Pediatric News
An electronic newsletter from the Department of Pediatrics

March 2013

Spotlight - Pediatric Pulmonology

The University of Nebraska Department of Pediatrics Division of Pediatric Pulmonology cares for approximately 200 cystic fibrosis (CF) pediatric patients, age 20 and under, from five states. Of 125 CF Centers in the country, we are one of the top 10 as demonstrated by public data outcomes of lung function and nutritional status. We hosted the National CF Nutrition and Social Work Consortium in 2011 and we established a new Midwest Consortium for CF including Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska.

The CF Care Center has recently received the "Quality of Care" award which is given annually by the CFF to centers that have demonstrated excellence in quality improvement. We were also selected as a Therapeutics Development Network (TDN) site for clinical research by the CFF. Additionally, we were chosen as one of ten centers in the country for the CFF Leadership of Health Care QI Development Program. This is a pilot program to examine leadership qualities within the center and assess ways to improve these qualities at other centers across the country.

The Division is an active participant in the CFF Mentorship Program. This program is a CFF-guided program to mentor new CF health care providers in the specific health care discipline with the team. "Apprentices" follow a specific orientation process setting goals for themselves, visit their mentor on site from the referring center across the country, and mentor follow-up to assess progress. Our CF Coordinator (Dee Acquazzino) is one of three regional facilitators of the CFF Clinical Coordinator's mentorship program.

One other highlight of our Division is that we have a four-bed Pediatric Sleep unit, the only one in the state.

Some of the other accomplishments of the Division include:

- The Division has been awarded approval of a Pediatric Pulmonology Fellowship Program with the arrival of the first fellow in July 2013.
- Dr. Colombo serves on the CDC Working group for determining Pediatric Ventilator Associated Events and on the Executive Committee of the Section of Pulmonology and Sleep of the American Academy of Pediatrics.
Dr. Sammut served as Chair of the Council of Governors of the American College of Chest Physicians
Dr. Wilson served on Board of Directors of American Association of Respiratory Care for 10 years
Multiple publications, articles and textbook chapters
Reviewers for over a dozen peer reviewed national and international journals

Pediatric Pulmonology Grants

- An Open-Label, Rollover Study to Evaluate the Long-Term Safety and Efficacy of VX-770 in Subjects with Cystic Fibrosis, Vertex Study Number: VX08-770-105
- A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Ivcacfortor in Subjects with Cystic Fibrosis who Have the R117H-CFTR Mutation, Vertex Study Number: VX11-770-110
- A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Lumacaftor Monotherapy and in Combination with Ivcacfortor in Subjects Aged 12 Years and Older With Cystic Fibrosis, Homozygous for the F508del-CFTR Mutation. Sponsor: Vertex
- A single arm, open-label, multicenter, Phase IV Trial to assess long term safety of Tobramycin inhalation powder (TIP) in Patients with Cystic Fibrosis. Sponsor: Novartis
- Early MRSA therapy in CF-Culture based vs. observant (treatment or observe (STAR-too- Staph Aureus Resistance - treat or observe). Sponsor: University of Washington

Pediatric Pulmonology Programs

Programs/Services:

- Nebraska Regional Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Center, only accredited CF Care Center in the region located both at NMC and CHMC.
- Multidisciplinary clinics with Allergy, ENT, Gastroenterology (Aerodigestive), and Cardiology (Pulmonary Hypertension)
- Medical Direction for the Ambassador Pediatrics skilled nursing facility

Programs within the Medical Center include:

- Annual CF Education Day held every spring collaboratively with Adult CF Center. Keynote speakers from across the country brought in to discuss with CF Community updates in CF care
- CF Education Nights held several nights/year in collaboration with Adult CF Center
- CF Family Advisory Board comprised of parents whose children receive care at our center. Meet every other month to provide advice on improving processes of care
- Annual Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF) Board Meeting held at Center to update board on clinical care and research

Efficacy of Family-Based Weight Control Program, Dr. M Ryan
Pediatric Readmission Prevalence, Dr. J VanDeGraaf

Patient Mgmt Conf.

March 5 | 8 AM
CHMC Glow Edu Ctr
4yo Male with Fever and Rash, Dr. K Cunningham

March 12 | 8 AM
CHMC Glow Edu Ctr
Déjà vu, Dr. H Johnson

March 19 | 8 AM
CHMC Glow Edu Ctr
Eeny, meeny, -la's... in a 6 yo, Dr. J VanDeGraaff

Grand Rounds
Complete schedule on UNMC Pediatrics homepage.

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Submissions should be sent by the 20th of each month.
- CF QI Continuous Improvement Committees
- CF Foundation Patient Registry (ongoing patient registry-data is compiled from all accredited CF Centers in the country to assess best practices and improve CF care).

**Pediatric Pulmonology Staff**

**Faculty Listing**

- John L. Colombo, M.D., Professor
- Paul H. Sammut, M.D., Associate Professor
- Heather M. Thomas, M.D., Assistant Professor
- Mark C. Wilson, M.D., Associate Professor
- Luke Noronha, M.D., Assistant Professor
- Carrie Barker, M.D., Assistant Professor
- Casey Burg, M.D., Assistant Professor

**Affiliated Faculty and Physicians**

- Brett Kuhn, Ph.D., Sleep Psychologist
- Russell Hopp, D.O., Allergist
- Dwight Jones, M.D., Chair ENT, UNMC
- Ryan Sewell, M.D., ENT
- Debra Goebel, M.D., ENT

**Healthcare Staff Listing**

**UNMC**

- Toni A. Blazek, APRN-NP
- Dee Acquazino, BS, CF Clinical Coordinator
- Stacy Millikan, BA, RN
- Patricia Robshaw, RT
- Sandy Strizek, RT
- Peggy Karatoprakli, BA, Research Coordinator
- Raquel Telfer, BA, Research Coordinator
- Laura Romero, Social Worker
- Barbara Bice, RD
- Tim Hallberg, MS, Research Technologist II

**Children’s**

- Donald Herbst, M.S.A., Service Line Manager
- Jacque Hanks, APRN-NP
- Jamie Protaskey, APRN-NP
- Andrea Ott, PA
- Amber Widstrom, PA-C
- Anne Thallas, BS, RN
- Christy Babutzke, RN
- Michele Pearrow, RN
- Sue McCarville, BA, RN
- Kristie Schwab, BA, RN
- Diane Workman, BA, RN
- Sarah Shoumaker, RN
- Patricia Stevens, RT
- Trish Chandler, RT
- Heather Clancy, RT
- Winnie Dupree, RT
- Shana Romero, Social Worker
- Kelsey Edgerton, MA
- Krista Godfrey, RD
- Brandy Cap, RT, Supervisor, Sleep Disorders Program
- Rusty Byrd, Cathy Graeve, Robyn Forsyth, Sue Cortese, Karol McBride, Carie Smith-Polysomnography Technicians

**Administrative Staff**

**UNMC**

- Carla M. Pospisal, Fellowship Coordinator
- Sarah A. Iwanski, Office Assistant

**Children's**

- Tina Mace, Administrative Lead
- Jeannie Fields, Medical Secretary II
- Krista Scott, Secretary
- Misty Swotek, Medical Secretary I
- Mary Siebels, Patient Scheduler
- Denise Glenn, Patient Scheduler

**Pediatric Pulmonology Clinics**

- UNMC - Every other Monday 12:00-4:30 p.m. and Tuesday 12:00-4:30 p.m.
- Children's - Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Village Point - Tuesday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 pm (Sleep Disorders), Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Sleep Studies-- conducted Sun-Thurs at Children's Hospital & Medical Center

**Contact Numbers:**

UNMC: 402-559-6275
Children's Hospital and Medical Center: 402-955-5570
Sleep Scheduling: 402-955-7378