



Loyola Pediatrics

Spring 2009



Message from the Chair

Department of Pediatrics

Adolescent Medicine
Allergy/Immunology
Anesthesiology
Burn Surgery
Cardiology
Child Abuse
Child Psychiatry
Critical Care
Dermatology
Developmental/Behavioral
Emergency Medicine
Endocrinology
Gastroenterology
General Academic Pediatrics
Genetics/Metabolism
General Surgery
Hematology/Oncology
Infectious Diseases
Neonatology
Nephrology
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Ophthalmology
Otolaryngology
Podiatry
Pathology
Radiology
Trauma Surgery

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Loyola Pediatric Department Newsletter. With this quarterly newsletter we hope to inform you of the latest information regarding patient care, research, and educational programs being offered by the pediatric medical and surgical staff at the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital. Over the past several years many new faculty have joined us and we have expanded our clinical programs in several areas. In addition, we have two new child and family-friendly ambulatory facilities where we provide quality outpatient care. These offices are on campus at the Loyola Outpatient Center and at the Loyola Center for Children's Health in Oakbrook Terrace.

Our **Hematology-Oncology** program has expanded to a three-person division with the addition of Dr. Charles Hemenway, our new Ronald McDonald Charities Professor and Division Director of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology. He, along with Dr. Marie-Ellen Sarvida, has joined our established program with Dr. Ricarchito Manera.

Pediatric Cardiology has grown with the addition of Dr. Marc Levine, who specializes in Interventional Cardiology and Dr. Joel Hardin who has been appointed division director. Our division of **Pediatric Infectious Disease** has expanded with the addition of Dr. Andrew Bonwit who has joined Dr. Malliswari Challapalli.

We have several new faculty members in other divisions including Dr. Cesar Ochoa M.D, a **Behavioral-Developmental** pediatrician, Dr. Carla Minutti in **Pediatric Endocrinology**, Dr. Eugene Schnitzler in **Pediatric Neurology** and Dr. Loretto Glynn in **Pediatric Surgery**. Dr. Matthew Leischner has been named the Inpatient Medical Director and welcomes Dr. Nathan Derhammer.

Our pediatric and medicine pediatrics residencies remain robust and attractive to potential candidates. Our graduates continue to garner top-notch fellowships and positions in the community. In the near future, we plan to have our pediatric grand rounds available for viewing on our website: <http://www.stritch.luc.edu/depts/peds/index.htm>

Please enjoy the newsletter and feel free to send comments on how we can service the needs of your patients.

Jerold Stirling MD FAAP
Chairman of Pediatrics

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Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Develops Innovative Telemedicine Program for Hospitalized Children



Dr. Kathleen Webster

Director, Division, Pediatric
Critical Care

Telemedicine is a new technology that is allowing us to enhance the care of our Pediatric Patients at the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital. The term telemedicine is rather broad in its meaning, but is simply the use of electronic communications to provide and support health care for patients when distance separates the health care provider from the patient, parent, or referring physician. This technology has been applied in many different aspects of patient care. At Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital, we have been using telemedicine for the past two years to facilitate real time evaluation of patients requiring critical care and even implement a remote rapid response team.

Another use of our telemedicine capabilities allows pediatricians to visit their patients in the hospital from their offices. On the very first day that we implemented this program, pediatricians of the

Loyola Center for Health at Orland Park were able to visit with a patient and family, observe a pediatric surgical consultation, and speak directly with the surgeon. The reception of patients and families to the telemedicine visit has been overwhelmingly positive. Kids love the "computer doctor" and families appreciate the continuity of knowing that a face-to-face conversation with their primary care physician is only a click away. As we move forward, we hope to build on our experience by creating new programs for this technology. We are currently working on developing additional telemedicine programs that range from emergency room consults to use in ambulatory care and even family and friends connections for our hospitalized patients. Through telemedicine, we can improve access to and quality of care and still provide a personal touch for our patients.

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Division Undergoes Recent Growth

The Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Loyola has grown in the past year and we are excited by several new developments. Patients continue to be treated at the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital and in the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center on the Medical Center campus, but we also are seeing children in Homer Glen and Hoffman Estates. We feel that it is important to minimize the impact of travel on families, especially those that require regular frequent visits for their care. In Hoffman Estates, we are located in the St. Alexius Medical Center at the Bettendorf Pavilion. We also provide inpatient consultations for children hospitalized at SAMC. In Homer Glen, our clinic is situated in the Loyola Center for Health where we are equipped to administer outpatient chemotherapy in addition to diagnostic services.

Our group is now comprised of three full-time Pediatric Hematologists, a nurse practitioner, and a social worker.

We work closely with our colleagues in other areas of Pediatrics as well as Radiation Oncology, Pediatric Surgery, Neurosurgery, and Orthopedic Oncology, all members of the renowned Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center. We are committed to advancing patient care through clinical research and actively contribute to the clinical studies of the Children's Oncology Group. Our Division also receives funding from the National Cancer Institute as well as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to support basic research in acute leukemia.

To contact us, please call 708-216-8000 and ask to have Pediatric Hematology/Oncology paged to your number.



Dr. Charles Hemenway

Division Director

Ronald McDonald Charities
Professor of Pediatric
Hematology-Oncology

Pediatric Cardiology

We are expanding our pediatric cardiology, fetal cardiology and adult congenital heart disease programs, leveraging our close relationship with the renowned Loyola Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine. In May 2009, Dr. Joel Hardin joined our team as Director, Division of Pediatric Cardiology. Dr. Marc Levine continues service as Director of the Division's interventional cardiac catheterization program, and additional cardiology faculty recruitment is underway.

Outpatient consultation and clinic follow-up appointments are available every day at either our Maywood outpatient center or our Oakbrook Terrace outpatient center. Urgent requests for same day or next day consultation are prioritized to suit the needs of our referring physicians and their patients. For added convenience, primary care physicians and pediatric subspecialists may now directly schedule outpatient cardiac diagnostic studies (e.g., ECG and echocardiography), and our cardiologists will in turn promptly report their findings.

In addition to addressing common pediatric cardiovascular concerns, we offer consultation for pediatric hypertension, dyslipidemia, Marfan syndrome, as well as rare genetic or syndromic conditions at risk for cardiovascular involvement. The fetal cardiology program operates in collaboration with expert faculty in our Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine. Our adult congenital heart disease program integrates the expertise of our congenital heart disease specialists with that of our internal medicine faculty in the Loyola Center for Heart & Vascular Medicine.

To refer a patient or discuss a question with one of our cardiologists, please call (708) 327-9103. The Division's fax number is (708) 327-9107. After hours, our answering service will promptly connect you to the on-call attending cardiologist.

Dr. Hardin can also be contacted anytime at (708) 990-5982.

Adolescent Medicine at Loyola

Dr. Garry Sigman, Specialist in Adolescent Medicine treats a range of conditions frequent to this age group (age 12-29). There are very few specialists in this area and pediatric providers that utilize these consultations find them very helpful.

- Recurrent, difficult to manage physical symptoms, such as headache, fatigue, abdominal pain, and other pain syndromes as well as medically unexplained conditions and somatoform disorders.
- Eating and weight disorders, including anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and problems with excess weight
- Attention Deficit Disorder and school performance-related problems
- Diagnosis and management of some "risk-taking" behaviors, including substance abuse, or other problem behavior
- Adolescent problems for which other primary care physicians would like more help.
- Non-surgical gynecologic problems; bleeding and amenorrhea.
- Evaluation and treatment of hyperlipidemia.

The treatment team consists of Garry Sigman, M.D who is board-certified in Adolescent Medicine and Pediatrics, and Marg Collins, R.N., nurse specialist. Dr. Sigman is an Associate Professor at Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. Dr Sigman is seeing patients at the Loyola Center for Children's Health Subspecialty office. Appointments: (630) 653-6990 Administrative Office: (708) 327-9119 to speak with Dr. Sigman. Page him at (708) 216-8000. Nurse specialist: (708) 327-9093 for any questions.



Joel Hardin, M.D.

Division Director of Pediatric Cardiology



Marc Levine, M.D.

Director of Pediatric Interventional Cardiology



Dr. Garry Sigman

Director, Division, Adolescent Medicine

Pediatric Residency



Dr. Karen Judy

Vice Chair for Education

Pediatric Residency Program
Director

Our Pediatric Residency continues to thrive. The pediatric residency match occurred on March 19th. Our incoming intern class includes two Loyola Stritch School of Medicine students, six others from Illinois medical schools and two from out of state. We look forward to working with these eager new physicians.

This year, as every year over the past several years, two of our residents – Tania Hossain and Sara Doss were among the five finalists nominated by the medical students for “Resident Teacher of the Year.” This is recognition for their outstanding teaching of the medical students.

Research projects have continued to expand and several residents have been able to attend national meetings to present their projects. Four of our residents attended the National Allergy & Immunology conference in Seattle, Washington under the tutelage of Dr. Annick Gaye this year. Many other residents presented posters at our Loyola St. Albert’s Day Research symposium.

Our graduates continue to do well on the National Pediatric Board exam with 100% pass rate for the past two years and a mean score that continues to increase year after year. Job placement is also

something we are very proud of. We have had graduates accept positions in the Chicago area at Dryer Medical Clinic, Downers Grove Pediatrics and at Pediatric Associates of Barrington. Out of state our graduates are working at Charles Henderson Child Health Center in Troy, Alabama, Lehigh Valley Pediatrics in Pennsylvania, The Permanente Medical Group in Walnut Creek California, among other sites. Recent fellowship positions granted to our graduates include Endocrinology fellowships at Stanford University, Medical College of Wisconsin, University of Chicago and University of Texas, Dallas; Cardiology at Mayo Clinic, Neonatology at University of Chicago and Loyola University Medical Center, Emergency Medicine at Medical College of Wisconsin.

Please join us in celebrating the successes of our hard working residents!

Karen Judy, MD
Pediatric Residency Program
Director

Vice Chair of Education
Loyola University Medical Center

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