

# PORT/Paediatic Medicine Research Newsletter

Paediatic Outcomes Research Team (PORT) and the Division of Paediatic Medicine  
(PORT is supported by a grant from the Hospital for Sick Children)



◆ people in the news ◆ abstracts ◆ publications ◆ grants ◆ rounds ◆ more news & upcoming events

Winter Issue: Nov 2010-Feb 2011

## People in the News

### Congratulations!

**Dr. Colin Macarthur** joined the Research Institute as the new Associate Chief, Clinical Research as of January 10, 2011. This is a key leadership role which will focus on the organization's overall goal to foster clinical research excellence. Colin will be a member of the Research Institute Executive, responsible for the development and implementation of the vision and strategy for clinical research in the RI and across SickKids. Colin will also hold an appointment as Senior Associate Scientist in the Child Health Evaluative Sciences Program and will be appointed as a member of the Division of Paediatic Medicine within the Department of Paediatrics and the Paediatic Outcomes Research Team (PORT). Welcome Back, Colin!

**Dr. Adam Rapoport** has been appointed as the Clinical Director for Palliative Care.

**Dr. Daniel Roth** successfully defended his PhD thesis on February 28, 2010 at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. Thesis title: *"Vitamin D supplementation in pregnant and non-pregnant women in Dhaka, Bangladesh: Pharmacokinetic and Safety Studies"*

**Dr. Amina Khambalia** was recently recruited as a Perinatal Epidemiologist at the University of Sydney, Australia. Amina was employed as a Clinical Research Project Coordinator/Epidemiologist for PORT. She left PORT to pursue a PhD in the University of Toronto Department of Nutritional Sciences with Dr. Stan Zlotkin as her supervisor and Drs. Colin Macarthur and Patricia Parkin as members of her thesis committee. For the past few years Amina has been a Research Fellow in the School of Public Health at the University of Sydney, Australia.

### Media Coverage / Activities

#### Dr. Jeremy Friedman:

<http://toronto.ctv.ca/health/#TopVideoAn> (whooping cough: CTV news)

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Health/20110228/fever-kids-overtreated110228/> (fever: CTV newsnet)

#### Dr. Astrid Guttmann:

Title: *'High-cost meds may be why some with IBD need surgery'*  
Covered by the following media outlets:

CTV Online: <http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Health/20110113/kids-ibd-surgery-110113/> / NewsTalk 610, Radio / Winnipeg Free Press / Brandon Sun

Discussion Leader at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) Annual Data Symposium: *"Excellent care for all: Overview, reform and evidence"*

#### Dr. Catherine S Birken:

Global News: STOMP Clinic: *"Teens turning to surgery as an option to deal with obesity"*

#### Dr. Patricia Parkin: Guest Lecturer:

Pediatric Grand Rounds, McGill University, Department of Pediatrics, Montreal Children's Hospital, and Paediatic Grand Rounds, University of Manitoba, Department of Paediatrics: *"What is academic general pediatrics?: Building a national vision for AGP"*

Research Rounds, Manitoba Institute of Child Health: *"Outcomes research in general pediatric settings"*

## Abstracts Presented at Scientific Meetings

**Wormsbecker A, Olsha R, Gubbay J, McGeer A:** Descriptive epidemiology of invasive pneumococcal disease in Ontario children, 2008-2009: A public health database approach. (CIC)- **Awarded Vaccinology Student Research Program Bursary** (CAIRE)

**Zeller J, Somers GR, Pope E:** Sweet Syndrome, (acute febrile neutrophilic dermatoses), in a 9 week old male. (SPD)

CAIRE: Canadian Assoc. for Immunization Research & Evaluation Research Symposium

CIC: Canadian Immunization Conference

SPD: Society for Pediatric Dermatology

**Al Hawsawi K, Pope E:** Yellow Nail Syndrome. *Pediatric Dermatology* 2010 Dec 8; 27(6): pp 675-76. [Yellow Nail Syndrome.pdf](#)

**Berry JG, Hall DE, Kuo DZ, Cohen E, Agrawal R, Feudtner C, Hall M, Kueser J, Kaplan W, Neff J:** Hospital utilization and characteristics of patients experiencing recurrent readmissions within children's hospitals. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 2011: 305: pp 682-690. [berry\\_recurrentadmissions\\_jama2011.pdf](#)

**Benchimol E, Guttman A, To T, Rabenack L, Griffiths AM:** Changes to surgical and hospitalization rate of pediatric inflammatory bowel disease in Ontario, Canada (1994 – 2007) *Inflammatory Bowel Disease Journal* 2010 Dec 22. [Surgical & hospitalization rates of ped ibd.pdf](#)

**Benchimol E, Manuel D, To T, Griffiths A, Rabeneck L, Guttman A:** Development and use of reporting guidelines for assessing the quality of validation studies of health administrative data. *J Clin Epidemiol* 2010 Dec 30. [J Clin Epidemiol Validation Guidelines Dec2010.pdf](#)

**Cheng A, Friedman J, Canadian Paediatric Society Acute Care Committee:** Emergency treatment of anaphylaxis in infants and children. *Paediatrics and Child Health* 2011: 16(1): pp 35-46. [Emergency Treatment of anaphylaxis.pdf](#)

**Cheng A, Hartfield D, Friedman J, Canadian Paediatric Society Acute Care Committee:** Minimum equipment guidelines for paediatric prehospital care. *Paediatrics and Child Health* 2011: 16(3): pp 173-176. [Minimum equipment guidelines.pdf](#)

**Cheng A, Friedman J, Canadian Paediatric Society Acute Care Committee:** Emergency department use of oral ondansetron for acute gastroenteritis-related vomiting in infants and children. *Paediatrics and Child Health* 2011: 16(3): pp 177-182. [Emergency department use of oral.pdf](#)

**Cohen E, Agrawal R, Berry JG, Bhagat SKM, Kuo DZ, Simon TD, Srivastava R:** Improving the quality of care for children with medical complexity: A clinical and research agenda. *Pediatrics* 2011: 127: pp 529-38. [cohen\\_CMC\\_peds.2010-0910v1.pdf](#)

**Friedman JN and Canadian Paediatric Society Acute Care Committee:** Emergency management of the paediatric patient with generalized convulsive status epilepticus. *Paediatrics and Child Health* 2011: 16(2): pp 91-104. [Emergency management of the paediatric patient.pdf](#)

**Friedman JN:** The hospitalist movement in General Pediatrics. *Current Opinion in Pediatrics* December 2010: 22(6): pp 785-790. [The hospitalist movement ...pdf](#)

**Guttman A, Shulman R, Manuel D:** Improving accountability for children's health: Public reporting of childhood immunization coverage in Canada. *Paediatrics and Child Health* Jan 2011 Volume 16(1):16-18. [Paediatrics and Child Health commentary.pdf](#)

**Hawkes M, Schuh S, Ipp M, Bitnun A, Richardson SE, Parkin PC, Stephens D, Tran D:** Natural history of pandemic H1N1 2009 infection in healthy pediatric outpatients. *Academic Pediatrics* 2011 Jan-Feb: 11(1): pp 66-74. [Natural history of pandemic H1N1.pdf](#)

**Lam J, Lara-Corrales I, Cammisuli S, Somers GR, Pope E:** Primitive myxoid mesenchymal tumor of infancy in a pre-term infant. *Pediatric Dermatology* 2010 Nov; 27(6): 635-637. [Primitive Myxoid Mesenchymal Tumour.pdf](#)

**Lara-Corrales I:** Comment on: Dilated cardiomyopathy in epidermolysis bullosa: A retrospective, multicenter study response. *Pediatric Dermatology* 2010 Nov; 27(6): 679-680. [Comment on Dilated Cardiomyopathy in EB.pdf](#)

**Maguiness S, Balma-Mena A, Pope E, Weinstein MG:** Bullous henoch-schönlein purpura in children: A report of 6 cases and review of the literature. *Clinical Pediatrics (Phila)* 2010 Nov; 49(11): pp 1033-7. [Bullous Henoch Scönlein in Children.pdf](#)

**Palmero ML, Uziel Y, Laxer RM, Forrest CR, Pope E:** En coup de sabre scleroderma and Parry Romberg Syndrome in adolescents: Surgical options and patient related outcomes. *Journal of Rheumatology* 2010 Oct; 37(10): 2174-9. (pdf not available)

**Schull MJ, Guttman A, Vermeulen M, Leaver CA, Salkeld E, Rowe B, Sales A:** Final Evaluation Report: Ontario's emergency department clinical decision unit pilot program. *Toronto: Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences; Dec 2010. ICES CDU Evaluation FINAL Report (Dec 20-10).pdf*

**Szauter KM, Ordas A, Laxer RM, Pope E, Wherrett, Alman B, Mink M, Boyd CD, Csiszar K, Hinek A:** A novel fibrotic disorder associated with increased dermal fibroblast proliferation and down regulation of genes of the microfibrillar network. *British Journal of Dermatology* 2010 Nov;163(5):1102-15. [A Novel Fibrotic Disorder.pdf](#)

**To T, Guttman A, Lougheed D, Gershon AS, Dell S, Stanbrook MB, Crighton EJ, Fisman D, Wang C, McLimont S, Raut R, Vasilevska-Ristovska J:** Evidence-based performance indicators of primary care for asthma: a modified RAND Appropriateness Method. *Int J Qual Health Care* 2010 Dec;22(6):476-85. [Performance indicators of primary care for asthma.pdf](#)

**Yeung M, Balma-Mena A, Shear N, Simor A, Pope E, Walsh S, McGavin MJ:** Identification of major clonal complexes and toxin producing strains among staphylococcus aureus associated with atopic dermatitis. *Microbes Infect.* 2011 Feb: 13(2): 189-97. [ID major clonal complexes.pdf](#)

A process evaluation of the Integrated Complex Care Coordination Model (ICCM). **Cohen E, Kingsnorth S, Kielty K, Bruce-Barrett C, Daub S, Kitch T:** Norman Saunders Complex Care Initiative (\$20,490) 2010-2012

CIHR Team in traffic and road injury prevention program for Canadian children. **Snowdon AW, Howard AW, Altenhof WJ, Kobti A, Gilliland JA, Ahmed SE, Angell GB, Bruce B, Bussiere D, Georgie VE, Hussine A, Kent RD, Leitch KK, Thrasher C, Worster AS, Birken CS, McClafferty K, Shkrum M:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research (\$1,744,000) 2010 – 2015

DO IT: Vitamin D outcomes and interventions in toddlers. **Maguire JL, Loeb M, Vieth R, Mazzulli T, Hoch J, Thorpe KE, Parkin P, Mamdani M, Birken CS:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research Priority Announcement – INDM Startup Funds (Bridge funding) (\$100,000) 2011-2012

Evaluation of the SickKids Team Obesity Management Program (STOMP). **Hamilton J, Birken CS, Dettmer E, Grewal P, Jeffery A, Knox K, Bar-Dayana A, McGuire M:** Cathexis Consulting Group and Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health (\$26,729) 2011-2013

Low milk intake, vitamin D deficiency and fracture risk in young children. **Maguire JL, Birken CS, Howard A, Adeli K, Sochett E, Thorpe K, Parkin PC:** Dairy Farmers of Canada (\$90,000) 2011-2013

MASC – The Medical and Social Complexity screening tool derivation study. **Maguire JL, Pai N:** Norman Saunders Complex Care Initiative (\$21,491) 2011-2012

Measuring late pre-term health and developmental outcomes through TARGet Kids! **Maguire JL, Campbell D, Sgro M, Birken CS, Parkin P:** St. Michael's Hospital Innovation Fund (\$18,694) 2011-2012

Randomized, double blind, controlled trial of 0.9% NaCl/dextrose 5% vs 0.45% NaCl/dextrose 5% as maintenance intravenous fluids in hospitalized children. **Friedman JN, Freedman S, Beck, C, Geary D:** Physicians' Services Incorporated (\$46,500) 2010-2012

Surveillance of early onset neonatal sepsis and meningitis. **Sgro M, Lee S, Sankaran K, Yudin M, Tran D, Campbell D:**

1. Maternal-Infant Care Research (Mi-Care) (\$20,000) 2011-2012
2. AFP Innovation Fund – St. Michael's Hospital (\$42,000) 2011-2012

Surveillance of severe neonatal hyperbilirubinemia. **Sgro M, Shah V, Barozzino T, Longpre T, Campbell D:**

1. Public Health Agency of Canada (\$40,000) 2011-2013
2. Draegar Medical (\$10,000) 2011-2013
3. University of Saskatchewan (\$5,000) 2011-2012

TARGet Kids! at St. Michael's Startup Grant. **Maguire JL, Campbell D, Sgro M, Birken CS, Parkin P:** St. Michael's Foundation (\$90,000) 2010 – 2011

TARGet Kids!: Supporting nutrition and development in inner city children. Principal Investigator. **Maguire JL, Campbell D, Sgro M, Birken CS, Parkin P:** St. Michael's Foundation (\$30,000) 2010 – 2011

The natural history of swallowing dysfunction in infants with dysphagia. **Marcus S, Mahant S, Traubici J, Friedman JN:** Norman Saunders Complex Care Initiative, The Hospital for Sick Children (\$10,634) 2010-2011

The Ontario Crohn's and Colitis Cohort: Epidemiology and diagnostic lag of inflammatory bowel disease in Ontario, Canada. **Guttmann A, Benchimol E:** American College of Gastroenterology Junior Faculty Development Grant (150,000 US) 2011–2013

Transition to Adulthood with Cyberguide Evaluation (TRACE) among youth with chronic health conditions: Long-term utilization in adult health care and program transfer to a second pediatric site. **Gorter JW, Punthakee Z, Morrison A, Galuppi B, Nagel K, Arora S, Brill H, Don-Wauchope A, Grant C, Stewart D, Rosenbaum P, Cohen E, Amaria K:** Academic Health Sciences Centre Alternative Funding Plan Innovation Fund (\$196,493) 2011-2013

## GRANT/AWARD Opportunities

### CIHR Funding Opportunities

Details on these funding opportunities can be found using the CIHR Funding Opportunities Database: <http://www.researchnet-recherchenet.ca/mnr16/search.do?fodAgency=CIHR&fodLanguage=E>

### U of T Finding Funding Help

<http://www.research.utoronto.ca/for-researchers-administrators/funding-sources/>

### NIH funding opportunities

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/WeeklyIndex.cfm>

**Anne Wormsbecker, MD**

Academic General Paediatric (Chief) Fellow, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

*New pneumococcal vaccination strategies*

*Introduction to Toronto Invasive Bacterial Diseases Network (TIBDN) and possible opportunities for collaboration*

**Isaac Odame, MB ChB**

Staff Physician, Division of Haematology/Oncology, HSC

*Phase II study of GMI-1070 (pan-selectin inhibitor) in patients with sickle cell vaso-occlusive disease*

**Jeremy Friedman, MB ChB, FRCPC**

Head, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

*The MAST Project: Magnesium in sickle cell trial*

**Raj Srivastava, MD, MPH**

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Utah

Primary Children's Medical Centre, Salt Lake City, Utah

*Pediatric research in inpatient setting (PRIS): Improving the health and health care delivery of hospitalized children*

**Sloane Freeman, MD, MSc, FRCP(C)**

Consultant Paediatrician, St. Michael's Inner City Health Program

Medical Director and lead for The Model School Pediatric Health Initiative

*The Model School Pediatric Health Initiative*

**Irfan Dhalla, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

Staff Physician, Department of Medicine, St. Michael's Hospital

*A virtual ward to prevent readmissions after hospital discharge*

**Maitreya (Trey), Coffey, MD, FAAP, FRCP(C)**

Associate Staff Paediatrician, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

*Parents' needs around disclosure of adverse events*

**Catherine S Birken, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

Staff Paediatrician, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

**Jonathon Maguire, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

Scientist, Applied Health Research Centre Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, St. Michael's Hospital

*Understanding the CIHR granting process: Two examples of successful grants*

**Patricia Li, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

Associate Staff, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

Research Fellow, Child Health Evaluative Sciences, ICES

*My experiences in child health services research in Ontario and a proposal for future research to inform policy in Quebec*

**Daniel Roth, MD, MSc, PhD**

Associate Staff, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

*Higher-dose vitamin D supplementation: Panacea or poison?*

**Sanjay Mahant, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

Staff Physician, Division of Paediatric Medicine, HSC

*Decision-making around gastrostomy tube feeding in children with neurologic disabilities: A systematic review*

## Janis Rotman Fellow in Home Care Innovation

The Division of Paediatric Medicine is excited to announce the launching of a new research fellowship supported by the generous philanthropy of Janis Rotman through the Sickkids Foundation for the next 5 years. A fellowship steering and selection committee has been appointed which includes divisional members Drs. Friedman (chair), Cohen, Mahant, and Macarthur (RI) as well as Karen Spalding (Nursing), Stacey Daub (CCAC), and Barbara Muskat (Social Work). We hope that the first fellow will be in place by the fall of 2011.

### Overview:

The Rotman fellow must conduct focused clinical- or policy-relevant research related to home and/or community care for complex paediatric patients. Fellows will be guaranteed funding for a one year term, which will be potentially renewable for a second year. Fellows will be expected to apply for external salary support awards. Ideal candidates would be health professionals (e.g. nurse, physician, therapist, social worker) with post graduate training in research. If the candidate wishes, some time (up to 20%) can be devoted to clinical care, but the focus of the fellowship will be on research. Fellows will be responsible for acquiring a mentor within the Division of Paediatric Medicine in addition to any mentors they may have from the broader network of clinicians and academics in the multi-disciplinary team, the University of Toronto or elsewhere. Salary will be based on a scale similar to CIHR clinical fellowship funding with modest discretionary funds for travel and research expenses. Applications must be submitted to Daffodil Morrison at [daffodil.morrison@sickkids.ca](mailto:daffodil.morrison@sickkids.ca) by April 30<sup>th</sup> (deadline has passed) and include: statement of intent defining research plans for the year, relevance to 'innovations in homecare' and how this fellowship fits into your ongoing career, 3 letters of reference including at least 1 from a research mentor, and an updated CV.

### **Farewell**

**Alejandra Ragone**, Clinical Research Project Coordinator, has accepted a position as Research Coordinator in the Familial Breast Cancer Research Unit at Women's College Hospital .

**Vikas Bhalla**, Research Assistant, has left SickKids to pursue other endeavours.

*We wish Alejandra and Vikas every success!*

### **Congratulations!**

**Inam Elahi**, who started with us as a research volunteer has been appointed as Clinical Research Project Assistant.

### **CONFERENCES**

**88th Canadian Paediatric Society Annual Conference: Highlights** (June 15-18, 2011 – Quebec City)

**Pediatric Hospital Medicine Conference**  
(July 28-31, 2011 – Kansas City, MO)

Please submit items for next issue to:  
[donna.whitely@sickkids.ca](mailto:donna.whitely@sickkids.ca)