

The Specialist

Issue 23

Fall 2016

Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego
A Medical Foundation

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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**From the Desk of
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Top Story

New Genetics Clinic Launched

Rady Children's inaugurated the new **Cancer Genetics Clinic**, an interdisciplinary clinic that brings together expertise from the Division of Hematology/Oncology and the Division of Genetics/Dysmorphology to provide care, research and education for patients who have genetic cancer predispositions and their families.



In the program, patients who have genetic cancer predispositions have a combined visit with pediatric oncologist, **Dennis Kuo, M.D., MS**, and genetic counselor, Diane Masser-Frye, M.S., M.S.W, to assess their level of future cancer risk, to develop a personalized cancer surveillance plan and to provide education and counseling for the patient and family. **Janet Yoon, M.D.** and **Donald Durden, M.D., Ph.D.**, are integral members of the team, bringing their clinical and research experiences to the development of this new program.

In addition to providing the best care for pediatric patients with cancer predispositions, the team is developing research studies with the Rady Children's Institute for Genomic Medicine and extramural partners to better understand these cancer predispositions.

For more information, [click here](#).

Cost of EpiPens Skyrocket

The cost of EpiPens have skyrocketed in the past several years making it difficult for some families to afford the life-saving medication.

Dr. Michael Welch of Rady Children's Hospital talks to ABC News about how they are dealing with the recent price increase and how they are working on a more affordable alternative.



Dr. Michael Welch

To see the full story, [click here](#).

In The News is a digital newsletter featuring recent news coverage of Rady Children's Hospital, internally produced videos and highlights from social media. To see the latest issue, [click here](#).

Rady Children's Hospital has a New Building

The new 95,000 SF, four-story Education and Office Building (EOB) is a stand alone building located on the southwest side of the main campus, designed to provide offices, education and meeting spaces for hospital administration, doctors and academic professionals. No patient services will be provided in this building.



The Medical Office Building (MOB) will be converted to all clinical spaces and will under go construction sometime in January, 2017.

Updated Patient Referral Fax Form

In an ongoing effort to improve the process of scheduling appointments with Rady Children's Specialists, we have updated the **RCSSD Patient Referral Form**. Please discontinue using other referral forms.

[Click here](#) to see the most updated Patient Referral Form.

Codeine to be Removed from EPIC

Due to reported risks in the pediatric population, Codeine medications were eliminated from RCHSD Inpatient Hospital Formulary in 2014. A recent adverse drug event caused the P&T Committee to review Codeine prescribing in ambulatory practices. As a result, it has been decided that for the safety of our patients, we will eliminate Codeine from prescribing choices in ambulatory EPIC effective November 15, 2016. RCHSD Otolaryngology and Orthopedics Departments have taken a leadership role in this by eliminating use of Codeine products (both inpatient and outpatient) from their practices over a year ago.



[Click Here](#) for more information.

TSC Clinic Tackles Disease with Multidisciplinary Approach

Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC), a genetic disorder that affects 1 in 5,000 individuals, can affect many organs in the body, including the brain, heart, kidneys, lungs and skin. It is a lifelong condition in which complications can arise at any time. The most effective means of providing medical care is to use a team approach.



In 2015, a multidisciplinary TSC clinic was established at Rady Children's. The clinic brings together various specialists in one location so that patients can be seen in a single visit.

Team members include pediatric neurologist **Doris Trauner, M.D.** (director), nurse manager **Cheryl Orphan**, pediatric cardiologist **Beth Printz, M.D.**, pediatric nephrologist **Peter Yorgin, M.D.**, pediatric pulmonologist **James Hagood, M.D.**, and pediatric neuro-oncologist **John Crawford M.D.**, as well as specialists in pediatric ophthalmology, psychology, dermatology and neurosurgery.

Research is an important part of the clinic, with a focus on developing a better understanding of TSC and how to treat it. The clinic is currently participating in a multicenter study of the drug everolimus for treating intractable epilepsy in children and adults with TSC. It is also in the planning stages for other clinical trials and collaborates with other TSC centers around the country. Additionally, the clinic is exploring basic science opportunities related to the m-TOR pathway, which is involved in TSC and several other conditions that affect brain development.

The clinic has been approved as a TSC Center by the *Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance*, a national organization that fosters education, awareness and research on the condition.

For more information, [click here](#).

Save the Date! - Practical Pediatrics CME

Mark your calendars, Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego will be hosting their next Practical Pediatrics CME on April 24, 2017. The CME will be held in the new Education Office Building located on the main campus of Rady Children's Hospital.

When: Saturday, April 22, 2017

Where: Education Office Building (New Location!)
7960 Birmingham Drive, San Diego 92123

Time: 7:30 am - 1:30 pm

7:30 am - 8:00 am - Registration and Breakfast

8:00 am - Program begins

Presentations on the following topics: Allergy & Immunology; Cardiology; Endocrinology; Orthopedics and Otolaryngology.

More details to come!



Innovations in Specialty Newsletters

Rady Children's Hospital began creating Innovations in Specialty Newsletters which features the latest news and updates from different specialty divisions. To date, we have created newsletters from the following divisions.

- Cancer & Blood Disorders
- Cardiology and Heart Surgery
- Diabetes and Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
- Neonatology
- Neurology & Neurosurgery
- Orthopedics
- Otolaryngology
- Pulmonology
- Urology



[Click here](#) to see copies of all of the Innovations in Specialty Newsletters.

Welcome New RCSSD Physicians

Asthma/Allergy & Immunology

Kristen Walters

Cardiology

Bassi Harjot

Emergency Medicine

Joy Joelle Donofrio

Damian Ng

Mark Snider

Vanessa Tamas

Yan Zhan

Maternal Fetal Medicine

Jasmine Lai

Metabolic & Mitochondrial Medicine

Jaime Barea

Neonatology

Jeanne Carroll

Patricio Fernandez

Sarah Fleming

Pediatric Hospital Medicine

Amy Chong

Manaswitha Khare

Begem Lee

Michael Levy

Aarti Patel

David Ries

Pediatric Surgery

David Lazar

Respiratory



Gastroenterology

Korosh Koroos
Soma Kumar

Laurel Moyer
Audra Wise

Medicine

Annabelle Quizon

Hematology/Oncology

Hilda Ding
Jennifer Elster
Victor Wong
Peter Zage

Neurology

Natalie Guido-Estrada

Urgent Care

Tina Kantharia
April Kranz
Amy Lovejoy
Kajal Patel
Sabrina Scott

Otolaryngology

Morgan Bliss

Urology

Leslie Hsieh

Physician Honors Congratulations to the Top Doctors of 2016!

More than 100 Rady Children's-affiliated physicians have been named 2016 "Top Doctors" in the annual San Diego Magazine "Physicians of Exceptional Excellence" survey.

The list presented in partnership with the San Diego County Medical Society.

Dr. Sean Daneshmand, a maternal-fetal medicine specialist from the San Diego Perinatal Center, a division of RCSSD, is even featured on the cover!



To see the complete list, [click here](#).

Dr. Peter Newton Elected VP by the Scoliosis Research Society

Dr. Peter Newton was elected Vice President by the *Scoliosis Research Society* Board of Directors. The Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) has gained recognition as one of the world's premier spine societies. The SRS has maintained a commitment to research and education in the field of spinal deformities. Current membership includes more than 1,000 of the world's leading spine surgeons, researchers, physician assistants and orthotists who are involved in research and treatment of spinal deformities.



Dr. Peter Newton

Congratulations to Dr. Newton for this accomplishment!

Rady Children's PICU Garners Award from National Nursing Association

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Rady Children's received a bronze-level Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). The award recognizes unit caregivers who successfully improve patient outcomes and align practices with the AACN's six Healthy Work Environment Standards. Units that earn this three-year, three-level award with a gold, silver or bronze designation meet national criteria consistent with Magnet Recognition, the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and the National Quality Healthcare Award.



The bronze level signifies success in developing, deploying and integrating unit-based performance criteria for optimal outcomes. The PICU earned this designation by meeting the following evidence-based criteria:

- Leadership Structures and Systems
- Appropriate Staffing and Staff Engagement
- Effective Communication, Knowledge Management, Learning and Development
- Evidence-Based Practice and Processes
- Outcome Measurement

AACN President Karen McQuillan, RN, MS, CNS-BC, CCRN, CNRN, FAAN, applauds the commitment of the caregivers in the PICU for working together to meet and exceed the high standards set forth by the Beacon Award for Excellence.

"The Beacon Award for Excellence recognizes caregivers in stellar units whose consistent and systematic approach to evidence-based care optimizes patient outcomes," she says. Units that receive this national recognition serve as role models to others on their journey to excellent patient and family care."

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.
