We are pleased to unveil this first issue of the Department of Pediatrics newsletter, designed to keep faculty and staff up-to-date on personnel changes, achievements, events, and other relevant information. This publication will be sent out in an electronic format on a bimonthly basis. Should you have ideas for submissions, please contact our Department Communications Associate, Brian von Rueden, at: the below address bvonrueden@luriechildrens.org.

You also may have noticed our new, improved academic department website, launched in September 2012. This site strives to make information more accessible to both internal and external users. A list of Grand Rounds topics, for example, is always available for your convenience. There is a convenient link to generate your CME report at any time. There is also a tool to easily submit any news items for faculty, including notices of awards, publications, or other recognition. Your faculty profiles are now fully integrated into the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine search function, allowing colleagues throughout the medical community to search both by name and subspecialty. Thus, it is more important than ever to keep this information updated, which can be done directly on the website by logging in with your Net ID and password. You can see detailed instructions for this process on p. 5 of this newsletter.

Future issues of this Department Newsletter will feature a page devoted to showcasing news from the various divisions and programs. As material of interest emerges that would be of interest to the faculty of the department at large, please take advantage of this forum for disseminating information. We also look forward to featuring faculty members in a slightly more informal interview format, to get to know colleagues throughout the department. Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy the contents of this publication. Thank you for your ongoing work on behalf of our patients and families, and for your commitment to this department.
SPOTLIGHT:
Mazza Foundation Neuromuscular Disorders Program

The greater Chicago area has urgently needed a pediatric neuromuscular disorders program to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary clinical care and to support research including clinical treatment trials. Prior to Dr. Nancy Kuntz’s arrival, families of children with neuromuscular conditions had to travel outside Illinois to participate in cutting edge clinical trials. Since that time, the Mazza Foundation Neuromuscular Disorders program has built its clinical and research profile, filling a regional niche.

CLINICAL HIGHLIGHTS
The Muscular Dystrophy Association has provided a grant to start the MDA Clinic at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. This is a multidisciplinary clinic involving neuromuscular specialists, pulmonology, cardiology, nutrition, metabolic bone health, social services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, orthotics and orthopedics that will provide ongoing care and support to children with neuromuscular disorders. Children are seen on Thursdays at Lurie Children’s.

TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS
Our first pediatric neuromuscular fellow, Dr. Vamshi Rao, will start a year-long fellowship on July 1, 2013. This will greatly expand the clinical and research capacity of our program by providing another highly trained pediatric neuromuscular specialist to care for children.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
Several IRB approved clinical trials are ongoing. Particularly important is recruitment for:

NeuroNeXT: infants with spinal muscular atrophy under 6 months of age and healthy controls needed for a 2 year biomarker natural history study.

Faculty Announcements

NEW FACULTY

January 3, 2013 - Dr. Cynthia Lerner accepted a part-time position in the Division of Allergy/Immunology seeing patients at our outreach program at Silver Cross in New Lenox. A long-time contributed services faculty member, Dr. Lerner is an Assistant Professor Clinical in the Department of Pediatrics.

January 4, 2013 - Dr. Suja Anne Joseph accepted a part-time position in the Division of Epilepsy seeing patients at our outreach programs in Gurnee and Grayslake. Dr. Joseph is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

February 1, 2013 – Dr. Sunila O’Connor accepted a part-time position in the Division of Epilepsy seeing patients at our outreach programs in Gurnee and Grayslake. Dr. O’Connor is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

February 1, 2013 – Dr. Irina Trosman accepted a part-time position in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine seeing Sleep Medicine patients at Lake Forest Hospital. Dr. Trosman is a Health System Clinician in the Department of Pediatrics.

To schedule an appointment with the MDA clinic, please call 312.227.4473.
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For information on research efforts/ clinical trials, please call 312.227.4483.
ADVOCACY CORNER: 3rd Annual Advocacy Day

The 3rd Annual Advocacy Day will be held from 12:15 - 8 pm, February 28 in the 11th floor conference center at Lurie Children’s. The program will focus on the impact of a child’s social environment on health and the community and policy interventions led by pediatricians to overcome risks and barriers to child health equity. Steven Krug, MD, Chief of Emergency Medicine, will be the keynote speaker, joined by a community physician and an AAP C.A.T.C.H (Child Access to Community Health) recipient to share successful strategies. They will be followed by a featured resident speaker prior to a light dinner hour and poster session of resident/medical student abstracts. The finale of the day will be a poverty simulation, developed and presented by Tiela Chalmers, a poverty rights lawyer from San Francisco. This simulation will allow participants to truly feel the burdens and obstacles facing underserved families as they navigate through life and the medical system. The event is open to all, and is free, but is especially geared for residents and medical students in the Chicagoland area.

PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS (Updated schedule online)

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 15, 2013</td>
<td>Holinger Lecture: Laryngomalacia: Etiologic Theories, Disease Spectrum and Management</td>
<td>Dana Thompson, MD - NUFSM/Lurie Children’s</td>
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<td>Feb 22, 2013</td>
<td>Spots and Dots: An Approach to Disorders of Pigment for the Pediatrician</td>
<td>Virginia P. Sybert, MD - University of Washington</td>
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<td>Mar 1, 2013</td>
<td>PECARN (Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network) and Beyond</td>
<td>David M. Jaffe, MD - Washington University St. Louis</td>
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<td>Mar 8, 2013</td>
<td>The Hygiene Hypothesis and Vulnerability to Asthma</td>
<td>Kathleen Barnes, PhD - Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<td>Mar 15, 2013</td>
<td>Moving Toward 21st Century Medical Care: Patient- and Family-Centered Care</td>
<td>Ted Sigrest, MD - University of Cincinnati</td>
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<td>Mar 22, 2013</td>
<td>Clinical Pathologic Conference</td>
<td>Katie Donnelly, MD - NUFSM/Lurie Children’s</td>
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<td>Mar 29, 2013</td>
<td>Asthma Update</td>
<td>Mary Nevin, MD - NUFSM/Lurie Children’s</td>
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RESEARCH CENTER EVENTS

March 4 – Center for Intestinal and Liver Inflammation Research (CILIR) Special Seminar
Alok Mishra, PhD, Postdoctoral associate/Sr. Research associate candidate; Nuclear transcription factors AP-1, NF-kB, TR in head and neck cancers and adipogenesis differentiation; 12:00 p.m.; Conference room B/C, Research Center, 2430 N. Halsted

March 7 – Biomedical Research Symposium
David Corey, PhD (keynote), Professor of Pharmacology and Biochemistry, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas; Nuclear RNAi and allele-selective inhibition of mutant huntingtin; 12:00 p.m.; Wolfson conference room, Research Center, 2430 N. Halsted. This is a joint project of the Research Center’s Training Program and Distinguished Lecturer Seminar Series. A maximum of 1.0 CME credit is available to physicians. See event flyer.

March 7 – Pediatric Practice Research Group Motivational Interviewing (MI) Workshop, Part I
Kelly Walker Lowry, PhD, Medical psychologist, Lurie Children’s; 2:00 p.m. – 4:30p.m.
Room 4-472E, Lurie Children’s, 225 E. Chicago Avenue. This 2-part workshop provides training for clinicians on health behavior change using motivational interviewing (MI) techniques, which help clinicians better address the barriers patients face when trying to change health behaviors. Sessions are open to 20 people. For registration, contact Victoria Correa at vcorrea@luriechildrens.org or 312-227-7084.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS: Faculty Publications, Research & More

February 27, 2013  Jami Josefson, MD, Publishes Study on Maternal Obesity and Vitamin D Sufficiency
February 8, 2013  Gender Identity Clinic Opens Under Direction of Robert Garofalo, MD, MPH
February 4, 2013  Six Pediatrics Faculty Members Honored at Medical Education Day
January 31, 2013  Ma Lab Investigating Neurodegeneration in SMA, Parkinson’s Disease
November 21, 2012  Study Shows Children with Psoriasis Likely Overweight
November 1, 2012  Jacek Topczewski, PhD, investigates bone formation to better understand birth defects

EDUCATION EVENTS:

5th Annual
A TODD DAVIS PEDIATRIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

Ted Sigrest, MD
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics | Director, Surgical Hospitalist Service
University of Cincinnati

Events during the day on Friday, March 15, 2013 will focus on current best practices for implementing family centered rounds and other educational techniques.

GRAND ROUNDS: “Moving Toward 21st Century Medical Care: Patient- and Family-Centered Care at the Forefront of Health Care Reform”
8:00am – 9:00am in 11-152 & 160
This presentation provides a discussion of the current drive toward patient- and family-centered care, the rationale and research supporting this drive, and potential benefits for children & providers at Lurie Children’s.

WORKSHOP: “Making Family Centered Rounds Work”
9:30am – 11:00am in 22-115
A “how-to” session on the practical aspects of leading FCRs, including preparing, implementing, and sustaining FCR’s, as well as QI measurement of FCR outcomes.

To learn more or RSVP, please contact
Brian von Rueden at 312.227.4342 or bvonruden@luriechildrens.org
TECH TIPS: How to edit your faculty profile…

All Department of Pediatrics faculty are required to maintain a current Northwestern Faculty Profile, with updates at least on an annual basis. These steps and links will help you complete this process.

Step 1:
From the main Department of Pediatrics website, click on “Search Faculty Profiles” in the upper right corner of the screen.

Step 2:
From this page, choose “Edit My Profile” from the menu on the left side of the screen.

Step 3:
On this screen, enter your Northwestern NetID and password. For login problems, forgotten passwords, etc., read the instructions/call NUIT at 847-491-4357.

Step 4:
Edit any relevant information, paying close attention to contact information (updated phone, mailing address, etc.), adding publications using the built-in tool, and completing the research and clinical interests material. All of these fields are filtered throughout the website and should help minimize confusion. If you have an updated photo or have questions, please contact Brian von Rueden.