Congratulations!

Drs. Robert Hilliard, Susan Tallett and William Feldman, were honoured for their many contributions at the 30 Year Celebration of Excellence event on October 18, 2011. The Division of Paediatric Medicine has established awards of excellence. The following faculty were the inaugural award winners for 2010-2011:

Dr. Catherine Birken was awarded the William Feldman Award for Excellence in Paediatric Medicine Research.

Dr. Elena Pope was awarded the Clinical Excellence in Paediatric Medical Care Award.

Dr. Michelle Shouldice was awarded the Robert Hilliard Award for Excellence in Paediatric Medicine Education.

Researcher Profile

Dr. Roth is part of a team of researchers from SickKids who were successful in the international grant competition, Saving Lives at Birth: A Grand Challenge for Development, sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, The World Bank, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Grand Challenges Canada. The awards ceremony held in Washington, D.C., was opened by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

The SickKids project, ‘Prenatal calcium to prevent preeclampsia and pre-term birth in resource-poor rural settings’, is a proposal to develop “Prenatal Sprinkles.”

The SickKids team is also comprised of Dr. Stanley Zlotkin, Ashley Aimore (PhD student), Dr. Diego Bassani, Elaine Gergolas and Jo-Anna Baxter (MSc student). The team also includes collaborators from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baylor College of Medicine and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh. See media coverage on research:

Health News - The Globe and Mail  Canadian innovators  SickKids Innovators

Research Promotions

Ms. Jennifer MacInnis promoted to Clinical Research Project Manager
Ms. Hanna Fadzevyeva promoted to Clinical Research Project Assistant

Appointments in the Child Health Evaluative Sciences, Hospital for Sick Children Research Institute:

Dr. Diego Bassani - Scientist
Dr. Catherine Birken - Associate Scientist
Dr. Daniel Roth - Scientist-Track Investigator

Fellowship Awards

Dr. Niraj Mistry, was awarded a one-year Knowledge Translation (KT) Canada and British Medical Journal (BMJ) Joint Fellowship. KT Canada is a multidisciplinary, collaborative clinical research initiative involving colleagues from 8 universities across Canada whose goal is to create an internationally-recognized national training initiative to enhance capacity in KT and KT research. They are funded by a CIHR Strategic Training in Health Research grant. As part of the KT Canada training program, Niraj will participate in modular distance learning courses, a national e-seminar series and attend an annual summer research meeting. He will also complete an internship with the BMJ Publishing Group of North America. This fellowship will complement Niraj’s graduate studies in eHealth (Health Informatics) at McMaster University.

Dr. Julia Morinis, was awarded an ACHIEVE post-doctoral research fellowship funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The ACHIEVE Partnership (“Action for Health Equity Interventions”) is an initiative in health research focusing on population health intervention research. The ACHIEVE Research Partnership hopes to equip new researchers with the competencies necessary for closing the gap between measuring health inequities and reducing them. Dr. Morinis will be co-mentored by the Director of the Centre for Research on Inner City Health (CRIICH) in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael’s (Drs. Patricia O’Campo and Jonathon Maguire) and members of the Division of Paediatric Medicine/Paediatric Outcomes Research Team (Drs. Patricia Parkin and Catherine Birken). Her research will be in collaboration with the TARGet Kids! initiative, examining the relationship between the social determinants of health and nutritional measures such as iron deficiency, vitamin D and obesity.
Abstracts Presented at Scientific Meetings


Coffey T, Espin S, Hahmann T, Clarrain H, Friedman JN, Matlow A: Parents’ needs and preferences around disclosure of adverse events: A qualitative study. (PHM)


Freedman S, Parkin PC: Predictors of return visits in children with gastroenteritis requiring intravenous rehydration. (AAP)

Freeman S, Sgro M, Thorpe K, Mamdani M: Feasibility study on the model school pediatric health initiative pilot project. (ICHID)


Pope E, Chakkittakandiyl A, Weinstein M: Expanding the therapeutic repertoire of infantile hemangiomas: Prospective pilot study using oral nadolol. (SPD)


Shamkarov L, Klar S, Fang L, Nisenbaum R, Weekes M, Barozzino T: Toronto street-involved youth and barriers to access of health services. (ICHID)

Talarico S, Bernstein S, Au H, Batt H: Using constructivism to create a teacher education curriculum for pediatric trainees. (RKRWCRD)

Workshops / Panels / Roundtables / Rounds

Child Health Evaluative Sciences (CHES) “Outcomes in October”

Bassani DG, Roth DE
‘Outcomes for studies in low & middle income countries’

Birken CS
‘Outcomes in healthy weights’

Child Health Evaluative Sciences (CHES) & Paediatric Endocrinology Rounds, SickKids

Roth DE
‘Vitamin D status and response to supplementation in pregnant and non-pregnant women in Bangladesh’

Global Health Symposium, SickKids

Bassani DG, Roth DE: Symposium Organizers
‘Group B streptococcal sepsis in newborns: An international expert panel discussion on the global burden and opportunities for prevention’

Sgro M
‘Early onset neonatal sepsis in industrialized countries’

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Bassani DG
‘Pneumonia morbidity and mortality in India – Addressing the role of vaccines in a comprehensive childhood pneumonia and diarrhoeal disease prevention and control strategy in India’

Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute

Maguire JL
‘TARGerting child health: Observational and interventional studies in preschoolers’

Paediatric Grand Rounds, SickKids

Parkin P
‘Building academic general pediatrics at SickKids and beyond’

Paediatrics for Pharmacists

Parkin P, Maguire JL
‘TARGet Kids! Pediatric research in primary care: Vitamin D and iron’

Public Health Ontario

Birken CS, Maguire JL
‘TARGeting child health: Obesity prevention research in preschoolers’

Pediatricians Alliance of Ontario (PAO)

Birken CS
Healthier Lifestyle, Longer Life: ‘Childhood obesity’


Building an enabling environment for pneumonia and diarrhea vaccines in India (EEVI). **Mathuram S, Bassani DG** (sub-grant PI): Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation ($5,999,969) 2011-2014, ($12,000) 2011-6 months/sub-grant


The fetal heart monitor project - Human energy to save lives. **Bassani DG:** Canadian Rising Stars in Global Health (Phase I), Grand Challenges Canada ($113,000) 2011-2013

International registry for paediatric cutaneous T-cell lymphoma: A longitudinal, prospective, observational study of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma in the paediatric population. **Pope E, Weitzman, Taylor G:** CDF - La Roche-Posay Research Grant ($10,000) 2011-2012

Canadian Dermatology Foundation ($5,000) 2011-2012


The impact of skin camouflage on the quality of life of children with skin disease and their parents. **Salsberg J, Pope E, Weinstein MG, Shear N:** Canadian Dermatology Foundation ($5,000) 2011-2012

Tipping the scales: Weighing the health impacts of obesity in Canadian kids. **Nicholson J, Pleinys R, with Panelists: Hamilton J, Birken CS, Dosch HM, Burrows G:** Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Café Scientifique ($3,000) 2011

Understanding the experiences of migrant families involved with the Child Welfare System in Toronto. **Shouldice M, Morantz G, Azzopardi C, Wentzel K, Cory E:** Trainee Start-up Fund, Hospital for Sick Children ($3,000) 2011-2012

The revised Trainee Travel Award application can be found on the RTC's website at: [http://www.sickkids.ca/pdfs/Research/students-and-fellows-resources/34531-Travel%20Award%20app.pdf](http://www.sickkids.ca/pdfs/Research/students-and-fellows-resources/34531-Travel%20Award%20app.pdf)


NIH funding opportunities: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/WeeklyIndex.cfm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/WeeklyIndex.cfm)

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**PORT Rounds**

**Research Presented (2011-12)**

- **Dr. Charlotte Moore & SPEED Team:**
  1. **SPEED: Designing solutions to improve patient flow**
  2. **ED-PIP/SPEED: Enhancing the discharge process**

- **Drs. Bernard Lawless & Charlotte Moore:**
  Ensuring effective evaluation: Identifying strategies to maximize the impact of health policy evaluation

- **Dr. Nirit Bernhard:**
  Variations in blood glucose levels following gastrostomy tube insertion

- **Dr. Astrid Guttmann:**
  Child development screening in primary care: A pragmatic approach to policy evaluation

- **Dr. Ari Bitnun:**
  The encephalitis registry

- **Drs. Christopher P Landrigan & Amy J Starmer:**
  Bundling effective resident handoff tools to improve patient safety: A multi-center pediatric residency quality improvement initiative

- **Dr. Jan Willem Gorter:**
  Transition to Adulthood with Cyber Guide Evaluation (TRACE) among youth with chronic health conditions: A pilot study using the Youth KIT and an online transition coordinator
PORT – Nursing Research Internship program

This year, members of PORT will be participating in the innovative Nursing Research Internship program which is offered through the SickKids Centre for Nursing, Research. The objective of the internship is to enhance the research knowledge, skills, and experience of nurses at SickKids. The internship consists of 300 hours of paid research project work over a 10 month period which includes weekly research seminars prepared by the Centre for Nursing. The internship started in October and we are delighted that 2 excellent applicants have been matched to our PORT research program. Please welcome Lucy Chen and Marlena Blazevic!

Lucy Chen is a registered nurse working on the Orthopaedics and Otolaryngology unit at SickKids. She completed her undergraduate degree in Nursing with a minor in Psychology at Ryerson University. Recently, Lucy completed her Masters of Nursing in Health in the Community at the University of Toronto. She is very interested in working with health promotion and disease prevention in children and families. Lucy will be working with Catherine Birken and Patricia Parkin on a TARGeT Kids! research project.

Marlena Blazevic works as a RN in the Cardiac ICU. She received a MN in Leadership in Health Policy and Education in April 2011. Marlena has experience in looking at how nurses make decisions and she has helped prepare a study for publication/conferences that looks at empowerment and work environments. Marlena will be working with Sanjay Mahant and Patricia Parkin on an Hospital Medicine research project.

Janis Rotman Fellow in Home Care Innovation

The Division of Paediatric Medicine

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 by January 6, 2012 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.

Congratulations to Dr. Patricia Li, former AGP Fellow and Associate Staff, who has recently returned to the Montreal Children’s Hospital as a Clinician-Scientist and Assistant Professor in the Division of General Paediatrics. Patricia continues to collaborate with Drs. Astrid Guttmann and Patricia Parkin on research evaluating the primary care of children in Canada.

WELCOME!

Sarah Carsley has joined PORT as a Clinical Research Project Coordinator. Sarah received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Dalhousie University in 2007, and her Master of Science in Epidemiology from McGill University in 2010. She has important research experience in preventive child health, working as a Research Assistant developing the Greig Health Record and completing an evidence update for the Rourke Baby Record. This work was undertaken at Montreal Children’s Hospital and resulted in 2 manuscripts (Rourke L, Leduc D, Constantin E, Carsley S, Rourke J. Update on well baby/child care from 0 to 5 years: What’s new in the Rourke Baby Record? Can Fam Physician 2010;56 1285-1290; Greig A, Constantin E, Carsley S, Cummings C; Canadian Paediatric Society, Community Pediatrics Committee. Preventive health care visits for children and adolescents aged six to 17 years: The Greig Health Record. Paediatr Child Health 2010;15(3):157-9.) Most recently Sarah has worked as an Assistant National Epidemiologist for the Ministry of Health in the Commonwealth of Dominica, West Indies.

Thank You to our dedicated and hardworking research group!

Julie DeGroot Marina Khovratovich Jennifer MacInnis

Jessica Danguish Jasmine Dunston Inam Elahi Hanna Fadzeyeva

Nikki Fischer Sara Glazer Haleh Jawidnia Kanthi Kavikondala

Tina Li Tarandeep Malhi Janet McMullen Subitha Rajakumar

Juela Sejdo Gaurav Sharma Laurie Thompson Jane Wang

Ashley Lacombe-Duncan

Welcome: Tonya D’Amour, Phlebotomist
Shelley-Anne Li, Clinical Research Project Assistant
Kim Simpson, Clinical Research Nurse Coordinator

submit comments to: donna.whitely@sickkids.ca

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