Division Spotlight - Pediatric Research Office

How do you grow research on the backs of clinicians who are already over committed? The Department of Pediatrics’ answer to that question was to provide research infrastructure to support clinicians. That strategy has proven to be a successful working model facilitating UNMC and Children's, giving pediatric patients the opportunity to participate and receive the latest in treatment options while adhering to the highest ethical standards in research.

Initially, the PRO was located at UNMC in the Munroe-Meyer Institute. In April of 2012, offices were relocated to the third floor of the Scott Pavilion at Children's with other UNMC Administrative and Education offices. Studies continue to be supported at both Children's and UNMC.

PRO staff are happy to meet with faculty members whenever they have questions about research and can be contacted at 402-559-2511.

PRO Staff

Dr. William Rizzo, Pediatric Metabolism, currently serves as the Faculty Director of the PRO. Dr. Rizzo provides considerable experience in research both clinically and in bench science. He has received multiple grant awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He has served on the Board of Scientific Counselors for NICHD and the Advisory Board for the Undiagnosed Disease Program of NHGRI at the NIH. Board of Directors for the Foundation for Ichthyosis and Related Skin Types, the Research Advisory Board for the Cystinosis Research Foundation and the Medical & Scientific Advisory Board of the United Leukodystrophy Foundation.

Melanie Schrack, Program Coordinator, manages operations as well as all financial aspects of the PRO.

Five Research Nurse Coordinators - Machelle Zink, Angie Boettner, Kym Abraham, Carolyn Chamberlain and Lea Barajas-DeLoa - are the backbone of the PRO. From start to finish, they provide dedicated efforts to...
all types of studies. Minimally, they prepare IRB applications to obtain study approval. On the other end of the spectrum, they can assist in protocol development, determining protocol feasibility, developing study budgets, and be responsible for full study execution. The nursing team possesses a wide breadth of experience in many specialty areas. When necessary, part-time nursing staff can also supplement support of study activities.

**Nancy Ambrose** serves as Support Staff for the group and assists Dr. Rizzo and his laboratory.

**PRO Accomplishments**

Since inception in 2007, the PRO has consistently increased study numbers by building its excellent reputation through clinical research performance. The PRO currently serves a blend of studies, almost equally divided between NIH and CDC, Pharmaceutical Sponsors and Investigator Initiated studies. Support for the PRO is provided by the Department of Pediatrics, study funding and division/institutional sources.

Specific highlights of the PRO include multiple ongoing studies in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's, which address sedation management, influenza, pertussis, flu vaccine effectiveness in critically ill children, managing respiratory failure in leukemia, head injury and several international point prevalence studies. Other active areas of research include Metabolism, Infectious Disease, Cardiology, Hematology/Oncology, Rheumatology, GI, Developmental Medicine, Surgery, Hospitalists and Genetics.

In 2012, the team has served more than 100 studies in some capacity.

**Announcements**

**Education as Clinical Practice: A Primer for Thinking about How to Teach**
Presented by Hugh A. Stoddard, M.Ed., Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Medical Education
Director, Curriculum and Educational Research Office
University of Nebraska College of Medicine

During this 1.5 hour session, the following objectives will be met:

1. Participants will be able to describe fundamental principles of teaching
2. Participants will be able to list the various models of effective teaching
3. Participants will compare and contrast teaching with clinical medicine
4. Participants will select and apply a teaching model that suits their skills and motivations

7:30-9:00 AM | Thursday, December 13, 2012
Michael Sorrell Center, Room 4053
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Financial Disclosures:
Today's presenter, Dr. Hugh A. Stoddard, has no financial interest to
disclose. The Planning committee (Dr. Paul Larsen, Department of Pediatrics Education Committee and Jennifer Mobley) has no financial interest to disclose.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center, Center for Continuing Education is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center, Center for Continuing Education designs this live activity for a maximum of 1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits(TM). Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Congratulations**

CityMatCH Newsletter Wins Bronze Award in 2012 National Health Information Awards: CityMatCH, the National Organization of Urban MCH Leaders housed in the Department of Pediatrics, was recognized by the 19th annual National Health Information Awards (NHIA) program held in the summer of 2012. The program recognizes the nation's best consumer health information programs and materials produced in the preceding year. This year, nearly 1,000 entries were submitted by a wide variety of leading organizations in the consumer health field. This awards program, the most comprehensive competition of its kind, is organized by the Health Information Resource CenterSM, a national clearinghouse for consumer health information programs and materials. The CityLights newsletter was awarded a bronze award in the Miscellaneous Health Information category. For a full list of winners, please visit the National Health Information Awards website.

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