

The Specialist

Issue 18

Winter 2014

Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego
A Medical Foundation

New Look!

The Specialist Newsletter is a quarterly publication from Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego, a Medical Practice Foundation. Here we share with you the latest news about pediatric care in the community.

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In The News

Rady Children's First Heart Transplant!

On Jan. 14, 2015, a team of surgeons successfully implanted a heart in an 11-year-old boy named Eric, from San Diego. The carefully timed operation involved transporting the donor heart to Rady Children's from another state and then, moments after the new heart arrived, removing the patient's failing heart and replacing it with the healthy donor heart. The operation took six hours from start to finish.

"This incredible milestone is the culmination of years of planning and preparation - and the courageous act of a family who chose to donate life," says President Dr. Donald Kearns. "The ability to perform heart transplants here in San Diego now allows us to provide comprehensive care for all children with any form of heart disease. Families will no longer have to relocate to other cities for a heart transplant and can stay close to home and loved ones."

Eric was discharged from the hospital following a 12-day stay. He should be able to go back to school in a few months and even resume playing sports in the summer.

To learn more about the Heart Transplant program, [Click Here](#).



Measles Alert !

The Measles outbreak that started in December at Disneyland has so far infected 91 persons in California and 13 in San Diego County. The key to controlling additional exposures is quick identification and isolation of a suspected case to limit exposures.



Physician offices should make sure their physicians and staff are immune to measles. When there is a potential case, we recommend that physicians try and see the patient at the end of the day when no other patients are around. Obtaining a Measles IGM helps with the definitive diagnosis. A number of patients that have been suspected of having measles have actually been identified as having Kawasaki Disease. The California Department of Public Health is continuing to encourage immunizations for children to help prevent this outbreak from continuing.

When referring a patient with the potential measles virus to Rady Children's Hospital for care or testing, we are requesting that the family is instructed to pull up in front of the Emergency Department and wait in the car. A family member can then contact someone from the Emergency Department or Laboratory staff and they will escort them in to the room carefully to prevent any additional exposures.

[Click Here](#) to view a measles testing algorithm.

2014-2015 Flu Season

This year's flu season arrived quickly. The flu vaccine is running about 23% effective. However, this does not mean that persons of all ages should not get the vaccine but it is reflective of the match to the circulating virus. Physician offices, Urgent Cares and the Rady Children's Emergency Room are seeing



record numbers of patients with flu-like symptoms. To help pediatricians with determining when to test and treat, Drs. Alice Pong and John Bradley from the Infectious Diseases department have put together an algorithm.

To view the algorithm, [Click Here](#).

For this reason, Rady Children's Hospital has implemented a *Visitation Policy for the Winter Respiratory Season*. Our primary concern is the health and safety of our patients, families, visitors and employees. This visitation policy will help prevent the spread of infections during the winter respiratory season. Please share this information with your patient families coming to Rady Children's.

To view Visitation Policy, [Click Here](#).

Rady Children's to Build an Outpatient Facility in Murrieta

Rady Children's Hospital has announced plans to build an outpatient facility in the Riverside County community of Murrieta. "Rady Children's Health Services" will offer outpatient services, including specialty care for infants, children and teens.

Rady Children's new Murrieta medical office building will be constructed on a four-acre site a short distance north of Rancho Springs Medical Center on Hancock Avenue between Murrieta Hot Springs and Los Alamos roads. It is targeted to open in early 2017.



Pediatric Care

Major Improvements in the Emergency Department



The Emergency Department (ED) at Rady Children's Hospital has recently undergone significant changes to improve patient access. As of September, the ED operations were changed to reflect a more patient- and service-oriented approach. Although the ED is an unpredictable and dynamic environment, we utilized previous years' data to formulate a new staffing plan. By working closely with industrial engineers and utilizing EPIC to evaluate past patient arrival times, Rachel Weber and Isha Black created a model to predict when patients will arrive and developed a plan to meet the projected demand. In September 2014, we added 27 hours of provider coverage which included 20 hours of ED coverage and 7 hours of coverage in the evening for low-acuity patients in the cardiology clinic as our new "ED South". In October, we added an additional shift to match the high morning demand period. Starting in January, when we predict our highest volumes, we have plans to add an additional 17 hours per day.

Prior to these combined changes, the ED had a Left Without Being Seen (LWBS) rate of 4.7% and unacceptable patient satisfaction scores. Since September, the LWBS rates and our patient satisfaction scores have improved significantly. The current LWBS rate since September is 1.69% with a rate of 0.26% in November and 0.64% in December. These rates have been achieved in spite of a higher-than-expected census. Our patient satisfaction scores are at the 100th percentile for the months of November and December.

For more details on the ED improvements, [Click Here](#).

Updated Payor Matrix and Referral Information

In an ongoing effort to improve the process of sending referrals to Rady Children's Specialists, we have updated the RCSSD Payor Matrix. As you may recall, the RCSSD Payor Matrix for medical services was created to help you identify referral and authorization requirements by payor. In addition to the Payor Matrix, we have also updated the forms below:

1. Payor Matrix
2. Referral Process Information
3. Referral FAQs
4. Referral Authorization Fax Form

To access the forms, [Click Here](#). For more information please contact the Central Authorization Provider Line at 858-966-7546. Thank you.



CME Roundup - Myths and Misconceptions in Pediatric Care from the Specialist Point of View

We had over 130 attendees at our past Practical Pediatrics CME which took place on Saturday, December 13, 2014 at the Atkinson Hall in UCSD. The topics presented focused on "Myths and Misconceptions in Pediatric Care from the Specialist Point of View". For those of you who were not able to attend, we have made the presentations available on our website at www.rchsd.org or you can access them by [Clicking Here](#).



Divisions which presented at this CME:

- **Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology - Dr. Akilah Weber:** Myths and Mysteries of Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology
- **Dermatology - Dr. Catalina Matiz:** Myths and Misconceptions in Dermatology
- **Otolaryngology - Dr. Matthew Brigger:** Myths and Misconceptions in Otolaryngology
- **Orthopedics - Dr. V. Salil Upasani:** Myths and Misconceptions in Pediatric Orthopedics
- **Urology - Dr. George Kaplan:** Myths and Misconceptions in Urology
- **Autism - Jonathan Sebat, Ph.D.:** Myths and Misconceptions about Autism

To view presentations, [Click Here](#).

Save the Date!

Our next Practical Pediatrics CME is on Saturday, May 16 at the Atkinson Hall in UCSD. [Click Here](#) for more details.

Rady Children's Supportive Care Program



The Supportive (palliative) Care Program seeks to enhance a child's quality of life in the face of a life-threatening illness. Treatments are for both the child (to relieve symptoms) and the families (by helping throughout the course of the child's illness). For many years, this has been a part of our commitment to family-centered care for patients in our Hospital, but now we're redefining and expanding the services in some important new ways.

Rady Children's Supportive Care Program combines our current Hospital-based palliative consults with division-specific programs and bereavement services. This comprehensive program now also includes at-home services through Rady Children's HomeCare and a new outpatient clinic.

The program, under the direction of **Kim Bower, M.D.**, provides a comprehensive approach to care, focusing on the physical, psychological, social, emotional and spiritual needs of our young patients and their families. **Ami Doshi, M.D.**, continues to lead the Inpatient Supportive Care Consult Service (formerly known as PACT) and is involved in all aspects of the Supportive Care Program's planning and development.

Lisa Newby, RN, is the Supportive Care RN Case Manager for the Inpatient Supportive Care Consult Service. Lisa assisted the PACT team for the last several years. Now, in her full-time role, she will provide case management, utilization review and discharge planning for inpatients who have had or are pending a Supportive care consult, as well as for the outpatient clinic and HomeCare Supportive Care patients who are readmitted.

Lisa will coordinate consults and family conferences, attend unit rounds, and continue to attend Inpatient Supportive Care rounds (formerly known as PACT rounds). For more information or to request a consult, please contact Lisa at 858-966-4031.

For more information or to make a referral to the Inpatient Consult Service, Outpatient Supportive Care Clinic or the Home Supportive Care program, please call Robin Short RN, Supportive Care Coordinator, at (858) 576-1700 x 6918.

Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology - New Location and Hours

The Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Program at Rady Children's focuses on the unique health needs of adolescent and teen girls. **Akilah Weber M.D.** has been providing services in our San Diego Main Campus location for the past year and we are excited to announce that she has now expanded her hours and began seeing patients at our Escondido office in January, 2015. Dr. Weber's schedule is:

San Diego - Main Campus

Monday and Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. - Noon
 Thursday and Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Escondido

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month: 8:00 a.m. - Noon

To schedule an appointment please call: 858-966-8446 or for more information, [click here](#).



Dr. Akilah Weber

Specialty Access Update

Improvements in Specialty Clinic Access at Main Campus

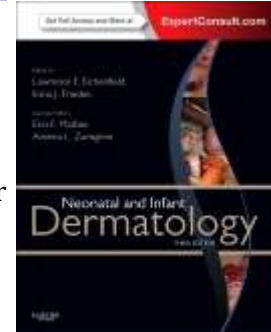
- For 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 To-Date, **10 out of 23 clinics are at or below 5 days (43%)**.
- For 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 To-Date, 57% of Main clinics are below 10 days (13 out of 23 specialties).
- For 3rd Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 To-Date, 78% of Main clinics are below 15 days (18 out of 23 specialties).

	FY 2012	FY 2013				FY 2014				FY 2015			FY15 Avg TD
	Q4 FY 12 Avg	Q1 FY13 Avg	Q2 FY13 Avg	Q3 FY13 Avg	Q4 FY13 Avg	Q1 FY14 Avg	Q2 FY14 Avg	Q3 FY14 Avg	Q4 FY14 Avg	Q1 FY15 Avg	Q2 FY15 Avg	Q3 FY15 Avg TD	
Inf Disease	16	13	14	21	10	4	8	8	0	0	0	3	0
Oto (ENT)	22	15	2	19	26	14	2	4	15	5	3	4	4
Peds Surg	6	2	0	0	2	1	2	3	2	6	3	6	4
Endo	9	17	11	8	21	22	42	12	6	3	7	3	4
Neurosurg	5	8	5	7	5	5	6	5	3	5	4	4	5
Urology	7	3	7	4	4	14	5	2	3	1	9	1	5
Hem/Onc	1	9	7	6	4	2	2	2	2	6	5	3	5
Derm	7	15	12	9	5	10	7	16	16	13	3	1	7
Genetics	37	49	32	28	15	14	9	9	10	10	5	7	7
Ophth	15	12	33	23	10	17	9	17	10	4	9	11	8
Ortho	13	10	11	5	7	5	6	7	9	9	7	5	8
Nephrology	28	28	19	10	15	17	8	4	4	6	13	14	10
Cardio	9	6	8	4	1	3	1	1	3	7	16	0	10
Rehab Med				44	56	37	32	48	98	10	12	10	10
Gyn								13	8	16	19	10	17
Perinatology	17	26	23	16	20	11	20	19	16	13	21	21	17
Neuro	10	15	33	27	24	12	10	13	25	14	18	42	20
Rheum	14	42	33	27	31	19	38	51	57	40	5	1	20
Pulm	48	45	34	31	38	37	24	48	89	30	7	38	21
Plastic Surg						42	20	38	36	29	21	15	24
Allergy	7	6	5	4	6	8	4	20	66	48	46	13	39
AAMG													48
GI	10	37	38	32	23	26	33	39	60	39	48	34	48

To see complete details, [Click Here](#).

3rd Edition of Neonatal and Infant Dermatology has been published

The 3rd Edition of *Neonatal and Infant Dermatology* has been published by Elsevier, edited by Lawrence F. Eichenfield, M.D. and his UCSF colleague, Ilona J. Frieden, M.D. This is a standard reference text in neonatal and infant dermatology, and now includes on-line access to both the text and images. Several chapters were authored by CSSD members including Sheila Fallon Friedlander, Wynniss L. Tom, and former fellows Raegan Hunt, Joseph Lam, and Yui-Chan.



For more details, [Click Here](#).

Welcome our New Physicians

New Physicians

We are proud to welcome these new physicians who have joined our Medical Practice Foundation.

Matejka Cernelc-Kohan, M.D. - Respiratory Medicine
Juan Chaparro, M.D. - Infectious Diseases
Peter Chiraseveenuprapund, M.D. - Rheumatology
Pritha Dalal, M.D. - Rehabilitation Medicine
Lauren Kearny, M.D. - Urgent Care
Kristy Putnam, M.D. - Emergency/Intermediate Care
Suhas Radhakrishna, M.D. - Allergy, Immunology & Rheumatology
Kristin Ratnayake, M.D. - Emergency Medicine
Sathya Vadivelu, M.D. - Rehabilitation Medicine
Kamala Vaidya, M.D. - Urgent Care



Physician Honors and Recognition

Medical Director of the Acute Cardiac Unit (ACU)



Dr. Justin Yeh

We are excited to announce that **Justin Yeh, M.D.** is the new *Medical Director of the Acute Cardiac Unit*. Dr. Yeh received his M.D. from Albany Medical College and completed his residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital of Orange County. He then went to Children's National Medical Center for additional postgraduate training where he completed fellowships in both pediatric cardiology and critical care. Following fellowship, he has spent the last five years at Stanford working in both the cardiac intensive care unit and the heart failure/transplant service. Dr. Yeh is interested in the use of ventricular assist devices to support children with advanced heart failure and he plans to partner with the growing heart transplant program at Rady Children's to study and improve the care of this complex patient population.

As medical director of the Acute Cardiac Unit, Dr. Yeh plans to create a collaborative

environment where cardiac surgery, critical care, neonatology, cardiology and nursing can all come together to deliver world-class care to children and young adults with critical heart disease.

New Division Chief of Pediatric Neurology



Dr. Jeffrey Neul

Please welcome **Jeffrey Neul, M.D., Ph.D.**, in his new position as *Division Chief of Pediatric Neurology!*

Dr. Neul received his M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and completed his residency and fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Neul is interested in translating the knowledge acquired from basic science research into potential therapies for neurodevelopment disorders such as Rett syndrome by actively using animal models to elucidate the pathophysiological mechanisms of disease to conduct preclinical trials of potential therapies.

New Medical Director of Surgical Services



Dr. Daniela Carvalho

We are pleased to announce that **Daniela Carvalho, M.D., FAAP**, has been recently named as the new *Medical Director of Surgical Services for Rady Children's Hospital*.

Dr. Carvalho has been the Section Chief of Otolaryngology for the past five years and recently became the Chair of the Surgery Department at RCHSD. She has been an active member of our organization and has participated in several committees, including the Bylaws Committee, Contract Committee, Physician Retention Committee and Compensation Committee.

Dr. Carvalho's goal is to work along with the staff and physicians to improve the experience for patients and families and to continue to support the organization to deliver the highest quality of care in surgical services.

Meerana Lim, M.D. Achieves Sleep Medicine Certification

With fewer than 250 pediatricians certified in the subspecialty of sleep medicine, Rady Children's physician **Meerana Lim, M.D.**, is among the elite. Dr. Lim's recent board certification serves as a meaningful indicator that she possesses the knowledge, experience and skills necessary to provide excellent, highly sub-specialized care to patients with sleep issues and sleep-related breathing disorders.



Dr. Meerana Lim

Internists and subspecialists achieving certification, demonstrate the ability and the commitment to lifelong learning, which is necessary to provide the high quality care that every patient deserves.

The Sleep Medicine Certification Program was jointly developed by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM), the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP), the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN), the American Board of Otolaryngology (ABOto), and the American Board of Anesthesiology.

Dr. Lim, who also is board certified in pulmonology/respiratory medicine, qualified for certification through the ABIM's training pathway which requires 12 months of clinical sleep medicine fellowship training.

KPBS 2015 Black History Month Local Hero Honoree

Congratulations to **Gail Knight, M.D.** on being selected by KPBS as the *2015 Black History Month Local Hero Honoree*.

Dr. Knight is the first African-American woman to be named chief of staff and clinical director, division of neonatology for Rady Children's Hospital. In her nearly 23 years of practicing medicine she has treated thousands of newborns, providing critical care, including cardiac surgery and heart-lung bypass, at San Diego's only Level 4 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).



Dr. Gail Knight

In speaking to KPBS, Dr. Knight said she knew early on she wanted to be a doctor, describing her keen interest in medical conditions. "There's no point in my life where I didn't think I was going to be a doctor".

To read the full story, [Click Here](#).

Physician Honors

AAP Physician Honors

Dr. John Bradley received the AAP award for "Lifetime Contribution in Infectious Diseases Education". This award is given to members who have made outstanding contributions to education in infectious diseases and to acknowledge those with a long and distinguished history as infectious diseases educators.



Dr. John Bradley



Dr. Behrooz Akbarnia

Dr. Behrooz Akbarnia received the AAP award for "Distinguished Service Award" (Ortho Section). This award recognizes an individual in the field of pediatric orthopaedics who has contributed to the AAP's mission of excellence in patient care, research, and teaching.

2014 Annual Sylvan Stool Teaching and Service Award

Congratulations to Dr. Seth Pransky who was the recipient of the SENTAC (The Society for Ear, Nose and Throat Advances in Children) "2014 Annual Sylvan Stool Teaching and Service Award". This award recognizes physicians for outstanding teaching and mentorship.



Dr. Seth Pransky

New Director of the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP)



Dr. Anthony Magit

We are pleased to announce that **Anthony Magit, M.D., MPH**, has been named *Director of the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP) for UC San Diego*. As director of HRPP, Dr. Magit will promote high quality clinical research across all of the schools in more than 3,500 ongoing projects. He will serve as a leader and advocate for the rights and welfare of human study volunteers and by assuring full compliance with federal, state and university regulations.

In this broad role, Dr. Magit will have overall administrative, supervisory and policy responsibility for the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Embryonic Stem Cell Oversight Committee (ESCRO). To ensure regulatory and ethical conduct of clinical trials, he will develop comprehensive policies, procedures and educational programs for research members with a focus on service and education. He is the program's point of contact for interactions with federal and state agencies, the UC Office of the President and news media.

Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendars

Please click on the event below to learn more:

- [29th Annual Advances in the Practice of Pediatrics](#)

March 27-29, 2015 - Paradise Point Resort, San Diego

- [Pediatric Dermatology for the Practitioner](#)

April 17-18, 2015 - Paradise Point Resort, San Diego

- [San Diego Symposium on Concussion in Youth](#)

April 25, 2015 - Hall of Champions, Balboa Park, San Diego

- [Practical Pediatrics CME - Myths and Misconceptions in Pediatric Care from the Specialist Point of View -](#)

More Info to Come!

May 16, 2015 - Atkinson Hall - UCSD, San Diego

- [Innovations in Pediatric Heart Failure \(San Diego Cardiology Conference\)](#)

December 3-5, 2015 - Loews Coronado Bay Resort, San Diego



National Spotlight

Recap: 2nd Annual Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDra Conference)

Members of the pediatric dermatology division were an important part of the leadership of the 2nd Annual Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance (PeDRA) conference, held in November, 2014 in Chicago. This NIH-sponsored meeting is a consortium of pediatric dermatology researchers and centers promoting collaborative research. Wynn L. Tom was on the planning committee. Andrew C. Krakowski lead a procedural dermatology section, and Catalina Matiz was involved in inflammatory skin disease research meetings. Also attending were Colleen Cotton, who serves as the PeDRA research fellow, Audrey Wang, clinical pediatric dermatology fellow, and Lawrence F. Eichenfield, co-chair of PeDRA. This 2-1/2 day meeting helps to set the research agenda for the collaborative research network and was attended by over 110 dermatology researchers, patient advocacy groups, and NIH personnel.



Lawrence F. Eichenfield, M.D. served as the Walter W. Tunnessen, Jr., M.D., Visiting Professor for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

Dr. Eichenfield served in the Section on Dermatology, at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in November. This Professorship involved two days of lectures and clinical rounds in the department of pediatrics.



From the Desk of
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About Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego

We are committed not only to offering the most advanced diagnostic and therapeutic options, but also to providing responsive customer and patient service. RCSSD's physicians are pleased to provide health services ranging from one-time consultation to comprehensive treatment and follow-up, and are committed to maintaining effective communication to provide the best care.

Our Mission

To provide specialty services that are state of the art, comprehensive and family-centered in order to improve the health and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and mothers with high-risk pregnancies.

Our Vision

To be the premier provider of healthcare to infants, children, adolescents and mothers with high-risk pregnancies, through excellence in clinical care, research, teaching and advocacy.

