

Department of Pediatrics

Department of Pediatrics Faculty Excellence Awards honorees

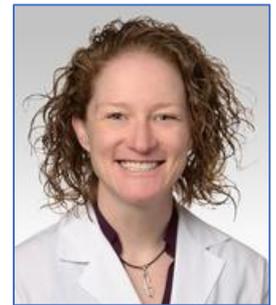
We are delighted to acknowledge the following individuals for outstanding performance and contributions to our mission over the past year. There were many qualified candidates for the awards and the selection of finalists was exceedingly challenging. Awards were bestowed in each category by rank (assistant professor/instructor; associate professor/clinician; professor/master clinician) and some awards had co-winners this year. Congratulations again!

Excellence in Clinical Care



Kate Lucey, MD, MS (Instructor, Hospital-Based Medicine) is physician lead for the Situational Awareness Initiative – a critical new program to identify patients on the acute care floors who are at risk for clinical deterioration. She is also the Acute Care Physician Lead at Lurie for the national Improving Pediatric Sepsis Outcomes initiative, which contributed to Lurie being among the top three hospitals nationally in sepsis bundle compliance and time to first fluid bolus. She was asked to lead a national Children’s Health Association webinar describing Lurie’s successes. Dr. Lucey also serves as the site Principal Investigator for the Eliminating Monitor Overuse in Bronchiolitis Study, a national project through the PRIS network. The team facilitated a dramatic reduction in unnecessary continuous pulse ox use in patients with bronchiolitis not on oxygen; Lurie was the second most improved hospital in this national study. She is also a core faculty member for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine fellowship.

Emily Roben, MD (Asst Prof, Emergency Medicine) has led a transformation in the Emergency Department culture toward Quality Improvement. As co-director for QI, she has created an educational curriculum that is offered to all the PEM faculty, APNs, and fellows. She rebranded the M&M conferences to “Morbidity, Mortality and Improvement” to emphasize the positives that can emerge from this review process. Over the past year she has been involved in two major clinic QI initiatives: Workup and Management of Appendicitis, and the Diabetes Clinical Care Guidelines. She routinely participates in lectures and workshops related to clinical care and QI, received an Excellence in Teaching Award at FSM, and the Pediatric Attending of the Year Award by the NMH EM residency. Her expertise in QI science and her teaching skills have been recognized outside of our institution.



Amy Lay, MD (Assoc Prof, Cardiology) is the medical director of non-CICU inpatient services in the Heart Center. During this time, she has implemented multiple clinical protocols and guidelines that involve other divisions to improve care and safety, organized multiple clinical programs, and been a key member of several quality initiatives. Simultaneously, she maintains a busy clinical practice and is an expert within and outside our institution in the care of patients with complex congenital heart disease at all ages and stages, including fetal patients and their families. She is the clinical lead for the national pediatric acute care cardiology consortium (PAC3), which is a quality driven collaborative that collects multi-center data to improve patient care in the acute

care cardiology setting. She also works with parent groups and community physicians to support parental mental health and resiliency, and has been a key part of our international referral network.

John Fortunato, MD (Prof, Gastro & Hepat) is the Medical Director of the Neurointestinal and Motility Program at Lurie, as well as a leader at the US Air Force Academy Cadet Clinic from 2020 to present. Covid was a test on both fronts. NIM expanded its telemedicine services for both motility and psychology to allow continuity of care for existing patients and new referrals. It also expanded referrals beyond the Midwest to over half the states in the US as well as from Europe and Asia. More recently, the team has begun to explore the challenge of determining barriers to health care access and health disparities as they related to patients with functional GI conditions. On the military front, he arrived at the Air Force Clinic in 2020 just weeks after the suicide of two cadets. He initiated a symptom screening protocol adapted from one used at Lurie for both clinical and mental health services. Dr. Fortunato also supervised teams which established Covid testing strategies for members at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. To further develop his skills, he has enrolled as an evening student at Kellogg School of Management.



Excellence in Education



Priya Jain, MD, MEd (Asst Prof, Emergency Med) developed and runs the Clinical Coaching Program, which pairs faculty coaches and trainees into dyads who maintain longitudinal coaching relationships with the goal of helping learners better receive, understand, and grow from their feedback. In the 2020-21 year, participating divisions included Emergency Medicine, Cardiology, and Pediatric Cardiology Intensive Care. She has shared this knowledge about feedback processes both locally and nationally. Dr. Jain is a much sought-after educator at FSM, is a PBL facilitator, sits on the FSM College of Admissions, and has mentored with the same group of college students since 2018 (the “Jain College”). She is the Resuscitation Day Course Director, and developed an ECG Curriculum – both of which had to be modified due to the Covid pandemic. She is the Associate Program Director of the PEM Fellowship, and sits on the Pediatric Residency Interview Committee. Dr. Jain is a FAME member, and completed a Master’s in Education in 2021.

Suzanne Schmidt, MD (Assoc Prof, Emergency Med) was recognized for her many accomplishments in the 2020-21 academic year: adapting the complex Clinical Medicine curriculum to the ever-changing restrictions posed by the Covid pandemic; integration of new curricular content into the Clinical Medicine curriculum; leadership in education at the national level as part of the COMSEP preclinical and clinical skills collaborative; and impactful scholarly work in education with projects on otoscopy skills, recruitment of medical students to pediatrics, and pediatric physical exam skills. She has been an incredible advocate for teaching gender-inclusive clinical skills and is committed to the goal of developing an anti-racist clinical skills curriculum. She has an appointment in the Departments of Pediatrics and Medical Education; received a teaching pin for her contribution in medical education at Feinberg 2020-21, and was named a John X. Thomas, Jr. Best Teachers of Feinberg at the 2021 Medical Education Day.





Ravi Jhaveri, MD (Prof, Infectious Diseases) is medical director of Lurie’s external CME programs, overseeing 8-10 events during an academic year with approximately 60 – 100 attendees for past live events. This year, they transitioned to a virtual program with almost equal registration. As part of being the medical director, he gives at least one lecture each year in either a live event or webinar. He is a regular speaker at the pediatric “Fellow’s College,” which aims to offer a curriculum of career development topics. He is also a member of the pediatric “Educational Advisory Board” to help consider and direct education initiatives across the department. Dr. Jhaveri is a newly elected member to Fame (2021 class). He also serves as Co-Editor in Chief of *Clinical Therapeutics* and Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society*.

Excellence in Leadership

Erin Paquette, MD, JD, MBe (Asst Prof, Critical Care) provides unique expertise to address profound challenges in ethics, equity, and their intersection. She serves as Chair of the Ethics Advisory Board; under her stewardship the request for ethics consultations increased by 60% from the previous year. Dr. Paquette is Co-Chair of the Health Equity Taskforce within the President’s Council for EDI, where she collaborated with the Council to develop a new process to ensure that consult reports routinely address equity issues. She has continued her scholarship, and in October 2020 led members of the ethics program in writing an article entitled “Shifting Duties of Children’s Hospitals During the Covid-19 Pandemic” that was published in the *Journal of Hospital Medicine*. This article is likely to have an enormous impact in the years to come, as it opens a subfield of pediatric organizational ethics rarely explored to date by considering how the principles of solidarity and justice should inform institutional level ethical obligations in an unequal world.



Mariana Glusman, MD (Assoc Prof, Advanced General Pediatrics and Primary Care) is a leader in literacy promotion in pediatrics – which intersects with her other career interests in early childhood, bilingual language development, advocacy, antibiotics, and medical education. She established and directs Lurie’s Reach Out and Read program, where they gave out over 3500 books to patients last year. This year she participated in the Chicago Dept of Public Health launch of the Family Connects Nurse Home Visiting program, a universal perinatal referral network. She is co-chair of their Provider Council, and also created a newborn guide that will be distributed to all newborns in Chicago. Dr. Glusman is immediate past-president of the Illinois Chapter of the AAP. At Lurie, she joined the President’s Council on Equity Diversity and Inclusion, and was invited to participate in the Social Justice Working Group.

Priya Verghese, MD (Prof, Nephrology) arrived as the new Division Head amid a pandemic. She requested permission of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology to create a virtual platform for Division Heads – the ASPN Leadership Learning Collaborative. The meetings are held on a quarterly basis for >50 Nephrology division heads per call, and span such topics as clinical care, administrative/policy issues, how to increase divisional engagement, etc. This past academic year she was also elected to the ASPN Council; the Board of the Pediatric Nephrology Research Consortium; and serves as the first official ASPN Liaison to the European Society of Pediatric Nephrology. Yet her primary responsibility has been to her team here at Lurie’s to help prevent team burnout due to covid-related faculty turnover; restructure ambulatory and call workflow; advocate for philanthropic and departmental resources for increased research and clinical capacity, and work to create a nephrology-driven biopsy program.



Excellence in Outreach Care



Shivani Patel, MBBS, MS, FASE (Asst Clinician, Cardiology) staffs several cardiology clinics at Central DuPage Hospital and is a cardiac imager at the Lurie Children’s Hospital. In addition to her clinical duties, she has pursued her life-long passion for education. She has been instrumental in furthering the development of the transthoracic and transesophageal echocardiogram boot camps, as well as co-creating a neonatal cardiology curriculum which is highly regarded by neonatology attendings and fellows. She is the course co-director of the Chicago Sonographer Update Conference, where she rose to the pandemic challenge by using online tools to reach an audience from 6 continents. Dr. Patel is a valuable member of the Fellow Education in Imaging Committee (a forum for fellow evaluation and improvement). She graduated from the Medical Education Certificate Program and completed a Simulation Based Mastery Learning curriculum at Northwestern to advance her teaching skills this year.

Shivani Desai, MD, MS (Assoc Clinician, HBM) is a neonatologist at Central DuPage Hospital and Chair of the Physician Wellness Committee of the NM Central DuPage Hospital Medical Staff. She sought out formal training at the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind-Body Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital to understand the clinical practice, professional stressors, and research-informed approaches to mitigating these stressors, and subsequently led an 8-week course on “Stress Management and Resiliency” for physicians at CDH and Lurie. She continues her leadership role in the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic, where she worked closely with multidisciplinary team members to lead the conversion to telemedicine visits. Dr. Desai was the physician NICU lead for the State of Illinois ILPQC Mothers and Newborns Affected by Opioids quality project. She has been active in many hospital committees, including the Medical Executive Committee, and currently is the co-chair of the Wellness Committee at Lurie Children’s.





Anita Swamy, MD (Assoc Clinician, Endocrinology) is Medical Director of the La Rabida Chicago Children’s Diabetes Center. Under her leadership the clinic now serves approximately 900 patients across three sites. She and her colleagues are constantly improving the care to children and families through development and implementation of new guidelines and protocols. Dr. Swamy has developed a strong reputation in the parent community of children with diabetes, and requests for her as a physician are an ongoing source of new referrals. Dr. Swamy is also Vice President of Medical Staff at La Rabida, where she is helping streamline credentialing and developing a 360-degree peer review program for physicians. Dr. Swamy also serves as a Medical Advisor for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and is a regular speaker for the American

Diabetes Association. She works with Chicago Public Schools to train school nurses, and works closely with the Diabetes Training Camp – a camp designed for young athletes with diabetes.



Meta Carroll, MD (Master Clinician, Emergency Med) is Outreach Site Leader for the Div of Emergency Medicine at Northwest Committee Hospital. Her change management skills were called upon in this challenging year related to procedures (due to covid); partnerships (in the form of NCH merging with NorthShore in January); physical space (closure of the pediatric ED and unification of adults and pediatric patients) and personnel (90% of pediatric nursing staff departing the ED). Her service as an outreach-based educator included monthly pediatric talks to general emergency physicians; continued onboarding of PEM fellows during their 2nd year community

rotation; and transition of the Lurie-NCH Quarterly Pediatric Conference into a virtual conference. She also completed a 2-year clinical bioethics program at Northwestern and amplified this education with ethics talks for faculty and fellows at Lurie and NCH.

Excellence in Scholarship



Amanda Marma Perak, MD, MS (Asst Prof, Cardiology) had an amazingly productive academic year. She submitted her first three R-level grants as PI. She was published in several high-impact journals this year, including one in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology that received multiple honors, including the Editor in Chief’s “Top 100 Publications in 2020.” Dr. Perak recently received the Elizabeth Barrett-Connor Research Award for Early Career Investigators from the American Heart Association for her work in young-adult cardiovascular health and premature cardiovascular disease, and the American Society for Clinical Investigation Young Physician-Scientist Award for her work in intergenerational cardiovascular health transmission. She serves on multiple AHA committees and writing groups, and through her role on the AHA Atherosclerosis, Hypertension and Obesity in the Young

Committee helped guide the AHA’s agenda for cardiovascular health promotion in youth.



Seema Shah, JD (Assoc Prof, Advanced General Pediatrics and Primary Care) is recognized for her work on pediatric research ethics. Some of this work came to fruition in 2020 when she co-edited a special issue in the journal *Bioethics* that addresses the issue of challenge studies, and is writing a book-length treatment on this topic. Her hope is that this in-depth exploration of human challenge studies will help ensure ethical preparedness for future pandemics. She was a senior author on a piece in *Clinical Infectious Diseases* about how data and safety monitoring boards could help address ethical questions in Covid-19 vaccine trials regarding when placebo arms should be stopped. She is the PI on a multinational grant proposal and hopes to establish a new subfield of research ethics on the work of data and safety monitoring boards for

pediatric trials. She co-chairs the Ethics and Law working group for the HEAL-thy Brain and Child Development (HEAL) Consortium, and presented at a virtual workshop convened by the NIH Office of Science Policy on the topic of building bioethics into biomedical research.



Mary Clyde Pierce, MD (Prof, Emergency Med) is passionate about key issues that impact our vulnerable members of society, and this year has culminated in so many successes. From getting her second R01 from NIH, to publishing a highly impactful paper on the bruising clinical decision rule in JAMA open network, and getting a day proclaimed as TEN-4 day (on 10/4!) in Illinois dedicated to child abuse prevention, to finalizing an app that incorporates our 3D “HumaGram” (aka interactive body diagram) that will allow far more rapid and diffuse translation of her research results to communities and academic centers here in the US and abroad, to mentoring top notch fellows in emergency medicine and in child abuse, and having their work showcased at

academic conferences (9 abstracts and counting), to having the work she is leading in epigenetics receive top research awards at an International child abuse meeting, to receiving the Innovator award from Lurie Foundation to advance our understanding of how an abused child’s future health may be programmed (or “unprogrammed”) into their genes’ response to stress through an epigenetic process. Quite a year!