the 18 topic experts for SoNPM Quality Measures Taskforce. They were responsible for systematically reviewing assigned published neonatology metrics for reliability, validity, and importance for comparative quality assessments. They presented at the consensus conference October 7-8 at the AAP Headquarters in Itasca, IL.

Washington University/St. Louis Children’s Hospital

This past August, we moved into a new wing in the 5400 tower, putting our NICU bed capacity at 126 all private rooms. The new tower is part of the Women and Infants expansion that began last year. With this expansion comes additional resources for families to encourage infant
interactions, maternal breast milk use and family-centered care. We have one more phase of construction to complete over the next year to achieve our final bed count of 150.

Beverly Brozanski has joined the Division and was named Vice Chair of Quality and Safety for the Department of Pediatrics and Vice President of Pediatric Quality Improvement and Patient Safety for BJ C Healthcare and St. Louis Children's Hospital. Bev was a founding member of the Children's Hospitals Neonatal Consortium (CHNC) in 2006. Currently, she is Co-Chair of the CHNC Collaborative Initiatives for Quality Improvement group and remains involved as a member of the board and executive committees.

Hayley Friedman, Steve Liao and Barbara Cohlan received the Standing Up for Mothers and Babies Award from Generale Health, a St. Louis foundation dedicated to advancing racial equity in pregnancy outcomes, for work with opioid dependent mothers in the newly established CARE clinic (Clinic for Acceptance, Recovery, and Empowerment).

Hayley Friedman has been chairing the TECan-led advocacy education program, Navigating NAS (https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/campaigns/navigating-nas/Pages/default.aspx).

Emily Fishman now serves on the AAP Section on Early Career Physicians Strategic Plan Workgroup Breastfeeding Physician Education and Training Project Advisory Committee.

Bryanne Colvin was a presenter for the Safe Sleep Summit in November with Generale Health. She, along with hospitalist Eve Colson, has been examining safe sleep practices in our preterm population.

Shawn O’Conner has been named Director for Newborn Simulation.

Jagu Anadkat has been named Co-Medical Director for Fetal Care.

Jennifer Wambach obtained an NIH RO1 to identify and characterize ABCA3 genomic variants in pulmonary epithelial cells resulting in disease phenotypes, including surfactant protein deficiency.

Zachary Vosolius obtained K23 and Gerber Foundation grants to examine racial disparities in preterm brain injury related to cerebral autoregulation and hypotension. He was selected as a founding member of the Newborn Brain Society and recently received the Midwest SPR James Sutherland Junior Faculty Award for outstanding abstract.

Misty Good was instrumental in Washington University receiving the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Physician-Scientist Institutional Award, and the PCORI-funded Building Capacity for PCOR/CER in the neonatal NEC community.

Elena Minakova received a grant from the Washington University Center for Clinical Pharmacology to study in utero exposure to oxycodone in a mouse model, beginning with pre-pregnancy maternal use, in utero exposure, and postnatal crossover treatments.

Cindy Ortinau was inducted into the Society for Pediatric Research.

Fellow Taylor Hendrixson received the award for Best Trainee Oral Presentation - Research in Nutrition at the Commonwealth Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition scientific meeting in Toronto in October 2019.

Fellows Rebecca Martinez, Carly Schuetz and Hallie Morris presented at the AAP NCE in New Orleans.

NEBRASKA

University of Nebraska, Omaha

Ann Anderson Berry has been appointed Interim Executive Director of the Child Health Research Institute, a collaborative effort between University of Nebraska Medical Center and Omaha Children’s Hospital.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sanford Children’s Hospital, Sioux Falls

After nearly 40 years, David Munson and Dennis Stevens have retired from clinical practice at Sanford Children’s Hospital. They will be greatly missed for their contributions to the NICU and to the USD Sanford School of Medicine!

Kathryn Anderson has joined our neonatology group following her fellowship at UCSD Rady Children’s Hospital.

ARKANSAS

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences/Arkansas Children’s Hospital, Little Rock

Congratulations to Ashley Ross and Nahed ElHasan who were promoted to Professor of Pediatrics.

Congratulations to Angela Chandler, Sara Peeples, and Clare Nesmith, who were promoted to Associate Professor of Pediatrics.

Sherry Courtney presented several talks on NAVA, high frequency ventilation, and modes of mechanical ventilation in Shanghai, Nanjing, and Zhengzhou, China in November.

MISSISSIPPI

University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson

Mobolaji Famuyide received a $1,111,287 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation titled, “Mother’s Milk for Very Low Birth Weight Infants: A National Quality Improvement Approach, Mississippi” to improve breast feeding rates in all of the NICUs in Mississippi.

Pradeep Alur was an invited faculty speaker at the National Neonatology Forum of India 39th Annual Convention 2019 in Hyderabad, India in December.

Abhay Bhatt, Jagdish Desai, Pradeep Alur, and Lir-Wan Fan were recognized at the UMMC Inaugural Intellectual Property Recognition Ceremony for their work related to patents and intellectual property in their research.

Jaimin Patel has been awarded the Intra-Departmental Discovery Program grant for “Evolution of Microbiome in Extremely Low Birth Weight Neonates.” He has been enrolling subjects and preliminary results have been accepted as a platform presentation for an upcoming Southern Society of Pediatric Research conference.

Jaimin Patel has continued representing neonatologists in the Epic Neonatology Steering Board. At the University of Mississippi Medical Center, he implemented the Nutrition Calculations Project in NICU, a new HIV order set, and has been working on improving communications by selecting communication devices and participating in the selection of middleware solutions to optimize alerts. He is also serving as Co-Chair of the Clinical Decision Support Committee and has been elected as Senator in the Faculty Senate at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Renate Savich was an invited faculty speaker at the 24th Annual Congress at Saint George Hospital University Medical Center in Beirut, Lebanon in October. She also was an invited speaker at the AAP District VIII Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine 43rd Annual Conference in Anchorage, Alaska in June, speaking on, “Health Disparities in Neonatal and Perinatal Outcomes” and “Gender Disparities in the NICU Workforce.” She was also honored to receive the District VIII AAP SoNPm Founders Award at the 43rd Annual Conference in Alaska.

Renate Savich was the keynote speaker at the 6th Annual Mississippi State Perinatal Quality Collaborative speaking on “Addressing Maternal and Neonatal Health Disparities in Mississippi and the Deep South: Time for Change and Action.”

OKLAHOMA

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City

The Section on NPM at OU is proud to welcome two new faculty members: Abhrajit Ganguly, who completed fellowship at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital and Samuel Levin, who completed fellowship at Loyola University Medical Center.

The Section congratulates Sarah Drennen and Michael Melek for completing their NPM fellowship at OU this past year. Dr. Drennen accepted a position at Covenant Children’s Hospital in Lubbock, TX. Dr. Melek accepted a position at Children’s Hospital at St. Peter’s University in New Brunswick, NJ.

Trent Tippie started as Section Chief of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics, and the Children’s Hospital Foundation Reba McIntyre Endowed Chair in Neonatology.

Trent Tippie delivered the Ferring Sponsored Member Lecture entitled, “Lost in Translation:
Bridging the Gap in Perinatal Redox Biology Research* at the 50th Anniversary annual meeting of the Perinatal Research Society in Minneapolis, MN.

Rita Raman delivered a lecture entitled, “Epigenetics: Early Life Origins of Adult Diseases” at the KG Hospital and Post-Graduate Institute, Coimbatore, India.

Marilyn Escobedo and Clara H. Song, as members of the AAP Women in Neonatology (WiN) Steering Committee, organized the Second Annual Fall WiN Meeting at the AAP NCE this past October in New Orleans, LA. WiN will meet next in Scottsdale, AZ, at the 2020 Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Practice Strategies on March 29-30 with keynote speaker Bonnie Koo, to discuss financial health for women physicians.

Clara H. Song chaired the 2019 AAP NCE SoNPM Scientific Session in New Orleans, LA this past October. She will chair the 2020 AAP NCE SoNPM Program which highlights a joint session with the Section on Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery. She also sits on the organizing committee for 2020 AAP NeoPrep this coming February 2020.

Clara H. Song was invited to speak at the 2019 Scott & White Annual Neonatology Conference in Temple, TX on “Digital Communication for the Neonatologist.”

The Children’s Hospital at OU Medicine hosted the 3rd Annual Neonatal Resuscitation Symposium this past September. Organizing Committee Members include Marilyn Escobedo, Birju Shah, Edgardo Szylid and Clara H. Song. This year’s speakers included Noah Hillman, Jeffrey Perlman, Anne Ades, Payam Vali and Gary Weiner.

The Children’s Hospital at OU Medicine also hosted the 23rd Annual Changing Seasons in Neonatology Conference this past November organized and spearheaded by the OU Neonatal Nurse Practitioners and NeoFlight Team.

TEXAS

Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston

Bhagavatula Moorthy was named as the first holder of the Kurt Randerath MD Endowed Chair at Texas Children’s Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine.

Krittika Lingappan has been awarded an NIH R01 grant for “Mechanisms of Sex Differences in Neonatal Pulmonary Oxygen Toxicity.” She also received the Young Investigator Award of the Department of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine, and was appointed to the Editorial Board of AAP’s NeoReviews.

Lauren Swanson, 2nd year fellow, was selected as a post-doctoral trainee on a BCM T32 grant in Precision Environmental Health Sciences from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (PI Cheryl Walker).

Amy Hair was the winner of the Perinatal Research Society Annual Associate Member Paper Prize at the Pediatric Research Society meeting.

The following faculty received Norton Rose Fulbright Awards for excellence in educational leadership, enduring materials, or teaching/education: Melissa Carbajal, Caraciolo Fernandes, Ganga Gokulakrishnan, Krittika Lingappan, and Mohan Pammi.

Greg Valentine, a graduated clinical post-doctoral fellow who is now an Assistant Professor at the University of Washington, received a Baylor College of Medicine Center for Research, Innovation & Scholarship Medical Education Fellow Teaching Excellence Award.

Michael E. Speer was elected the Vice-Chair of the Texas Department of State Health Services Newborn Screening Advisory Committee.

Charieta Guillory stepped down as Chair of the Committee.

The Baylor College of Medicine Perinatal Outreach Program will hold the 43rd Annual Nursing Symposium on January 24th, 2020 at the Sheraton Suites, 2400 West Loop South, Houston, TX.

The second annual Baylor Avoiding Lung Injury (BALI) conference was held successfully on October 18, 2019. Baylor Neonatology faculty presented interesting and interactive talks on a variety of respiratory topics.

Frank Placencia received his Master’s Degree in Health Care Ethics.

Grant Shafer, 3rd year neonatology fellow, gave a presentation entitled, “Frequency of Diagnostic Errors in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Using the Safer Dx-NICU Instrument - Diagnostic Error in Medicine” at the 12th Annual International Conference in Washington DC in November.

Grant Shafer and Pablo Lohmann received first place for their poster entry to the Texas Pediatric Society 2019 meeting.

Gautham Suresh presented a talk at the annual Mednax Innovations Conference in Austin, TX titled, “Avoiding Physician-Induced Lung Injury - Can We Prevent BPD with Quality Improvement?”

Gautham Suresh and Lucky Jain from Emory were Editors of a book titled Clinical Guidelines in Neonatology published recently by McGraw Hill. Various Baylor faculty were authors of chapters: Vicki Georgiadiis, Cary Fernandes, Grant Shafer, Lakshmi Katakam, Ashley Lucke, Nathan Sundgren and Gautham Suresh.

Danielle Rios has accepted a position at the University of Iowa.

Leonard Weisman, Professor of Pediatrics, retired after 25 years as active faculty at Baylor.

Charleta Guillory was named Co-Chair, with Tiffany McKee-Garrett, to the Texas Pediatric Society Fetus and Newborn Committee.

AnnaMarie Arias Shah was re-elected as TECaR Regional Representative and elected onto AAP Section of Pediatric Trainees Executive Committee.

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston/McGovern Medical School

Eric Reynolds, of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston/McGovern Medical School, was an invited speaker in Changsha, Hunan, China in November. He gave invited lectures at the 20th Anniversary of the Chinese Journal of Contemporary Pediatrics at both the main meeting and at the Newborn Special Lecture series. He also gave informal lectures to the medical staff in the NICU at Changsha Hospital and participated in teaching rounds in the unit.

UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

We were thrilled to welcome new faculty to the Division: Stephanie Nguyen and Kelly Mazzarella joined the Newborn Pediatrics Section of the Division. Rachel León, Sara Munoz-Blanco and Chris Lehmann joined the Neonatal Section of the Division.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Laura Rubinos who moved to UCSF.

Lina Chalak was elected as the Co-Chair of the Research and QI Committee of the Newborn Brain Society. She is now a member on the Departmental Promotions and Tenure Committee and has been appointed as Associate Division Chief (Academic Affairs and Faculty Development).

Becky Ennis was appointed as Co-Chair of Children’s Ethics Committee.

Mackenzie Frost was appointed Program Director of the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program and elected as Vice Chair of Assessment Learning Community at the AAPPD.

Elizabeth Heyne was one of only six finalists nationwide for the Schwartz Center Award for National Compassionate Caregiver of the Year.

Vishal Kapadia and Imran Mir have earned Associate Membership to the Perinatal Research Society.

Rachel León was accepted into the Clinical Scholars Program to get a Master of Clinical Science at UT Southwestern.

Eric Ortigoza successfully obtained a Gerber Foundation Award.

Julie Mirpuri was awarded a Children’s Hospital Foundation Research Award and was selected AAAS IF/THEN Ambassador, one of 125 women in STEM nationwide and one of three from UTSD.

Jessica Morse was appointed as Medical Director of Newborn Nurseries in the Division and Shalini Ramachandran was appointed as Associate Director of the Neonatal Resuscitation.

Rashm in Savani gave invited talks in Greece, Wales, Japan, Brazil and Ireland.
Rashmin Savani gave an invited talk to UT System Virtual Health Network Meeting in Austin.

Rashmin Savani was one of four neonatologists elected to represent the Texas Perinatal Care Regions Alliance to spearhead statewide organization in collaboration with the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies.

**District VIII:**

James Barry

The 44th Annual District VIII Conference on Perinatal Medicine will be held in Santa Fe, NM on June 4-7th, 2020. The Conference Chairs are Vlad Ianus, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, and Tara Dupont, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Utah Health. Acclaimed perinatal researchers, Kristi Waterberg and LuAnn Papile, are two of the prominent speakers who will undoubtedly enlighten those interested in perinatal medicine.

**ALASKA**

Providence Alaska Medical Center, Anchorage

Jennifer Scoble, Medical Director at Providence Alaska Medical Center, will be stepping down from that role and moving home to Texas in January 2020.

Joe Livingston will be assuming the role of Medical Director at Alaska Regional Hospital NICU.

Teresa Lam recently joined the neonatology practice at the Alaska Neonatology Associates upon graduation from the University of Washington Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship program.

Denise Jones will be joining the Alaska Neonatology Associates during summer of 2020 after she finishes her fellowship at UNC Chapel Hill.

**COLORADO**

Denver Health Medical Center

Mauricio Palau was recently awarded Top Doctors in Denver area by 5280 Magazine.

Megan Kirkle, was recently hired as a neonatologist. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship program.

University of Colorado, Aurora, Colorado

The Lubchenco Chair in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, named in honor of Lula Lubchenco, member of the University of Colorado School of Medicine faculty from 1943-1977, was recently created. Although best known for her landmark description of the risk profile of variations in intrauterine growth by gestational age, Dr. Lubchenco made contributions to regionalization of perinatal care, family-integrated care, inter-professional collaboration, and assessment of outcomes across the continuum from prenatal life to adulthood. The Lubchenco Chair will support programs and research targeting improvement of clinical outcomes for newborns and infants and is the first endowed chair in the School of Medicine named for a female faculty member. Shoo Lee was the Lubchenco Chair lecturer for 2019. Dr. Lee is Paediatrician-in-Chief, Director of the Maternal-Infant Research Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital, an Associate Member of the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Professor of Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Head of the Division of Neonatology at the University of Toronto. He is also credited with establishing the Canadian Neonatal Network. His talks were informative and inspirational as they focused on systems of care improving neonatal outcomes in a very large region.

John Kinsella, Professor of Pediatrics, has been awarded the Career Teaching Scholars Award by the Department of Pediatrics for his outstanding contributions to pediatric education throughout his career.

Elizabeth Thilo retired from the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Thilo has been an outstanding clinician and educator during her career which began in 1990 when she joined the faculty. She will maintain her role on the editorial board of NeoReviews Plus.

Four of the University of Colorado Neonatal-Perinatal Fellows were awarded Marshall Klaus Neonatal-Perinatal Research Awards in November at the NCE for their basic and clinical science research. Brittany Butler’s research is on the role of perinatal acetaminophen in adult lung inflammation and abnormal pulmonary development. She is mentored by Clyde Wright. Sarah Cilvick’s research is on the role of exogenous glucagon in growth and metabolism in late gestation fetal lambs. Her mentor is Paul Rozance. Cynthia Schreiner’s research is on placental proteins and their interactions with prematurity. Her mentor is Theresa Powell. Kathleen Hannan received the award for health service research for her work on characterization, disparities, and prediction of medical complexity in VLBW infants discharged from the NICU. Her mentor is Sunah Hwang. Fellow Brianna Libero was recently elected as a regional fellow representative for TECaN.

Laura Brown, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, was recently elected as the President-Elect for the Perinatal Research Society.

Jeanne Zenge was recently appointed as the Medical Director of the Yampa Valley Medical Center NICU in Steamboat Springs, CO and the Co-Medical Director of the Wyoming Medical Center NICU in Casper, WY.

**HAWA’I’I**

Hawai’i Pacific Health, Honolulu

Megan Doty will become the Hawai’i Representative on the District VIII Perinatal Council as Bala Venkataraman steps down.

**MONTANA**

Saint Vincent’s Hospital, Billings

Namrita Odackal recently joined Saint Vincent’s Hospital Neonatology group in Billings, Montana.

**OREGON**

Oregon Health & Science University, Portland

Catherine Caruso, 2nd year Neonatology Fellow at Oregon Health & Science University, received a TECaN travel grant award to attend the 2019 AAP NCE to serve on the TECaN Education Subcommittee.

Cindy McEvoy, Professor of Pediatrics and Director of Maternal Child Health Research and Neonatal Research, was elected to active membership of the American Pediatric Society.

Cindy McEvoy received NHLBI funding to study the effects of extending CPAP therapy in stable preterm infants on lung growth and development at six months of age.

Cindy McEvoy was an invited keynote speaker at the Fourth Annual United States Developmental Origins of Health and Disease Meeting.

Ladawna Gievers, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, has been instrumental in initiating a Medical-Legal Partnership at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital that includes the development of a NICU-specific program.

The 5th annual Northwest Neonatal Improvement Priority Alliance Meeting will be held Friday, September 11, 2020 at Chemeketa Eola in Salem, OR. The featured speaker will be Susan Hwang from University of Colorado and Colorado Perinatal Collaborative.

OHBU Neonatology Group is holding a Trauma Informed Care Workshop for all staff on January 23-24, 2020 at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital. The workshop is organized and supported by the NICU nursing staff and Assistant Nurse Manager Nikki Wiggins.

**UTAH**

University of Utah, Salt Lake City

Robert D. Christensen was honored with establishment of the Robert D. Christensen MD Endowed Lectureship in Neonatology at the University of Utah. Robin Ohls, Professor of Pediatrics at University of Utah, was the first guest lecturer for the Lectureship.

Sabrina Malone-Jenkins, Assistant Professor, was awarded the Gary M. Chan MD Endowed Chair in Neonatology.

Mariana Baserga, Professor of Pediatrics, was awarded the Jack L. Dolcourt Endowed Chair in Neonatology.

Jerry King will retire in 2020, after serving the Division of Neonatology, Department of Pediatrics and University of Utah School of Medicine for since 1984! We thank him for his service to our patients, families, and staff. He has positively impacted many lives.
Candice Fike, Professor of Pediatrics, was awarded Tenure.

Lisa Joss-Moore was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics with Tenure

Christian (Con) Yost, MD, was promoted to Professor of Pediatrics with Tenure

Camille Fung was promoted to Associate Professor.

Kelli Lund and Nora Switchenko have joined as Visiting Instructors. Kelli completed fellowship at University of Oregon Health Science Center and Nora at University of Utah.

Luca Brunelli, Professor of Pediatrics, has joined our faculty from University of Nebraska at Omaha.

WASHINGTON

University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle

Rachel Umoren is PI on a $2.4M HRQ grant to the University of Washington for “Patient Safety Learning Laboratory to Enhance the Value and Safety of Neonatal Interfacility Transfers in a Regional Care Network.” This project will define the current and ideal state for neonatal transfers to Seattle Children’s Hospital from the Pacific Northwest region, and develop protocols and systems for real-time communication and safety data tracking to improve newborn patient safety on transport.

Co-investigators are Bob DiGeronimo, Zeenia Billimoria, Megan Gray and Taylor Sawyer.

Ravi D’Cruz joined the faculty after finishing fellowship at Brown University, Women and Infants Hospital.

Angel Rios recently joined the faculty, moving all the way across the country from Bernard and Millie Duker Children’s Hospital, Albany Medical Center, where he served as Medical Director of the NICU.

Greg Valentine recently joined the faculty after completing fellowship at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Jose Perez will be joining the faculty in March of 2020. Dr. Perez will be coming from the Winnie Palmer Hospital, Orlando where he served the role as Corporate Medical Director.

CALIFORNIA

California Association of Neonatologists (CAN)

The 26th Annual CAN/AAP District IX Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine Conference, Cool Topics in Neonatology, and the California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC) Pre-Conference will be held March 6-8, 2020 at the Coronado Island Marriott Resort. The conference begins Friday evening with a keynote address in a fireside chat format with Richard Pan, California State Senator and health care advocate, and Nadine Burke Harris, California Surgeon General, speaking on the “Changing Landscape of Healthcare in California - Effects on Women, Infants and Children.” The following day, a renowned group of speakers will address several important topics including: Advances in fetal surgery; fetal hydrops; respiratory management in the NICU including use of HMFV vs. NCAP; intermittent hypoxemia; cell-based therapy for BPD; surfactant administration modalities such as InSurE, LISE, and aerosol; updates from FDA-TOLERATE Trial; catheter-based closure of PDA; neonatal anemia; neonatal transfusion; and neonatal thrombosis. Sunday sessions will focus on MRSA outbreak in the NICU, enteroviral infections, osteopenia of prematurity, and thyroid function in the preterm. The conference will conclude with currently relevant topics that include the marijuana-exposed neonate and recognizing PTSD in parents after NICU discharge and how to help them deal with this important issue. Please visit https://cme.ucla.edu/ for more details.

The poster session and QI Poster Symposium will continue as part of the Cool Topics meeting. The annual David Wirtschafter Award for QI will be awarded to the author of the best QI project submitted. All abstracts will be posted on the CAN Website (https://choccme.weebly.com/can-abstracts-2019.html).

The 16th Annual Life after Fellowship Workshop will be held on March 6th, 2020 as part of the annual Cool Topics in Neonatology meeting. This Workshop is jointly sponsored by CAN, District IX SoNP, Harbor UCLA and TECaN.

The full-day Workshop will focus on various types of neonatology practice as well as topics like interviewing skills for a job, financial concerns, and learning about the business aspects of neonatology. Physician wellness and burnout and global neonatal care will be added to this year’s Workshop. The Bhatt-Ramanathan Scholarship awards will be presented after a vetting process to two trainees who have shown commitment and achieved success in clinical and basic science research.

The program includes an interactive panel discussion with neonatologists to speak to fellows about different practice models and their professional lives. The panel will use the TED talk format followed by a question and answer session. The Program Committee includes Rangasamy Ramanathan, Soina Dargan, Virender Rehan, Meera Sankar, Christine Bixby and Adrian Lavery. Pre-registration is required.

The CAN Research and Education Committee (Chair: Meera Sankar) has been meeting regularly via monthly conference calls. The ongoing Transcutaneous Bilirubin (TCb) Study has made good progress with patient recruitment from several centers. The objective is to develop guidelines for when to consider total serum bilirubin levels based on TCb levels and to monitor levels during and after phototherapy in infants less than 30 weeks gestation in the NICU. Other discussion topics have included: Involving fellows in prospective studies in CAN Research Network and use of CAN research calls as a venue for sharing clinical research experience and to identify centers for various research proposals.

The CAN Electronic NICU Directory (Chairs: Ronald Ariagno, Henry Lee, Dilip Bhatt) is being refined and should be ready to launch in the next few months. A demo was presented at the CAN board meeting and neonatologists were encouraged to try it and provide feedback in the beta-testing phase. Nine training centers have so far been included in the Directory.

California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative

CPQCC has recently released a new report available on the NICU Reports site (www.cpqccreport.org). The Baby-MONITOR report allows NICUs to look at a composite score of overall quality of care at their NICU and benchmark their performance against the entire CPQCC network. Baby-MONITOR combines measures of positive performance on antenatal steroids, timely ROP exams, absence of nosocomial infection, temperature on admission, pneumothorax, growth velocity, oxygen at 36 weeks, human milk nutrition, and survival to give teams a holistic picture of the quality of care they are providing. Visit the CPQCC website (www.cpqcc.org/nicu-nicu-reports) to watch a brief introductory video on Baby-MONITOR and to read more about how the report was developed.

CPQCC held its annual data training sessions on October 17th, 18th, and 23rd in locations across Northern and Southern California.

CPQCC has launched a new pilot project to collect data on maternal substance exposures, including but not limited to opioids. Data will be used to drive improvements in care for substance-exposed newborns by focusing on treatment and length of stay in the hospital. Participation in the pilot project is optional and is open to both CPQCC member and non-member hospitals. Data collection will be NICU-focused, but will not be limited to the NICU and will be housed on CPQCC’s NICU Data site. Visit the CPQCC website (www.cpqcc.org/nicu/data/maternal-substance-exposure-data-collection-pilot) for more information.

Our NICU and HRIF Summary Reports (www.ccsshrif.org) are some of the most valuable tools available to you and your team! Use these reports to track the surgeries and hospitalizations that your patients have received by the time of their first HRIF visit, identify areas for improvement in your HRIF clinic, and determine a child’s need for specialty services.

The California Perinatal Transport System (CPeTS) is conducting a small pilot project to determine whether mothers of high risk infants who were admitted for greater than 24 hours could have been transferred prior to delivery to hospitals with more appropriate levels of care for their infant. A new data item has been added to the transport form to explore how often this occurs and the reasons for not transporting the mother. NICUs will be asked to submit this information starting in 2020.
CPOQC launched the Mother & Baby Substance Exposure Initiative in June 2019 in partnership with the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) and Health Management Associates to improve care for mothers and newborns affected by opioid use. As of November, 32 hospitals across 10 California counties were participating in the initiative which includes a hospital-based QI collaborative, community outreach, and the development of a toolkit of best practices. The toolkit, which is currently in draft form and will be published in early 2020, aims to preserve the quality of care? Join us for our CPOQC’s first annual Improvement Palooza on Friday, March 6th, 2020, in Coronado, CA (in conjunction with the annual Cool Topics conference). Improvement Palooza is designed to help NICU teams supercharge their QI journeys. We will feature success stories from fellow CPOQC NICUs as well as sessions on integrating families into the improvement process, starting a QI project, context as a critical component of success, and advanced data presentation techniques. Improvement Palooza is packed with exciting content for everyone, whether you are new to improvement or an old pro looking to learn some new tricks. Register for Improvement Palooza at www.cpqcc.org/improvement-palooza-2020. Loma Linda University Elba Fayard, Carlos Fayard, Brad Cacho, and Douglas Deming recently returned from five weeks of teaching (and occasional sightseeing) at the Zhejiang University Children’s Hospital in Hangzhou, China. These two institutions exchange teams yearly. Over the 12 years that the LLU team has visited, there have been progressive advancements in the care of sick newborns. Some of this has been in medical care, but they have also improved in the psychosocial care of the mother/infant couple. They have developed more frequent visiting hours, the use of maternal breast milk, and rooming-in prior to discharge.

Mednax Group of San Jose

After 14 years with our group, Dick Powers retired in December 2019. We wish him all the best!

Rupal Patel joined our group in January 2020. Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital, Long Beach

We are delighted to welcome faculty member Ting-Yi Lin as the Director of Neonatal Quality. She brings years of experience with a successful academic career in Boston and more recently, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles Division of Neonatal Medicine. Her success in leading quality performance improvement teams is well-recognized, and we are excited to see where she will take us!

We congratulate Rosemarie Tan on her promotion to Captain in the US Navy (Reserves). In addition to her distinguished military record and clinical work, Rose has been a dedicated member of the AAP Women in Neonatology (WIN) group and an active member of the California Association of Neonatology Research Committee.

We celebrate the 3rd Anniversary of the opening of the Small Baby Program. This program, the largest of its kind in the region, has been extremely successful in improving respiratory, nutritional and short term neurodevelopmental outcomes for VLBW infants. With exciting projects like Less Invasive Surfactant Administration (LISA), the experience of this group has led to many regional and national presentations. Continued support for this program by families, staff, and grateful donors was recognized at a celebratory event in December 2019.

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose

After 14 years of leading the Neonatal Division at VMC regional NICU, Balaji Govindaswami moved to Huntington, WV as the Endowed Chair of Addiction Medicine and Chief of Neonatology at Marshall University.

Priya Jegatheesan is appointed as the Chief of Neonatology and Director of VMC NICU.

Sudha Rani Narasimhan is appointed as the Director of Level 3 NICU at O’Connor Hospital.

Christina Anderson is leading a multidisciplinary team to establish a music therapy program at VMC NICU.

Dongli Song was invited to present on “NICU Family Centered Care” at the 2nd Chinese National Mother-Infant Mental Health Conference, held in Zhang Zhou, China.

Stanford University, Palo Alto

Earlier this year, the American Pediatric Society (APS) awarded David Stevenson with the prestigious John Howland Award. The APS recently established the John Howland Visiting Professor Program as an extension of the Award, and David will be the inaugural visiting professor. In September 2019, the APS announced its selection of the first host institutions: University of Texas Health Science Center and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with Duke University. Dr. Stevenson will visit these institutions in 2020 to share his experience and knowledge, exchange ideas, and engage in discussions about critical issues affecting academic pediatrics.

David Stevenson gave a keynote presentation entitled, “Understanding Disparities in Preterm Birth,” at the 50th Annual Perinatal Research Society meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

Our Class of 2019 Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellows graduated in July. Neha Kumbhat accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine. Vidya Pai has joined the neonatology faculty at Stanford as a Clinical Instructor. She has a joint appointment as a postdoctoral fellow for her F32 grant.

In summer 2019, it was announced that more of our fellows will receive support from Stanford Maternal & Child Health Research Institute: Eman Haidari (class of 2021) was awarded Clinical Trainee Support for her project entitled, “An Exploration of NICU Admission Rates.” Caroline Yeon-Kyeong Noh (class of 2021) received Master’s Tuition Support to pursue a Master’s degree in Epidemiology and Clinical Research.

Fellow Megan Ringle presented preliminary research findings at the Neonatal Cardiopulmonary Biology Young Investigators Forum in September in Chicago, IL, and received a research grant award of $1500 for her work. Her presentation was on the use of functional echo and NIRS to characterize neonatal hemodynamics.

Many Division faculty were involved in the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Conference in Seattle, WA in July, Arun Gupta, Neha Joshi, Adam Frymoyer, William Benitz, Elizabeth Blechaczryk, and Jadene Wong helped lead and facilitate a variety of mini-plenary sessions, workshops, and subcommittee meetings. Members of our Neonatal Hospitalist Team also planned and led a Newborn Medicine Pre-Conference focused on neonatal resuscitation skills. Our working group to reduce antibiotic exposure in chorioamnionitis-exposed infants was awarded the Jennifer Daru Memorial Award. Members include Neha Joshi, Arun Gupta, Ronald Cohen, William Benitz, and Adam Frymoyer. The Daru Award is intended to honor the manuscript the editorial board feels has the most potential to impact clinical care.

William Benitz continued traveling during his sabbatical. He was an invited speaker at the IPKPaTES Seminar entitled, “Bacterial Infections in the Newborn Infant,” sponsored by the Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria Policlinico, in Modena, Italy. He was also a visiting professor at Carmel Medical Center in Haifa, Israel in May 2019.

Krisa Van Meurs and William Benitz were invited speakers at the 5th International Neonatology Association Conference in Tijuana, Mexico, July 2019. Dr. Van Meurs presented on the use of NIRS to provide neuroprotection in extremely low birthweight infants and the use of erythropoietin and other new drugs for hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. Dr. Benitz spoke on new approaches for sepsis and management of the patent ductus arteriosus.

Krisa Van Meurs, Sonia Bonifacio, Kathi Sailey Randall, and Courtney Wusthoff were invited speakers at the Neo Brain Brazil 2019 conference held in São Paulo, November 2019. All spoke at a pre-conference workshop as well as the main conference attended by 900 medical professionals from all 26 states in Brazil. The topic of the conference was HIE and therapeutic hypothermia, with a focus on...
Meera Sankar was elected as the Secretary for the California Association of Neonatologists.

William Benitz will be a featured speaker at the Hot Topics in Neonatology conference in National Harbor, MD, December 9-11. This year's conference spotlights sepsis, and Dr. Benitz will speak about options in implementing strategies for early-onset sepsis screening. The preconference on December 8th is focused on neonatal quality, and Jochen Profit will be the keynote speaker talking about culture and how it drives quality.

University of California, Davis

UC Davis Children’s Hospital is hosting a Neonatal and Pediatric Transport conference. This one-day conference is accredited by the ACCME for 7.75 AMA Category 1 credits and will be held on May 21st, 2020 on the UC Davis medical school campus in Sacramento. The keynote speaker will be William Benitz from Stanford. The content is designed for physicians, transport RNs, advanced practice providers and respiratory therapists. The focus will be on both stabilization for transport and the actual transport process.

The third NEC Symposium will be held at the Westin Cincinnati on April 13-16, 2021 and will be co-sponsored by the NEC Society and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. The first NEC symposium was held in UC Davis in 2017 and the second at the University of Michigan in 2019. This is the only conference in North America dedicated entirely to NEC. It is a unique conference in that it includes not only cutting-edge research but also the voice of families (they share posters, participate in small group discussions, ask questions and introduce speakers). The three symposia have been supported with funding from PCORI (Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute) and from NIH. You can follow the NEC Society on Twitter (@NECsociety), Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/ncsociety/) and online (https://ncsociety.org).

University of California, Irvine

Cherry Uy, Fayez Bany-Mohammed, Rebecca Coleman, Muhammad Aslam and Yona Nicolau were recognized as Orange County Physicians of Excellence.

Cherry Uy was an invited speaker at the 64th Japan International Conference for Neonatal Health and Development held in November 2019. Topics included were, “Non-Invasive Ventilation in Premature Infants” and “Respiratory Monitoring in the NICU.”

UC Irvine will be hosting the annual SoCal Small Baby Consortium conference on April 16th, 2020. The conference will discuss management protocols for ELGANs.

University of California, San Diego/Rady Children’s Hospital

Carlos Ramos, Erika Fernandez, and Jose Honold were visiting faculty at the Neonatal International Meeting and ECMO training in Chengdu, China in October.

Jose Honold was recently named President-Elect for the International Neonatal Association. Jose will be the Chairperson for the INAC conference in Budapest, Hungary in July 2020.

Our team will be participating in the upcoming TIME trial (A Randomized Controlled Trial of Therapeutic Hypothermia for Mild Encephalopathy in the State of California), recently funded by the Thrasher Foundation. Enrollment will start on February 2020.

Anna-Kaisa Niemi received a 2019 Young Faculty Endowed Chair Award from the Department of Pediatrics to support her work in establishing a new Metabolic NICU Program.

Nathaly Sweeney presented a webinar detailing her work within the newly created Vermont Oxford-Rady Children’s Genomic Network entitled, “Parent Perspectives on Genomic Testing.”

Erika Fernandez has been elected Treasurer for the California Association of Neonatologists.

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland

The NICU at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland received the 2019 UCSF Health Annual Patient Safety Award for reducing unplanned extubations to less than 1/4 of their previous rate.

UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland has been participating in Project Baby Bear with the Rady Children’s Institute for Genomic Medicine, along with four other children’s hospitals in California. In this QI project, rapid whole genome sequencing is made available to NICU and PICU patients in order to reach more timely genetic diagnoses, which has had a major impact upon patient management. So far, significant genetic diagnoses have been made in more than half of the 20 patients who were tested from Oakland.

Priscilla Joe provided a three-day specialized training course in newborn care for doctors and nurses from eight government hospitals in Pokhara, Nepal in November 2019. The training was supported by the Day One global health program and Amici Della Neonatologia Trentina, Trento, Italy. The program focused on use of nasal CPAP, phototherapy, radiant warming, developmental care, and nursing assessment of sick infants.

Sandra Wai and Leslie Lusk started a severe BPD team program in the NICU, which focuses on the ongoing needs of these difficult patients and coordinates the care among the various specialists.

The Fetal Medicine Program at Children’s Hospital Oakland has been in place for many years serving the East Bay. The program is now integrated with the Fetal Treatment Program at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital San Francisco and offering expanded Maternal Fetal Medicine and Prenatal Genetics services. The Medical Director of the Oakland-based program is Leslie Lusk.
The Section would like to thank the following sponsors:

**Abbott Nutrition**
- NeoReviews/NeoReviews Plus
- Section Newsletter
- Virginia Apgar Award
- Thomas Cone Jr History Lectureship
- L Joseph Butterfield Lectureship
- Perinatal Spring Workshop
- Neonatal/Perinatal Fellows Conferences
- TECA NCE & Workshop Travel Grants
- Gerald Merenstein Lecture
- Section Faculty Dinner
- NICHD Young Investigator Conference
- NCE Poster Session & Reception
- ONTPD Networking Session & Reception
- NeoPREP
- Apgar Award Dinner
- Women in Neonatology
- TECA NCE & PAS Receptions

**Beth Israel Deaconess Neonatology**
- Health Research Services Award

**Mead Johnson Nutrition**
- Neonatal Landmark Award
- Av Fanaroff Neonatal Education Award
- Young Investigator Awards
- Trainee NCE & Workshop Travel Grants
- MidCan Reception
- TECA N Spring Dinner
- Abstract Travel Grants
- WECA N Reception
- NeoPrep
- Women in Neonatology
- Mid-Career Neonatologists (MidCaN)
- Klaus Grants
- Perinatal Spring Workshop
- 4 Fellows Conferences on Perinatal Research
- Perinatal & Developmental Medicine Symposia (2)
- ONTPD Lunch at NCE

**Prolacta**
- Women in Neonatology

The effects of prenatal exposure to opioids and other substances on brain development and behavioral health in young children. The team is led by Matt Gurga (PI) from the College of Health Professions and Meredith Mowitz from the Division of Neonatology.

The Florida Neonatal Neurologic Network (FN3), founded by Michael Weiss, held their state meeting in July at Nemours Children’s Hospital in Orlando. Guest speakers included Terrie Inder from Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Sara Bates from Massachusetts General Hospital.

Josef Neu received a University of Florida Term Professorship, a university-wide academic honor based on academic accomplishment.

David Burchfield was named to the State of Florida Prevention of Prematurity Task Force by the Florida Surgeon General.

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**American Academy of Pediatrics**

**Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine**

**2020 Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies**
March 27-29, 2020
Paradise Valley DoubleTree Hotel
Scottsdale, Arizona

For more information or to request a brochure, access www.pedialink.org/cmefinder or call 866/843-2271.
2019 AAP NCE SoNPM Scientific Session in NOLA

Clara H Song MD

The 2019 Scientific Session at the Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine (SoNPM) Program at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Convention and Exhibition (NCE) in New Orleans this past October kicked off with the Merenstein Lecture on “Updates and Knowledge Gaps in Hypothermia for HIE” given by Dr. Seetha Shankaran. The keynote address was followed by a vibrant poster reception. The following morning started off with the Oral Abstracts and Award Presentation Session. This year, a total of ninety abstracts were accepted, eighty posters and ten oral presentations, giving an acceptance rate of 39%. With the generosity of unrestricted educational grants from several notable sponsors, SoNPM awarded travel grants to the following abstract presenters:

1. Dr. Pulak Agrawal
2. Dr. Andreas Damianos
3. Dr. Morcos Hanna
4. Dr. Bethany Kaemingk
5. Dr. Jenny Koo
6. Dr. Jonathan Levin
7. Dr. Leann Pavlek
8. Dr. Amit Sharma
9. Dr. Mayank Sharma
10. Dr. Daniela Villacis Calderon

2019 Young Investigator Awardees

From the ten oral abstract presentations of the Scientific Session, two presentations in particular notably stood out and were presented with the 2019 Young Investigator Awards. These were awarded to: Dr. Jenny Koo and Dr. Mayank Sharma.

Jenny Koo MD - University of California, San Diego

Erythrocyte coated biomimetic nanoparticles reduce toxic effects of Group-B Streptococcus - Hemolysin/Cytolysin pore-forming toxin

Jenny Koo received her Bachelor in Science from UCLA in the major of Molecular Cell and Developmental Biology, and completed her medical training at UC San Diego School of Medicine. She proceeded to pediatric residency and neonatal fellowship training at UC San Diego, where she worked on a number of research projects ranging from translational work on human milk thickeners to retrospective clinical research studies characterizing infectious thrombophlebitis. Her most recent research and publication has been on novel biomimetic nanotherapeutic approaches to counteract bacterial toxins and deleterious inflammatory cytokine cascades in the context of neonatal sepsis. This work is conducted in collaboration with the laboratory of Liangfang Zhang in UCSD Nanoengineering and under the co-supervision of Victor Nizet and Shelley Lawrence. Jenny has also been active with the AAP Section on Neonatal Perinatal Medicine TECaN (Trainees and Early Career Neonatologists) group. She started as the District IX fellow representative and has since been elected as the Chair of QI/Research. She is the creator of the “Roadmap for Research,” and continues to develop similar tools for fellows and early career neonatologists to enhance their research and QI experiences.

Mayank Sharma MD - University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine

Mesenchymal stem cell (MSC) derived exosomes alleviate pulmonary hypertension in an experimental model of bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) through the vascular endothelial growth factor signaling pathway

I grew up in the city of Kolkata on the east coast of India. After high school, I joined Calcutta National Medical College for medical school. Pediatrics always attracted me and I fell in love with the specialty while on my third year clerkship, however my interest in neonatal and perinatal medicine, and particularly developmental lung biology, stems from my experience of resuscitating a preterm newborn during obstetrics rotation. After working as a resident doctor in pediatrics in my home country I decided to train in pediatric residency in the US in the pursuit of gaining academic and research experience along with strong clinical training. I was fortunate to combine my interests while working with my mentor Karen Young at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine's Batchelor Children's Research Institute. I am a first year pediatrics resident at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital program and my research interests include diseases of prematurity in general and the use of stem cells to improve outcomes in these infants.
~SAVE THE DATE~

Yale Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine and Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital Present

The 2nd Annual Richard A. Ehrenkranz Neonatology Symposium:
Update on Care of The Extremely Low Birthweight Newborn

April 20, 2020, 8:00am - 4:00pm
Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

Richard Ehrenkranz was a leader in neonatology research on an international level, and his dedication to his patients and his trainees was unsurpassed. This symposium honors the life and work of Dr. Ehrenkranz. Speakers will include:

*Alan W. Flake, MD;* University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

*Camilia R. Martin, MD, MS;* Harvard Medical School

*Richard J. Martin, MD;* Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

*Mark R. Mercurio, MD, MA;* Yale University School of Medicine

*Angela Montgomery, MD, MS Ed;* Yale University School of Medicine

*Jon E. Tyson, MD;* University of Texas/McGovern Medical School

**Details and registration information to follow**

(203) 688-2320  valencia.culbreath@yale.edu
For over 30 years, Hot Topics has been THE premiere neonatal conference, with more than 1,000 neonatologists and perinatologists attending each year. Join us for the Pre-Conference Neonatal Quality at Hot Topics December 6, 2020

For details on the conference, submitting an abstract, or exhibiting, visit www.hottopics.org

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) Steering Committee is pleased to announce the availability of the 2020 Neonatal Resuscitation Program Research Grant, NRP Young Investigator Award and NRP Human Factors/Education Grant. The awards are designed to support basic science, clinical, educational, or epidemiological research pertaining to the broad area of neonatal resuscitation.

- NRP Human Factors or Education Grant: Any health care professional with an interest in human factors impact on delivery room resuscitation or optimization of NRP education is eligible to apply for up to $15,000.

- NRP Young Investigator Award: Physicians-in-training or individuals within four years of completing fellowship training are eligible to apply for up to $15,000.

- NRP Research Grant Program: Any health care professional with an interest in Neonatal Resuscitation is eligible to apply for up to $50,000.

Researchers from Canadian and US institutions are invited to apply.

Potential applicants should submit an intent for application to the NRP Steering Committee by Friday, April 10, 2020. All intents will be reviewed and the committee will ask a select group to submit full proposals. Those selected to submit a full proposal will receive the formal application by Friday, June 5, 2020.

To obtain the NRP Research Grant, NRP Young Investigator Award and NRP Human Factors/Education Grant Guidelines and view the electronic Intent for Application, apply at: https://form.jotform.com/200074562763150

For questions regarding NRP Grants, please contact:
American Academy of Pediatrics, Division of Life Support initiatives
800-433-9016, ext. 6798
lifesupport@aap.org
New Frontiers in Neonatal Care

Thompson Alumni Center at UNO
6705 Dodge Street | Omaha | Nebraska | 68182

Thursday, March 5
Afternoon Pre-conference
Neonatal Developmental Care
12:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 6
New Frontiers in Neonatal Care
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

PROGRAM PURPOSE
Examine current, practical approaches to neonatal considerations using didactic lectures, panel and case presentations provided by neonatal specialists and multidisciplinary care teams.

TARGET AUDIENCE
Physicians (Neonatology, Pediatrics, Family Medicine), physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech & language pathologists, dietitians, respiratory therapists, social workers and other health care providers.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Mary Coughlin, MS, NNP, RNC-E
President and Founder
Caring Essentials Collaborative, LLC
Boston

Clifton Clarke, M.D., MBA, FACP, FCCP
Vice President and Chief Medical Officer
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
Chicago

For information and to register, visit ChildrensOmaha.org/ContinuingEd.
Contact CNE@ChildrensOmaha.org with questions.

PRE-CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTAL CARE TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Keynote: Touch a Life, Impact a Lifetime – Trauma-Informed Care for Hospitalized Infants & Families
- Family Centered Care/Palliative Care Parent Panel
- Medical Management of Seizures and Developmental Outcomes
- Caregiver Moral Distress

FULL CONFERENCE TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Keynote: Recognition and Prevention of Caregiver Burnout
- Keynote: Make Way for Compassion – The Courage to Care Begins with You
- Care Transitions for the Chronic or Complex Infant
- Neonatal Genetics and Testing Pathways
- Chronic Care Rounds
- Nutrition Needs of the Chronic Patient
- Test of Infant Motor Performance Screening (TIMPS), Infant Play, Parent-Child Interaction
Save the Date: March 4-7, 2020  Call for Abstracts: Due Monday, October 28, 2019

The 33rd Annual Gravens Conference
on the Environment of Care for High Risk Newborns

Biophysics of Human Interaction
Sheraton Sand Key
Clearwater Beach, Florida
March 4-7, 2020
Visit www.TheGravensConference.com

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Guest Faculty

C. Michael Cotten       Jonathan Davis
David Stevenson       Sarah Taylor
Fernando Moya        Kelly Wade
David Adamkin     Shay Phillips

SAN Contact person: Barry D. Chandler, M.D., Executive Director
Phone: (954) 646-8943   E-mail: bdchandler@aol.com

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Register online at: www.southeastneo.com
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2020 WORKSHOP ON NEONATAL PERINATAL PRACTICE STRATEGIES

Sponsored by the Section on Neonatal - Perinatal Medicine

March 27-29, 2020
Paradise Valley DoubleTree Hotel
Scottsdale, Arizona

The 2020 Workshop will feature:

• A special one-half day Neonatal Coding Seminar
• L. Joseph Butterfield Lecture:
• Presentation from the AAP Committee on Fetus and Newborn (COFN) regarding policies and guidelines currently under development/review
• Ample opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with neonatologists in all types of practices from around the country
• Opportunity for attendees to influence the direction and activities of the Neonatal-Perinatal Section through direct communication with its leadership and members.
• TECaN, MidCan, WECaN and WiN meetings!
• Welcome reception
• Time for recreation

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Mark your calendars for these upcoming neonatal-perinatal CME courses!

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February 7-11, 2020
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**Workshop on Neonatal-Perinatal Practice Strategies**
March 27-29, 2020
Scottsdale, AZ
*Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort*

For updates, visit shop.aap.org/live-activities
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2020 Spring Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ
March 29-30

WiN: We Support Women Neonatologists

• Keynote Speaker [to come]
• “Meet the Professor” networking breakfast
• Skills workshops, open discussion, speed dating and more

WiN: We Support Women Neonatologists

CAN/AAP District IX Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
26th Annual Conference
Cool Topics in Neonatology
March 6 – 8, 2020
Coronado Island Marriott Resort
Coronado, California

For more meeting information:
www.cme.ucla.edu or www.canneo.org

Save the Date!

NeoPREP: An Intensive Review and Update of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
February 7-11, 2020 | Long Beach, CA
Renaissance Long Beach Hotel

For more information, visit shop.aap.org/live-activities
CHNC Annual Symposium: Opening of Registration & Symposium Highlights

Announcing the Opening of Registration for the:
CHNC 12th Annual Quality, Research & Educational Symposium

Symposium Highlights

Neonatal Fellow Sessions
• Breakfast for Neonatal Trainees and Division Leaders
• Navigating the Transition from Fellowship through the Early Faculty Years

Neonatal Fellow Travel Awards
• Multiple travel awards will be available for neonatal-perinatal medicine fellows who submit abstracts, based on the quality and impact of the submission.

Workshops
• Nursing Leadership
• Critical and Difficult Airway Management
• Designing Effective Surveys
• CIQI Education

Our collegial consortium provides an ideal opportunity for all team members—including faculty and trainees of neonatology, surgery, anesthesia and other pediatric subspecialties, as well as NICU staff including nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, respiratory therapists, and developmental care providers—to both present their work and attend our symposium.

We look forward to seeing you this October in Indianapolis.

The CHNC Symposium Planning Committee

www.theCHNC.org
The SONPM would like to thank Abbott Nutrition for sponsoring the following section activities!

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*TECaN NCE & Workshop Travel Grants*
*Gerald Merenstein Lecture*
*Section Faculty Dinner*
*NICHID Young Investigator Conference*
*NCE Poster Session & Reception*
*ONTPD Networking Session*
*NeoPREP*
*APGAR Award Dinner*
*TECaN NCE Reception*
*Women in Neonatology*