Pediatric News
An electronic newsletter from the Department of Pediatrics

October 2016

Division Spotlight: Pediatric Gastroenterology

The University of Nebraska Medical Center Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition is comprised of a group of physicians and health care professionals dedicated to patient care, research, and teaching. Our areas of expertise include pediatric feeding and growth disorders, aerodigestive disorders, food and hypersensitivity disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, celiac disease, motility disorders, liver diseases, children requiring parenteral and enteral nutrition, and liver & intestinal transplantation. We have over 7,000 outpatient encounters every year and more than 2,000 procedures yearly at Children Hospital & Medical Center and Nebraska Medicine.

In order to improve the quality of care for children, our primary focus has been the development of multidisciplinary clinics. The parenteral and enteral nutrition support (PENS) clinic is expanding to begin a collaborative effort between our division and Pediatric Surgery. It will focus on providing care to children with short bowel syndrome and other forms of intestinal failure. Our Feeding and Growth clinic has been developed to care for children and adolescents who require enteral nutrition for a variety of disorders. As we recognized the need for children with celiac disease in the heartland area, we have developed a multidisciplinary clinic for children with this disorder. Family feedback has been positive as they appreciate the consistency in care and growing a relationship with the team.

Our newest endeavor is our participation in Improve Care Now (ICN). ICN is a quality improvement, data collection group of 91 centers in the United States for patients with IBD. ICN is an "all teach, all learn" collaborative approved to identify the best practices. This new venture came naturally after we established our multidisciplinary clinic to care for these children's complex symptoms in a "one stop shop" approach. In addition, we have very well established clinics for the care of children with aerodigestive diseases, food and hypersensitivity disorders, motility disorders and liver diseases.

At the Nebraska Medicine we are part of the liver, intestinal and multiorgan transplant programs and intestinal rehabilitation program (IRP) that have national and international recognition as ground-breaking
programs. We also collaborate with the feeding disorder program at the Munroe-Meyer Institute. Another recent endeavor is our manometry center at CHMC to care for children with motility disorders. We are in the process of developing a program to care for children with colorectal disorders in collaboration with Pediatric Surgery.

**Pediatric Gastroenterology Research**

- Studies of Inflammation Immune Function and Infection in Intestinal Failure Patients.
- Prospective Evaluation of a Parenteral Omega-3 Fatty Acid
- Liver Adult-Pediatric-Congenital-Heart-Disease Dysfunction Study
- (LADS) Group Study
- Gut Microbiota in Families of Children with Short Bowel Syndrome
- Determining the Cost of Managing Intestinal Failure in Children and Adults
- Obesity in Inflammatory Bowel Disease - A marker of disease severity
- Use of Fecal Calprotectin in management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Intestinal Failure and End Stage Central Venous Access. A bridge to transplant and sustenance of parenteral nutrition. A case series of unconventional central line placements
- Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes in Patients with Bone Disease
- A Phase 2, Open-Label, Multicenter, Multi-cohort Study to Investigate the Safety and Efficacy of Ledipasvir/Sofosbuvir Fixed Dose Combination +/- Ribavirin in Adolescents and Children with Chronic HCV-Infection
- A 24-Week Double-blind, Safety, Efficacy, and Pharmacodynamic Study Investigating Two Doses of Teduglutide in Pediatric Subjects Through 17 Years of Age with Short Bowel Syndrome who are Dependent on Parenteral Support
- Compassionate Use of an Intravenous Fish Oil Lipid Emulsion (Omegaven®) for the Treatment of Intestinal Failure Associated Liver Disease in Children
- Pilot Study for the Identification of Immunological Markers on Tissue in Patients with Clinical Symptoms of Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE)

**Pediatric Gastroenterology Faculty and Staff**

**Faculty**

- Ruben Quiros, M.D.; Professor of Pediatrics & Surgery; Chief, Pediatric GI, Hepatology, & Nutrition; Medical Director, Pediatric Liver & Intestinal Transplantation; Fellowship Program Director, Pediatric GI, Hepatology, & Nutrition
- Fernando Zapata, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Shaija Shelby, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Mark Kusek, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Hanh Vo, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Andrew Huang, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Emille Reyes, M.D.; Assistant Professor
- Sarika Aggarwal, M.D.; Assistant Professor

**Healthcare Staff**
Kristin Madden, APRN-PNP, MSN
Megan Enenbach, APRN-PNP, MSN
Kristina Nash, APRN-PNP, MSN
Nicolette Kems, Clinic Manager
Carrie Fabry, RN, BSN; RN Supervisor
Robyn Gilligan, RN, CPN
Emilie Beltz, RN, BSN
Sarah Carlberg, RN
Katy Knight, RN
Amanda Beranek, RN
Aubrey Zuber, RN
Jensin Sasse, RN
Julie Stueve, RN
Kelli Blair, MA
Rochelle Duncan, MA
Jeanna Steppuhn, MA
Kristy Anderson, MS, RD, LMNT
Sarah Wilson, RD, LMNT
Mindy Coolman, RD, LMNT

Administrative Staff

- Jessie Coyer, Office Associate II & Fellowship Coordinator
- Amy Oden, CMA; SPC Administrative Support Supervisor
- Kaylene Hatcher, GI Secretary
- Liz Patterson, Clinic Secretary

Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program

Our division has the largest fellowship program in the Department of Pediatrics, with 4 fellows. Over the past three years, we have enhanced the breadth and quality of the clinical and research experiences of the enrolled trainees. We have a series of lectures for fellows. We are actively involved in monthly teaching activities with pediatric surgery, pediatric pathology, and pediatric radiology at CHMC and general pathology, radiology, adult gastroenterology and hepatology and transplant surgery at UNMC.

Current fellows include:

- Dr. Ojsavini "OJ" Choudhry, M.D.; 3rd year fellow
- Dr. Lina Castillo, M.D.; 2nd year fellow
- Dr. David Freestone, M.D.; 2nd year fellow
- Dr. Sittichoke "Oak" Prachuapthunyachart, M.D.; 1st year fellow

Pediatric Gastroenterology Accomplishments

- Recognition in The Best Doctors in America® of some members.
- Medical advisory board of the Alagille Syndrome Alliance.
- Medical advisory board of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) - Omaha Chapter.
- Member of Improve Care Now (ICN)
- Member of studies in pediatric liver transplantation (SPLIT).
- CCFA National Nursing and Advance Practice Advisory Committee
- Obesity Task Force to the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN).
- EPA (Entrustable Professional Activities) Task Force to NASPGHAN.
- Hepatology Committee to NASPGHAN
- Fatty Liver Working Group to LASPGHAN
- Pediatric SIG (Special Interest Group) Trainee Subcommittee to AASLD
- Region 8 Liver Review Board Past-Chair - UNOS.
- At-Large Representative to the National Liver & Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee - UNOS.
- Member, Status 1 Review Subcommittee - UNOS.
- Member, Pediatric Liver Working Group- UNOS
- Multiple oral and abstract presentations in national and international meetings.
- Several publications in peer-reviewed journals, articles and textbook chapters.
- Reviewers for peer-reviewed national and international journals.
- Editorial Committee of GASTROHNUP Journal (International).
- Grant Review Committee for the Alagille Syndrome Alliance

**Pediatric Gastroenterology Clinics**

Children's Specialty Clinic (4th floor)
8202 Dodge
Omaha, NE
Monday through Friday - 8:00-4:30
402-955-5700