Division Spotlight: Pediatric Nephrology

The Division of Nephrology has attained critical mass! Until 2012, Dr. Lovell, two outstanding nurse case managers, and an administrative assistant provided excellent patient care despite being overwhelmingly understaffed. Our division now comprises four board certified or eligible physicians, allowing us to assign one physician to Nebraska Medicine and one to Children's during the daytime, and we've added a transplant coordinator and have just had a nurse position approved at Children's, which will allow us to expand our outpatient operations.

We provide attending services for patients admitted for primary pediatric nephrology diagnoses and kidney transplantation, and inpatient and outpatient consultation for congenital and acquired kidney disease, hematuria, proteinuria, hypertension, kidney stones, urinary tract infections, hemolytic uremic syndrome, glomerulonephritis, and failure to thrive. We perform kidney biopsies, administer acute and chronic peritoneal and hemodialysis, acute CRRT, infusion therapy, and we collaborate with the Red Cross to provide plasma exchange therapy for pediatric patients. We oversee the medical management of pediatric kidney transplant patients in the perioperative period and in long term follow up. We also provide NICU consultative services at Bergan Mercy hospital. We are increasing the number of outpatient clinics, expanding teaching activities and initiating clinical research projects, and are working with Children's and Nebraska Medicine to create the region's first outpatient pediatric dialysis unit.

Nephrology Faculty and Staff

Faculty: We all see all types of pediatric nephrology, dialysis and transplant patients, and enjoy teaching. Special interests are listed below.

Teri Jo Mauch, MD, PhD, FASN, FAAP, Professor of Pediatrics and Division Chief. Dr. Mauch received her MD and PhD (Biochemistry) degrees from UNMC. Following fellowship at the University of Minnesota she joined the faculty at the University of Utah, where she continues to hold an adjunct appointment. She returned...
to Nebraska in 2012. Special interests include kidney development and genetic kidney disorders, including atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome. Dr. Mauch is a weaver and crafter; she knits during conferences.

Helen B. Lovell, MD, FASN, FAAP, Associate Professor. After completing a Pediatric Nephrology fellowship at Children's Mercy in Kansas City, Dr. Lovell completed adult nephrology training at the University of Kansas. Dr. Lovell served as Division chief at Nebraska from 1995-2012. She is interested in acute and chronic kidney failure. Dr. Lovell is also a classical pianist and Brazilian ballroom dancer.

Murty Adabala, MD, Assistant Professor, achieved his MBBS in 1999 in India, and his DCH in 2001. He completed residency and fellowship (DMC) in Detroit, Michigan and joined our division in 2014. He has particular expertise in transplant immunology and immune glomerular disease. He is spending December providing specialty health care to his home village in India.

Melissa Muff-Luett, MD, Assistant Professor, our newest member, completed residency and fellowship at the University of Iowa. She has particular interest in dialysis and continuous renal replacement therapy in the critical care unit. Dr. Muff-Luett is busy with three small boys (ages 6 months - 5 years) and preparing for boards.

Nephrology Nurse Case Managers

- Tancy Ellis, BSN, BFA, RN. Tancy is a 41 year veteran in our division! In addition to being a biological phone book, she was the
transplant case manager until April joined us. Tancy is a 200 level certified yoga instructor - join us for yoga on the DOC 5th floor at 3:00 most Saturday afternoons - and an artist. Her patient portraits adorn the hallway of the 5th floor of University Tower.

- Lori Huebert, BSN, RN, has special interest in dialysis. She’s active in the Dundee Community Garden, focusing on educating children, and she loves to dance.

**Kidney Transplant Coordinator**

- April Romans, BSN, RN. April has worked for Nebraska medicine since graduation in 2005. This year she added kidney transplant to over 11 years of liver/small bowel transplant expertise. She enjoys camping with her children.

**Administrative Associate**

- Mary Bowder, AABA, joined us this year and has rapidly gained expertise in juggling - all of our clinic and call schedules! Mary enjoys reading and sporting events.

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**Nephrology Patient Care Information**

**General Nephrology Clinics**
Mondays: Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, Specialty Services Pavilion, 2nd floor
Thursdays, Fridays: Nebraska Medicine Durham Outpatient Pediatrics Clinic, 1st floor

**Peritoneal Dialysis Clinics**
2nd Wednesday: Fresenius Home Care Center, 84th and Center

**Transplant Clinics**
1st and 3rd Fridays (transitioning to Mondays in 2/2016), Multiorgan Transplant Clinic, Lied Transplant Center, 2nd floor

**Contact Information:**

- Pediatric Nephrology, 982169 Nebraska Medicine, Omaha, NE 68198
- General Nephrology Nurse line: 402-559-6780
- Administrative Associate: 402-559-8851
- Fax: 402-559-8803
- Transplant: 402-559-5000
- After hours: 402-559-4000, or 402-955-5400

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**November Resident Faculty Awards**

The Pediatric Residency Program would like to honor select faculty members for their dedication to the residency program and taking the
additional time to teach residents. On a monthly basis residents vote for one community and one academic faculty member who they felt went above and beyond expectations to improve their education. This month's recipients are:

Monica Vargas, M.D. Community Physician at One World Community Health Center

Christina Lettieri, M.D. Academic Physician in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Congratulations and thank you for your commitment to our program and bettering the future physicians of our community.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Gary Beck who was recently appointed the Assistant Dean for Medical Education. Dr. Beck has been a part of the Department of Pediatrics since 1997 and continues to work with our medical education programs even after moving to the Dean's office in 2013.

Gary L. Beck, Ph.D.