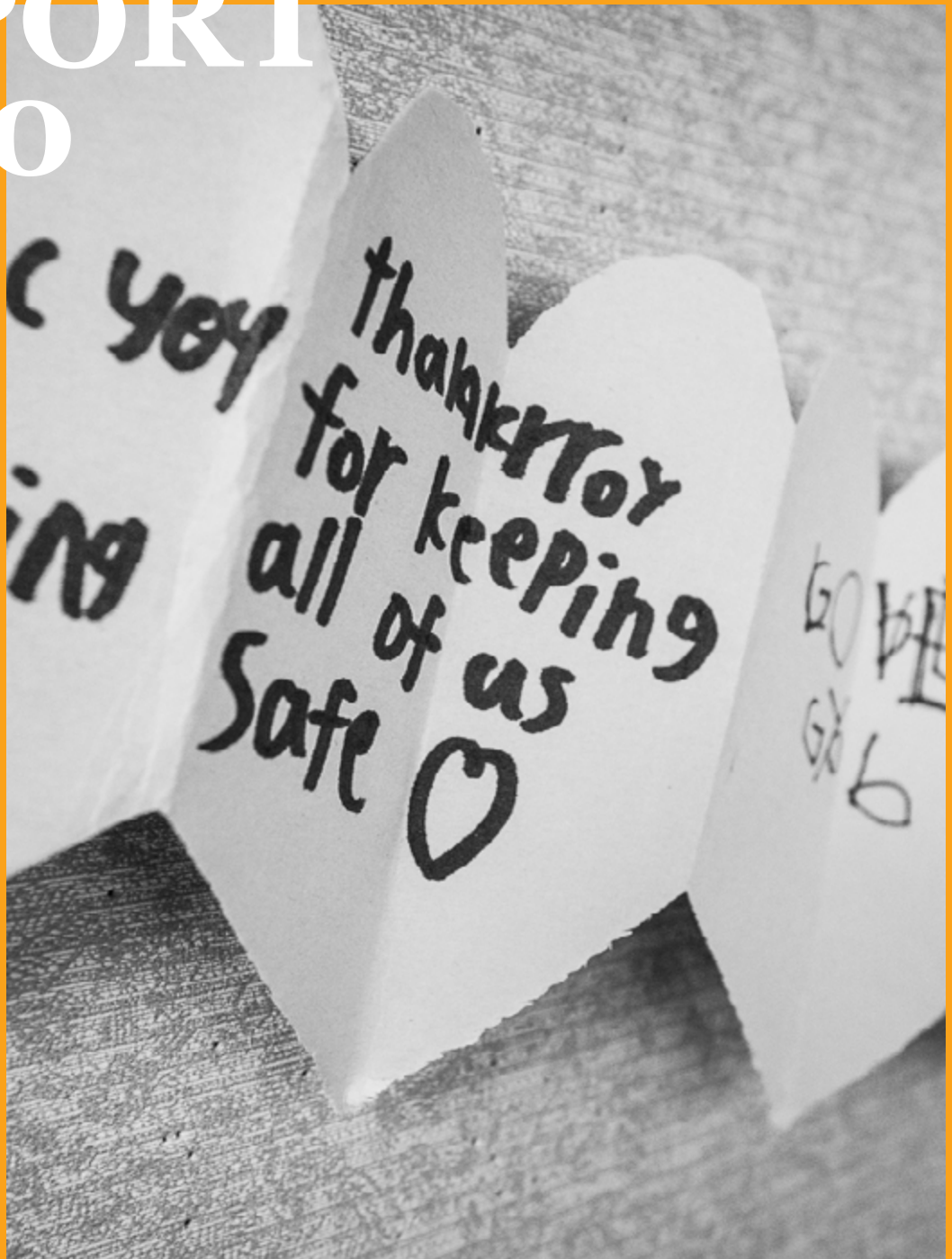


# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Department of Pediatrics



# A LOOK BACK

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THIS REPORT INCLUDES DATA AND EVENTS FROM THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020, ACADEMIC YEAR JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020, AND FISCAL YEAR APRIL 2019 – MARCH 2020.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: DR. MARK ANSELMO, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS, CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY AND CALGARY ZONE, ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES.

Cover Photo: Dr. Heather Patterson, Emergency Physician, Medical Photographer

Dr. Catherine Macneil was elected to a 3-year term as an RF Delegate, Calgary Zone, Alberta Medical Association.

Research teams led by Dr. Deborah Dewey and Dr. Shabih Hasan were successful in the Fall 2019 CIHR Project Grant competition.

The Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI) appointed Dr. Brent Hagel as Program Director for its Healthy Children, Families & Communities Program and Dr. Graham Thompson as Program Director for its Care Transformation for Children Program.

Dr. Sarah MacEachern (Fellow, Developmental Pediatrics), Dr. Meagan Roy (R1, Pediatrics) and Dr. Ceilidh Kinlin (R2, Pediatrics) were recipients of the Healthy Generations Resident Advocacy Grant for their QI project to implement a sensory specific toolkit for patients with Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Dr. Gillian England-Mason, a Neurodevelopmental Disorders Postdoctoral Fellow with the Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition (APrON) study under the mentorship of Dr. Deborah Dewey, received an Alberta Innovates Postgraduate Fellowship in Health Innovation.

Dr. Francois Bernier and his team received a grant from Genome Canada to develop, evaluate and implement a large-scale clinical genome-wide sequencing service and a governance framework to address more rapid diagnosis for Alberta patients with rare genetic diseases.

The inaugural Neonatal Neuro-Critical Care nursing workshop was held in February 2020.

Dr. Khorshid Mohammad received the 2020 Emerging Leader in Neonatology Award from the Canadian Paediatric Society.

Dr. Stephen Freedman is leading a national study to follow 12,500 children with COVID-19, funded by a CIHR Rapid-Response Grant & the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation through ACHRI.

A research team led by Dr. Thierry Lacaze-Masmonteil (PI) and Dr. Susa Benseler (co-PI) received CIHR funding (2.5M/5 years) for their project: “Canadian Collaboration for Child Health: Efficiency and Excellence in the Ethics Review of Research (CHEER).”

Master’s student Janet Aucoin, supervised by Dr. Brent Hagel, received the 2019-2020 Excellence Award in Teaching, UCalgary Graduate Students’ Association.

A study was launched to examine stress in pregnant women during the COVID-19 pandemic, led by UCalgary researchers Dr. Catherine Lebel, Dr. Gerry Giesbrecht, and Dr. Lianne Tomfohr-Madsen.

Dr. Nicole Letourneau (PI) and Dr. Khara Ross (co-PI) are leading a CIHR-SPOR Innovative Clinical Trial Grant to scale and spread ATTACH™, their successful intervention program designed to help vulnerable mothers and their preschool children.

Program Administrator Amber Sando (Pediatric Neurology) was the First Runner Up Honourable Mention recipient of the Interdisciplinary Teamwork Award from the Professional Association of Resident Physicians of Alberta (PARA).

Brooke Allemang, a PhD Student in the Faculty of Social Work supervised by Dr. Susan Samuel and Dr. Gina Dimitropoulos, was one of 17 recipients of a CIHR Patient-Oriented Research Transition to Leadership Fellowship.

Dr. Jim Kellner joined the National COVID-19 Immunity Task Force.

Dr. Brent Hagel was a finalist for the ‘Faculty Sustainability Research Award’ for his work as the nominated PI on CHASE (Child Active transportation Safety and the Environment).

Dr. Suzette Cooke received the 2020 Alumna of Distinction for Excellence in Education award, University of Calgary.

Dr. Lorraine Hamiwka was the recipient of the 2020 PGME Award for Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education Subspecialty Programs from the Cumming School of Medicine.

Dr. Jean-François (JF) Lemay was the recipient of the 2020 PGME Award for Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education 2-4 Year Programs from the Cumming School of Medicine.

The Alberta Childhood COVID Cohort (AB3C) study, led by Dr. Jim Kellner, was launched.

Brandon Craig, an MD/PhD neuroscience candidate in the Cumming School of Medicine supervised by Dr. Adam Kirton, was awarded the 2020 Dr. Jon Meddings Graduate Student Leadership Award.

Dr. Greg Guilcher and team received a \$750,000 USD grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (USA), Special Emphasis Panel for their project: “Sickle cell Transplant Evaluation of Long term and Late-effects Registry (STELLAR).”

Dr. Abhay Lodha, Dr. Susan Samuel, Dr. Marinka Twilt, Dr. Pamela Veale, and Dr. Tony Truong received academic promotions.

The University of Calgary Medical Group welcomed two new representatives, Drs. Mark Anselmo and Sarah Hall.

Dr. Theresa Wu was appointed as the new Chair for Course 6 (Pediatrics) for the Undergraduate Medical Education program, Cumming School of Medicine.

Dr. Scott McLeod was the 2019-2020 recipient of the Resident Well-Being Award from the Professional Association of Resident Physicians of Alberta (PARA).

Dr. Sarah MacEachern was the recipient of the 2020 Dr. Debbi Andrews Trainee Research Award from the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS).

Pediatric resident Dr. Katherine Pohoreski and Dr. Dominica Gidrewicz (PI) received funding from the Canadian Celiac Association James A. Campbell Research Fund for their study: “ABC, Easy as 123, Simple as Gluten-Free? Knowledge and Adherence in Adolescents with Celiac Disease.”

Dion Kelly, supervised by Dr. Adam Kirton, was the recipient of the prestigious 2020 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship.

Dr. Deborah Dewey and her Australian colleagues received the 2019 Preventive and Public Health Research Grant from the NHMRC (Australia) - Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) for their study: “Prenatal environments, offspring neurodevelopment and epigenetic programming.”

The TRaC-K (Telehealth Rounding and Consultation for Kids) Virtual Health Program went live in August 2020.

UCalgary’s inaugural Chair in Pediatric Respirology Dr. Margaret Kelly, Dr. Mark Anselmo, and a team of researchers at the Alberta Children’s Hospital were awarded a CIHR Catalyst Grant to investigate the health effects of vaping.

Our Emergency Medicine, Hospital Pediatrics, and PICU research teams received a CIHR Project Grant for their project: “Pragmatic Pediatric Trial of Balanced Versus Normal Saline Fluid in Sepsis (ProMPT BOLUS).”

Dr. Taj Jadavji was recognized with an award from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Adam Kirton was awarded the Killam Graduate Supervision & Mentorship Award.

Dr. Marie Claire Arrieta was awarded the 2020 Killam Emerging Research Leader Award – CIHR.

Dr. Jim Kellner received the COVID Leadership Award, Pediatric Chairs of Canada.

Dr. Susan Bannister was awarded the Academic Leadership Clinician Educator Award, Pediatric Chairs of Canada.

Dr. Stephen Wainer received the Long-Service Award, Alberta Medical Association.

Dr. Charlotte Foulston received the Member Emeritus Award, Alberta Medical Association.

Dr. Adam Cheng authored new education guidelines on resuscitation for the American Heart Association, helping educators improve training worldwide.

The Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition (APrON) study celebrated its 10 year anniversary. More than 2200 families have now participated in the province-wide study.

Dr. Gerry Giesbrecht was chosen as an Outstanding Reviewer by the committee executive (Chair and/or Scientific Officers) based on his participation in the Fall 2019 CIHR Project Grant competition.

The University of Calgary announced a new Child Health and Wellness Research Strategy, led by ACHRI.

The 5th Annual Global Child Health Conference was held virtually in November 2020.

Clinical neuroscientist Dion Kelly, supervised by Dr. Adam Kirton, was awarded the ii’taa’poh’to’p Graduate Scholarship from the Graduate Award Office at the University of Calgary.





DR. MARK ANSELMO  
Associate Professor and Head,  
Department of Pediatrics  
Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary  
Calgary Zone, Alberta Health Services

## MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD

*“What a piece of work is a man! How noble in reason! How infinite in faculty!  
In form and moving how express and admirable! In action how like an angel,  
In apprehension how like a god! The beauty of the world! The paragon of animals!  
And yet, to me, what is this quintessence of dust?”*

*Hamlet, Act II, Scene ii*

Despite the efforts of high school teachers everywhere, interpretation of Shakespeare remains a personal exercise. Though originally written with irony, I have recently viewed Hamlet’s words in Act II, Scene ii as an affirmation of what humans are capable of in pursuit of the common good, especially in light of world events over the past 12 months.

I have seen first-hand what the people of this Department are capable of and the sacrifices that they have made. I have seen physicians volunteer to work outside their specialty in the adult acute care sites. I have seen people return to in-house overnight work. I have seen members give hours of overtime to guideline and document creation in order to guard both our and our patients’ safety. I have seen researchers change their entire work focus on the proverbial dime and adapt to the changes in our campus. I have seen our operations colleagues support a huge shift to virtual complementary care in a matter of days. I have seen trainees offer to cover other areas and adapt to online and blended learning. I have seen other colleagues suffer a significant change in their work and personal lives. I have seen our administrative staff learn an entirely new communication medium and use it to continue their important work. The response of this Department and the people in it has been awe inspiring.

What Shakespeare wrote with irony, I interpret now as an affirmation of what an amazing group of people comprise this Department. We have sacrificed to ensure that the important work we do carries on. We have come together and met the oncoming obstacles. The difficult times are not over, nor may they be in the near future. However, I am certain that

this Department will continue to do what we do best, serve the pediatric population of Southern Alberta with kindness, compassion and expertise.

The end of the famous passage impresses on me how short-lived our personal time is on Earth, especially in relation to the universe. What we leave behind is the lasting legacy and there is no greater legacy than ensuring the physical and mental well-being of children.

How we care for ourselves while we do the work is equally important. Shakespeare reminded us, that in the end, we may be just dust. We are just human. The Department has established a strong legacy of research, clinical excellence and advocacy for children. It is time to look inward. It is time to ensure that the Department provides a framework which support members in difficulty. It is time that we enact policies which help bring equity and balance to the team in terms of recognition, advancement and promotion. It is time that we all work hard to support each other with the skill and expertise that we use to care for patients and their families. To continue forward in uncertain times, we must not lose sight of the person next to us on the same difficult journey.

*“*  
**I am very proud to continue to serve  
this Department and cannot express  
the admiration I have for all of you.  
From the leadership team and I,  
*thank you.***



# OUR DEPARTMENT

VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

## OUR VISION

Excellence in each of our four CARE Pillars:  
Clinical Service  
Advocacy and Leadership  
Research  
Education

## OUR MISSION

To promote, maintain, and restore health in children by:  
Delivering high quality, evidence-based clinical care  
Training caregivers at all levels  
Innovation and dissemination of new knowledge

## OUR VALUES

Compassion  
Respect  
Integrity  
Collaboration  
Leadership  
Innovation



# CLINICAL

care on the frontlines

Fiscal Year 2019-2020



ABOVE: Dr. Michael Leaker is the Deputy Head of Clinical & Strategic Affairs in the Department of Pediatrics.

The Department of Pediatrics includes more than 300 physicians who provide expert care, education, research, and leadership in child health for a catchment population of approximately 2.5 million, from extremely preterm infants to adolescents transitioning to adult care. In 2020, the onset of the pandemic brought about dramatic changes in how we were able to deliver care. Clinics were cancelled, surgeries were put on hold, and we began connecting with patients in ways that had never been possible before. Patients and healthcare providers have been wanting to connect virtually for years, and COVID-19 accelerated this change.

Within just a few days of the pandemic onset, virtual care became the new normal. Clinics transitioned to virtual platforms almost entirely and innovative ways of connecting patients to healthcare services began popping up everywhere, allowing us greater reach. Inpatient medicine developed virtual ways to keep patients in their regional centres rather than having to travel to be admitted for care. For example, Dr. Michelle Bailey's innovative TRAC-K (Telehealth Rounding and Consultation for Kids) program – a collaboration between the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) and Medicine Hat Regional

Hospital – enables patients to stay closer to home and to their support systems, rather than having to uproot and travel to Calgary.

In January 2020, when many had yet to hear of the novel coronavirus, the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team at the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) was already busy establishing site-specific documentation and guidelines to ensure the hospital would be well-prepared. This team, led by Dr. Joseph Vayalumkal, has been instrumental in the site's pandemic response, working tirelessly to keep our patients and workers safe. The IPC team has also been involved at the zonal and provincial level, providing updates and expert guidance to various groups and committees. The pandemic response has involved massive collaboration and coordination to train ACH physicians regarding safety protocols and proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Furthermore, our infectious disease physicians, hospital pediatricians, subspecialists, and critical care teams have delivered numerous webinars for essential and critical medical information on COVID-19.

With relatively low COVID admissions at ACH, our teams within the Department of Pediatrics banded together to provide assistance wherever they could. A large proportion of our Department immediately volunteered to be called upon for redeployment, should the adult healthcare sites require additional support. As a Department, we are extremely proud of the role we have played in supporting our healthcare community during a global health crisis and as always, we will continue to work together to deliver the best possible care to our patients and their families.

9,164

INPATIENT VISITS

ACROSS ALL SITES  
(EXCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH  
AND SURGICAL ADMISSIONS)

CRITICAL CARE VISITS  
3,857

3,004 NICU ADMISSIONS  
853 PICU ADMISSIONS

90,108

EMERGENCY  
DEPARTMENT VISITS

75,661 AT ACH  
14,447 AT SCH

OUTPATIENT VISITS  
359,630

303,211 FACE-TO-FACE VISITS  
56,419 OTHER (TELEPHONE/TELEHEALTH)

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN  
SEEN BY MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO  
ARE COMMUNITY-BASED PEDIATRICIANS

5 CALGARY  
hospitals

2.5 million  
CATCHMENT POPULATION

300+  
CLINICAL MEMBERS

24

SPECIALTY CLINICAL  
SECTIONS & UNITS

# Infection Prevention & Control Highlights

- Interim Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) novel coronavirus guidelines developed for the Alberta Children’s Hospital in January 2020
- Participating in national surveillance of COVID-19 cases through the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program
- Development of Provincial Neonatal Management Pathway with provincial IPC colleagues
- Investigating and managing multiple COVID exposure incidents in various ambulatory areas Investigating and managing multiple COVID exposure incidents on several units at the Alberta Children’s Hospital and the Foothills Medical Centre neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) to prevent outbreaks
- Participation in Provincial Maternal, Newborn, Child & Youth (MNCY) Pediatrics, MNCY NICU, and Zonal Obstetrics COVID-19 committees
- Providing input and review for multiple guidelines and protocol documents including:
  - 1) Neonatal transport, pediatric code blue/ resuscitation
  - 2) Use of non-invasive ventilation
  - 3) Screening and admission algorithms
  - 4) Cleaning and disinfection protocols (stethoscopes, eyewear, face shields)
- Guidance provided regarding evolving personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements during the pandemic for prevention of workplace exposures
- Collaboration with Safest Together at ACH to improve patient safety and surveillance related to Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI)
- Reviewed Scientific Advisory Group’s Pediatric COVID-19 transmission document
- Ongoing surveillance for viral respiratory & gastrointestinal infections, C. difficile, antibiotic resistant organisms (MRSA, VRE, Carbapenemase resistant organisms), CLABSI, and Surgical Site Infections (SSI)
- Multiple presentations at Department meetings and ZPEC to provide updates on the COVID-19 situation at the zonal and provincial level
- Guidance for construction and renovation projects including the Connect Care expansion in patient care areas
- Dr. Jessica Dunn co-presented at Pediatric Grand Rounds with a focus on COVID-19 transmission, epidemiology and IPC issues
- Developing screening protocols for both ambulatory and inpatient settings with other hospital colleagues specific to the pediatric population
- Providing review and feedback to multiple resuscitation simulations in the emergency department (ED) and pediatric intensive care unit (PICU)
- Multiple meetings with Workplace Health Safety, Public Health and hospital teams to coordinate COVID-19 investigations
- Addition of Dr. Jessica Dunn to the IPC physician team
- Collaboration with Operating Room and PICU teams to provide guidance related to complex and evolving COVID-19 scenarios
- Contributed to the Department of Pediatrics COVID-19 Task force
- Providing guidance to Rotary Flames House for issues related to respite care



Photo: Colin Way Photography Inc.

COVID-19 has caused major disruptions to our healthcare system. The ongoing pandemic has stretched many areas of care to their capacity and physician shortages have become an issue. Many members of the Department of Pediatrics volunteered to be redeployed to help care for adults in the intensive care units (ICUs) and/or COVID-19 units.

**We would like to thank the following individuals for their service:**

- Dr. Dana Stys, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Fiona Stewart, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Russell (Russ) Lam, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Jonathan Guilfoyle, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Melanie Willimann, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Michelle McTimoney, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. David Lendrum, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Andrea Boone, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Shawn Dowling, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Rhonda Ness, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Michele Ramien, Pediatric Dermatology





# THE COVID PIVOT: PARTNERING TO PROVIDE PPE EDUCATION

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) continues to play a key element in keeping our members, patients and families safe. Adhering to PPE standards and processes have become an increasingly vital part in performing our work since March 2020. Our members have always been active in their approach and preparedness. The threat of the virus was met with an immediate response from a multidisciplinary team of physicians and other members of the ACH community to ensure high reliability practices\* in the use of PPE in order to keep staff and patients safe.

The PPE processes for Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH) inpatient rooms were customized by Drs. Joseph Vayalumkal (Infection Prevention and Control), Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman (Safest Together Quality Lead), Dr. Michelle Bailey (Physician Learning Program, University of Calgary and Hospital Pediatrics, Quality and Safety), Consuelo (Coty) Ong (Safest Together), Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) staff and unit educators. This was an iterative process to develop best practices and gather ongoing feedback from clinicians on the units.

Understanding that competence and reliability in PPE use is achieved through practice; multiple PPE training sessions became available for physicians and staff across the hospital. These were accompanied by guidelines and visual tools to support and instruct healthcare providers on new PPE processes. Training began in late March 2020 and these sessions included demonstration and simulation in patient rooms. Virtual training sessions were also available for pediatric residents.

The PPE processes and tools were adjusted along the way to accommodate for ongoing changes. Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman and her Emergency Department Quality Improvement team created standardized PPE processes and instructional tools customized for emergency department room

configurations. Dr. Chantelle Barnard and the KidSIM team worked to optimize processes through on-site simulation on the inpatient units. Since May, these simulation sessions have continued twice a month to support the staff and trainees on inpatient teams to maintain awareness and practice these processes. Safest Coaches were trained by the Safest Together team to provide ongoing support to staff to maintain best practices.

The pandemic forced the need to maintain and develop high reliability practices to ensure safety while caring for patients. The work represents a productive collaboration of a diverse group of multi-disciplinary healthcare providers and medical specialties. Their efforts have helped us all to remain safe.

Thank you to members across multiple departments for their contributions to the ACH site-wide training, simulation and development of guidelines:

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dr. Michelle Bailey          | Dr. Joseph Vayalumkal |
| Dr. Chantelle Barnard        | Dr. Pamela Veale      |
| Dr. Jaime Blackwood          | Dr. Gemma Vomiero     |
| Dr. Kerry Carter             | Connie Abrey          |
| Dr. Jenn D’Mello             | Hugh Allen            |
| Dr. Jessica Dunn             | Neil Baribeau         |
| Dr. Eli Gilad                | Helen Catena          |
| Dr. Jonathan Gilleland       | Andrea Jesney         |
| Dr. Nicole Johnson           | Linda Kamhuka         |
| Dr. Jean-Francois (JF) Lemay | Shauna Langenberger   |
| Dr. Mireille Lemay           | Jennifer Oliverio     |
| Dr. Simon Parsons            | Consuelo (Coty) Ong   |
| Dr. Cathy Ross               | Tanya Spence          |
| Dr. Antonia Stang            | Alicia Tisnic         |
| Dr. Amuchou Soraisham        | Leeanne VanRootselar  |
| Dr. Sidd Thakore             |                       |
| Dr. Sumesh Thomas            |                       |
| Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman  |                       |
| Dr. Jennifer Unrau           |                       |

\* Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman co-published an [article](#) about the importance of high reliability practices in preparing for the pandemic.



# RESEARCH

## .....in a pandemic



ABOVE: Dr. Adam Kirton is the Deputy Head of Research in the Department of Pediatrics.

**R**esearch in the Department of Pediatrics has taken on unprecedented and unforeseen challenges during a unique year.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services (AHS) were required to scale-back all non-essential research activities and the vast majority of in-person research operations came to a halt. To promote a proactive research relaunch strategy at the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH), our Department of Pediatrics Research Team has worked together with the University of Calgary, the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI), AHS, site administration and research teams to design and ensure safe pathways for re-opening and optimizing clinical and non-clinical research activities. This has involved working closely and creatively with our child health research teams to ensure ongoing projects adhere to current guidelines and provincial restrictions,

while minimizing the interruption of research activities as much as possible. Through cooperation and collaboration, we have successfully relaunched the majority of our hospital-based research operations at ACH over the past several months.

A positive aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic is all the amazing opportunities for innovative thinking and teamwork that have been realized. There are currently more than 30 pediatric COVID-19 related projects in progress at the University of Calgary, many of which are led by members of the Department of Pediatrics. These include the AB3C study which has collected data on thousands of children to measure immunity against COVID-19 and emergency department research helping us understand virus transmission in children. The emergence of these and other projects has led to unprecedented collaboration between research teams, including the formation of COVID-specific research and study coordination working groups and leadership from regional to national levels of COVID-19 studies and policies.

Child health research is essential for the advancement of clinical care and improved outcomes for patients and their families. Another huge positive was the launching of the Child Health and Wellness Strategy in November 2020 as an innovative, multidisciplinary, and diverse research priority across the University of Calgary and our broad, connected communities. Our Department members will be key partners and leaders in advancing such research progress with impacts felt locally, nationally, and internationally. With much accomplished in a dark and difficult year, the future of research in the Department of Pediatrics appears particularly bright.

12.4M  
total  
research  
revenue

63 hot  
papers\*  
\*50+ CITATIONS IN  
FIRST 5 YEARS

3.32M  
total CIHR  
research revenue

347  
publications\*  
\*FROM PRIMARY APPOINTEES



# Alberta Childhood COVID Cohort (AB3C) Study

While many of us were trying to make sense of the changes caused by the pandemic, pediatricians watched closely to learn how the virus would affect children and their families. “To better understand why so few children have symptomatic disease, how contagious children may be, what genetic and biologic differences there are between children with mild and severe COVID-19 infections, and how well children develop immunity against the SARS-CoV-2 virus,” are questions that prompted Dr. Jim Kellner, our former Department Head, to establish the Alberta Childhood COVID Cohort (AB3C) Study ([www.ucalgary.ca/covidinkids](http://www.ucalgary.ca/covidinkids)) in April 2020, just one month after the pandemic changed our lives in Alberta. The aims of the study are to examine the genetic makeup and biologic response of some children with COVID-19, to measure the development and persistence of immunity against COVID-19 infections in children over time and determine the overall impact of COVID-19 infections on children across the province.

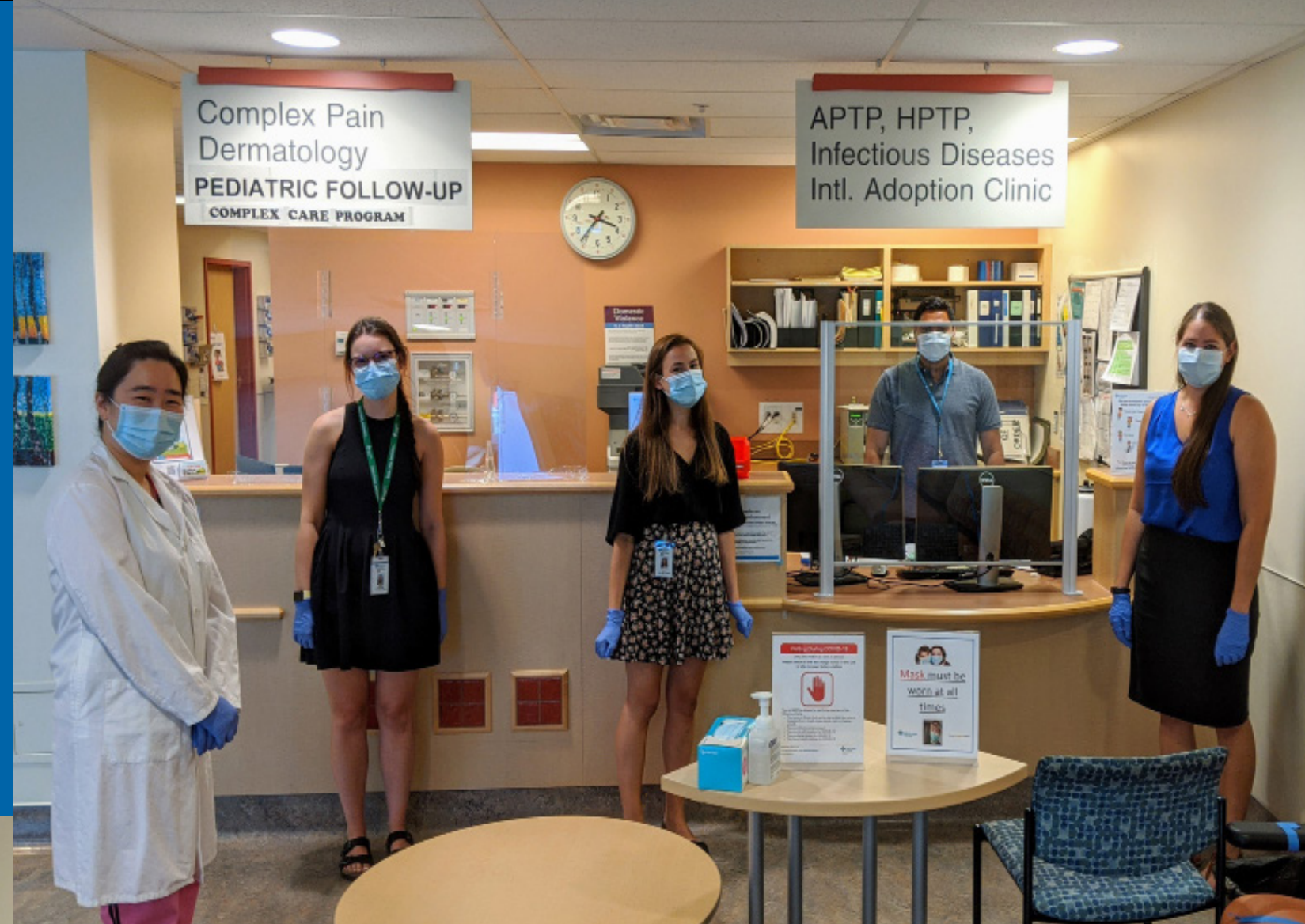
Dr. Kellner and Dr. Francois Bernier, Department Head of Medical Genetics, are co-Principal Investigators on the study and they’ve been joined by a multidisciplinary team consisting of nearly 30 researchers with expertise in infectious diseases, immunology, virology, genomics and public health to investigate multiple aspects of COVID-19 in children in Alberta.

“We are fortunate in Alberta to have province-wide systems and teams — Alberta Health Services (AHS), Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), electronic medical records and collaborative universities — that support and facilitate the study of COVID-19,” says Dr. Kellner. Alberta’s testing and contact tracing will allow researchers to draw from COVID test results. The AB3C team is collecting clinical information and biological samples from children who tested positive for COVID-19, children with symptoms who tested negative, and healthy children with no evidence of COVID-19. A larger group of children are having their blood tested for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies every

six months. The data gathered from the overall study will be shared with national and international research and policy groups to aid in the global effort to answer unsolved questions about SARS-CoV-2, and to help inform public health decisions.

The AB3C study was one of two projects chosen for a Government of Alberta investment in June 2020 to measure COVID-19 immunity in children in Alberta until 2022. This study is an ongoing collaboration between the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta, Alberta Health Services (AHS), the Alberta Children’s Hospital and Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL). It also receives funding from Genome Alberta and the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation through ACHRI.

PICTURED: Dr. Jim Kellner and Emily Doucette, Research Assistant.



PICTURED ABOVE: The ACHIEVE Research Team. A vaccine research team based at the Alberta Children’s Hospital currently conducting research for the AB3C Study.

Photos: Courtesy of the ACHIEVE Research Team





# .....COVID Research in the Emergency Department

The rapid escalation of the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic mobilized a response from healthcare experts from around the world. Numerous studies have led to advances in our understanding of the epidemiology of the disease and to advances in diagnostics and vaccine development. One of the most remarkable features of COVID-19 is how it affects children so differently from adults, but the implications of this pandemic have exerted a unique toll on children. A leader at the forefront of COVID-19 research in children, with two studies funded by the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) and a separate surveillance project supported by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), is Dr. Stephen Freedman, pediatric emergency medicine physician and a Professor in Child Health and Wellness.

Dr. Freedman is co-leading the two international CIHR studies alongside Dr. Anna Funk, an Eyes-High post-doctoral fellow at the University of Calgary.

## **PERN (Pediatric Emergency Research Networks)-COVID**

PERN-COVID is an international study that includes a multidisciplinary team of pediatric emergency medicine and infectious disease clinicians who are partnered with epidemiologists, statisticians, knowledge translation experts and public health leaders from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). Forty emergency departments (ED) across 14 countries have already enrolled over 9,000 children who have been tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection. A total of 12,500 children brought to the ED for care will be enrolled; participants will provide extensive information about their symptoms, treatments, and short and long-term outcomes to enable the identification of features associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection as well as severe adverse outcomes.

## **Asymptomatic-COVID**

A concurrent study funded by CIHR will enroll 400 asymptomatic-SARS-CoV-2 positive children and 1,200 uninfected (i.e. negative) children tested in 17 EDs in the United States and Canada. This case-control study aims to quantify the role asymptomatic children play in transmitting the virus within their household and the community, with school settings being a particular concern. Data collected prior to the ED visit, and again 14 days later will be used to determine the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection acquisition by household contacts of asymptomatic positive children relative to those who are negative. This study will inform public health policy by generating knowledge related to the importance that asymptomatic-infected play in the chain of COVID-19 transmission.

## **PHAC-COVID**

Dr. Freedman is also the co-Principal Investigator of a PHAC-funded study. This ongoing surveillance project involves 15 Canadian pediatric EDs, all of which are members of Pediatric Emergency Research Canada (PERC). A sample of 5,400 children who present to a participating ED and are tested for SARS-CoV-2 will be enrolled in this study. To date, they have recruited over 2,500 participants. Dr. Freedman's team is reporting the results of this study with the PHAC through weekly data reports and bi-weekly meetings to ensure the data collected related to SARS-CoV-2 infection is shared in real-time with public health officials to guide public health policy.

Dr. Freedman's COVID studies are being conducted in partnership with Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) and supported by the CIHR, Alberta-Innovates, PHAC, the University of Calgary - Alberta Health Services' Clinical Research Fund, and Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI).



# RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

## A discussion with Clinical Research Nurse Nilufer Espiritu

Nilufer (Nilly) Espiritu (formerly Hasanova) is one of our wonderful research nurses in the Department of Pediatrics. Nilly works in pediatric neurosciences with the neuromuscular research group, led by Dr. Jean K. Mah. The team works with children with rare neuromuscular conditions, such as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). The neuromuscular research group has various studies in their portfolio, with a number of clinical trials running concurrently. Nilly's day-to-day role includes providing patient care, taking vital signs, administering drug orders and infusions, and overseeing case management for the children enrolled in these trials.

Below is an excerpt from Nilly's recent interview with Ashton Chugh, Research Assistant with the Department of Pediatrics:

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SPECIFIC ROLE WITHIN YOUR RESEARCH TEAM?

"I have worked in various nursing roles, including bedside care, inpatient and outpatient nursing. I think working directly with clinical trials is super unique because it's a whole other level in nursing where there's so much at stake and everything goes through ethics boards. For me, it's just the right amount of bedside care, but includes a lot of case management and continuous care. You are with the same kids for years so you get to watch them grow and celebrate their milestones. It's also a lot of self-training. When you know that a study is coming up you need to ask yourself 'What are the skills that I need to acquire?' Setting up that training and reaching out for those resources enables you to be quite independent, which I really like."



ABOVE: Nilufer (Nilly) Espiritu is a clinical research nurse with the neuromuscular research group at the Alberta Children's Hospital.

“We always remind our patients that they're so brave and they're helping other kids who are just like themselves.”

- Nilly Espiritu, Department of Pediatrics

### WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO DO THIS WORK?

"I'm really attached to the kids – they are so adorable! I love the patient-centred care we are able to provide them and I really like that we are so close with the families for such a long period of time. We get to know them really well and celebrate all these milestones with them. I've always been drawn to research, and I've always been interested in maternal child health. Being able to be a part of the early childhood milestones and to do a lot of that preventative care is so important. These diagnoses can affect children's cognitive and mental health, and we have so many resources available at the Alberta Children's Hospital. It's great to be able to provide that for patients and families as part of their holistic care. I also really enjoy working with our team. We have a very friendly team and they're so helpful. Our research assistant and coordinators are incredible. I think the world of our PI Dr. Jean Mah. She's amazing and the amount of care that she provides for these children is so inspiring."

### WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF YOUR WORK ON CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH?

"A lot of these children were diagnosed very young, and often their parents heard the words 'I'm sorry' at the time of diagnosis and that there were no treatments or cures available. And now through these clinical trials there's a new set of drugs available that can offer hope and a potential silver lining. We always remind our patients that they're so brave and they're helping other kids who are just like themselves."



Dr. Jean Mah, lead of the neuromuscular research group, was the 2019 Department of Pediatrics Clinician CARE Award recipient and also received the 2020 Distinction in Service Delivery Award from Muscular Dystrophy Canada.

“I always learn so much from our trainees, as well as our patients and their families. It is amazing to have the support of families to allow us to engage in research.”

- Dr. Jean Mah, Department of Pediatrics

# EDUCATION

...when bedside learning goes virtual

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented disruptions in many areas of healthcare, including medical education. The effects on trainees and educators have been profound, forcing a swift and momentous adaptation in the delivery of medical education in the Department of Pediatrics and beyond.

In March of 2020, the onset of the pandemic prompted the rapid transformation of medical education out of absolute necessity. Educational curricula and delivery, clinical experience and learner evaluation were drastically impacted by the cessation of in-person group activities. However, despite significant challenges, the education of our learners and physicians has continued successfully in the face of adversity due to the enormous hard work, creativity, and innovative thinking of our Department members and collaborators.

Examples of the evolution of education over this past year are evident across the spectrum of learners in our Department, ranging from medical students of Undergraduate Medical Education (UME), residents of Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) and faculty of Continuing Medical Education (CME). After months off clinical duty, medical students were successfully reintegrated into the new post-COVID hospital environment. Despite significant administrative challenges, our Department was committed to providing quality clinical experiences in both inpatient and outpatient settings while prioritizing student safety and wellness. This, coupled with the transition to a virtual educational platform, required significant effort from our Department members, residents and educators. Our PGME core and subspecialty pediatric programs effectively shifted to a virtual format incorporating academic half day, outpatient clinics, teaching sessions, licensing examinations, and interviews with subspecialty resident candidates. Pediatric Grand



ABOVE: Dr. Leanna McKenzie is the Deputy Head of Education in the Department of Pediatrics.

Rounds – our weekly, broad-scope educational sessions for our Department members and beyond – was seamlessly transitioned to a virtual format at the onset of the pandemic and we have since had regular audiences upwards of 400 individuals, with one of our most-attended sessions reaching nearly 700 registrants! Furthermore, our KidSIM Pediatric Simulation Program has played a critical role in designing and practicing new protocols in order to adapt to novel safety measures, minimize the risk of cross-contamination, and provide ongoing simulation support and training for COVID-19 preparedness.

Medical education within the Department of Pediatrics has continued to employ new and innovative approaches due to the efforts of our physician members, educators and learners, aided by the ongoing support of the University of Calgary and the Cumming School of Medicine. Together, we will continue to evolve and provide an outstanding educational experience for current and future physician learners. As Deputy Head of Education, I am continually impressed and grateful for the tangible demonstrations of dedication, perseverance and collaboration of our faculty and resident family, and I am very proud of our ongoing commitment to excellence in medical education throughout the Department of Pediatrics.

## virtual care & education

- shift from outpatient to virtual clinics
- virtual interviews for subspecialty positions
- rounds, teaching sessions, conferences, wellness check- ins, and graduation ceremonies done virtually
- transition to computer-based licensing examinations

## pandemic response

During the initial pandemic closures, numerous pediatric residents who found their clinical experience put on hold volunteered to help with COVID-19 contact tracing

# 400+

Pediatric Grand Rounds transitioned to a virtual format, with audiences upwards of 400 individuals

## simulation technology

Broader use of simulation technology and support for COVID-19 preparedness, designing and practicing protocols for new safety measures, and teaching resuscitation and other important clinical skills

“The Department of Pediatrics has helped the Cumming School of Medicine pivot their pre-clerkship program completely online, including all lectures, small groups and mentoring.”

- Dr. Leanna McKenzie, Deputy Head of Education, Department of Pediatrics





# .....Teaching and Education Awards

Pediatric Resident (R1) Dr. Christian Ferrier was awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship (1/11 received in Canada)

Dr. Lorraine Hamiwka was the recipient of the 2020 PGME Award for Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education Subspecialty Programs from the Cumming School of Medicine

Dr. Jean-François (JF) Lemay was the recipient of the 2020 PGME Award for Outstanding Commitment to Residency Education 2-4 Year Programs from the Cumming School of Medicine

Dr. Susan Bannister received the 2020 Academic Leadership Clinician Educator Award from the Pediatric Chairs of Canada.

Dr. Julie Fisher was a recipient of a Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Pandemic Hero Award, recognizing incredible efforts to the UME program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Khorshid Mohammad was awarded Teacher of the Year for Academic Half Day Teaching in the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program.

Dr. Amuchou Soraisham was awarded Teacher of the Year, Bedside Clinical Teaching in the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program.

*The following faculty and residents were award recipients for Clerkship Teaching for the Class of 2020 (2019-2020 academic year):*

**Gold Star:** Dr. Lauren Redgate, Dr. Sergei Reznikov, and Dr. Theresa Wu

**Gold Star (Resident):** Dr. Grazyna Burek, Dr. Paige Burgess, and Dr. Jacqueline Harrison

**Rural Resident - Red Deer:** Dr. Waleed Masoud and Dr. Eric Ong

**Honour Roll:** Dr. Laura Davies, Dr. Renee Jackson, Dr. Nicole Johnson, and Dr. Robert Shyleyko

**Honour Roll (Resident):** Dr. Nikytha Antony, Dr. Marian Coret, and Dr. Anna Schwalfenberg

*The following individuals were recognized at this year's Pediatric Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) Class of 2020 Graduation Celebration:*

**Subspecialty Fellow Clinical Teacher of the Year:** Dr. Georgina Martin (Hematology/Oncology)

**Subspecialty Pediatrics Clinical Teacher of the Year:** Dr. Paul Doughty

**Community Pediatrics Clinical Teacher of the Year:** Dr. Lauren Redgate

**Hospital Pediatrics Clinical Teacher of the Year:** Dr. Peter Vetere

**Dr. George Priour Scholarship Award:** Dr. Paige Burgess

*The following individuals were recipients of teaching awards at the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Faculty Appreciation Night at the Cumming School of Medicine:*

**Jersey Award (Class 6) and Class of 2021 Pre-Clerkship Gold Star Award (Course 6):** Dr. Leanna McKenzie

**Class of 2021 Pre-Clerkship Gold Star Award (Medskills):** Dr. Ian Wishart

**Master Teacher Award:** Dr. Gesche Tallen

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Dr. Pamela Veale

**Class of 2021 Pre-Clerkship Honour Roll:** Dr. Glenda Bendiak, Dr. Vithya Gnanakumar, Dr. Stacey Hall, Dr. Jean-Francois Lemay, Dr. Debbie McAllister, Dr. Kim Smyth, Dr. Gesche Tallen, Dr. Ian Wishart, Dr. Nicola Wright

**Class of 2019 Clerkship Gold Star Awards (Faculty):** Dr. Michelle Jackman, Dr. Leanna McKenzie, Dr. Theresa Wu

**Class of 2019 Clerkship Gold Star Awards (Residents):** Dr. Krista Clark, Dr. Simone Kortbeek

**Class of 2019 Clerkship Honourable Mention (Faculty):** Dr. Ronald Anderson, Dr. Susan Bannister, Dr. Glenda Bendiak, Dr. Donald Bethune, Dr. Michele Bjornson, Dr. Ciara Chamberlain, Dr. Gary Chow, Dr. Deborah Clark, Dr. Suzette Cooke, Dr. Jennifer D'Mello, Dr. Paul Doughty, Dr. Gary Galante, Dr. Roger Galbraith, Dr. Steven Greenway, Dr. Renee Jackson, Dr. Nicole Johnson, Dr. Hui Yee Kwok, Dr. Quyen Lam, Dr. Russell Lam, Dr. Paivi Miettunen, Dr. Kimberly Myers, Dr. Jane Ng, Dr. Jack Rabi, Dr. Michelle Ryan, Dr. Aaliya Sabir, Dr. Preet Sandhu, Dr. Amuchou Soraisham, Dr. Siddharth Thakore

**Class of 2019 Clerkship Honourable Mention (Residents):** Dr. Niloufar Abdo, Dr. Jason Baserman, Dr. Grazyna Burek, Dr. Lundy Day, Dr. Donovan Duncan, Dr. Krystyna Ediger, Dr. Rubeeta Gill, Dr. Raisa Kanji, Dr. Sarah MacEachern, Dr. Phillip Quon, Dr. Meagan Roy, Dr. Robert Shyleyko

**Congratulations to all!**



# 20 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR 20 IRENKE PAYNE

Irenke Payne's journey to medical education began when she was working part-time as a Unit Clerk at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, where she often found herself looking for things to keep her busy during her quiet evening/weekend shifts. She began assisting with various administrative tasks in Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME), a move that ultimately evolved into a twenty-year career working in a PGME role within the Department of Family Medicine at both the University of Toronto and University of Calgary. When she later came across an opportunity at the Alberta Children's Hospital, she decided to make the transition from the world of Family Medicine to Pediatrics. "Many of my volunteering efforts over the years have revolved around children and youth, so returning to the dynamic environment of pediatrics was the perfect fit," says Irenke. She began her role as a Program Administrator for the General Pediatrics Residency Program in the Department of Pediatrics in July 2018.

At the onset of the pandemic closure in March 2020, the demand for administrative support for the program was very intense. Irenke has been instrumental in helping navigate these uncertain times, adapting effortlessly to the many changes that have taken place within the program over the past several months. She has risen to the challenge of managing various adjustments to schedules and processes, while maintaining strong record-keeping and tracking throughout. Irenke's colleagues describe her as incredibly hard working, organized, and resourceful. She is a true problem solver and provides outstanding support to the entire program and its 40+ pediatric residents. "I really enjoy the diversity of my day-to-day work and interacting with the entire pediatrics team," says Irenke. She consistently goes above and beyond, often anticipating issues and attending to them before being asked. Irenke plays an important role within the medical education team, helping to develop practices that are responsive to both educational and clinical priorities. Furthermore, she is approachable, reliable, and empathetic to the needs of the individuals on her team, within the Department of Pediatrics and the Cumming School of Medicine. "The value of administrative work, in my opinion, is truly about good 'customer service' – being readily available and communicating well with those that you work with, while ensuring that all administrative tasks are attended to."

On being the recipient of the 2020 Administrator of the Year Award, Irenke shares that she feels very humbled. "My fellow administrators provide exceptional service and care, so hearing my name listed as a nominee together with so many of my amazing colleagues was unexpected and somewhat overwhelming," says Irenke. "Continuous communication and the support of my team were essential in overcoming the hurdles of 2020. I am incredibly grateful that my role has been thoughtfully acknowledged by those I work with."



Irenke Payne works with the General Pediatrics Residency Program, providing administrative support to the program's leadership team and 40+ pediatric residents.

“Continuous communication and the support of my team were essential in overcoming the hurdles of 2020.”

- Irenke Payne, Department of Pediatrics



BELOW: In addition to her role with the General Pediatrics Residency Program, Irenke also supports the Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHM) Fellowship Program. Irenke is pictured here with the PHM Fellowship Program Director Dr. Suzette Cooke (right) and the program's inaugural fellow, Dr. Peter Vetere (middle). Please note this image was taken pre-pandemic.

"Irenke has quickly become one of the greatest assets to our residency program. She is efficient, approachable, and knowledgeable."  
Dr. Paige Burgess  
Former Administrative Chief Resident  
General Pediatrics Residency Program

"Irenke has been a lifesaver for our program! I cannot imagine navigating the pandemic without her support. She was literally 'the glue' that kept all the pieces together as things changed and transitioned from minute to minute"  
Dr. Amonpreet Sandhu  
Program Director  
General Pediatrics Residency Program

"As a second year resident, I could always count on Irenke for important communications. She was always welcoming to questions and willing to help."  
Dr. Ceilidh Kinlin  
Education Chief Resident  
General Pediatrics Residency Program

"Irenke is nothing short of remarkable. She is organized, efficient, and knowledgeable, and makes the lives of all of us on the PGME team easier."  
Dr. Theresa Wu  
Assistant Program Director  
General Pediatrics Residency Program



# WELLNESS

.....prioritizing our wellbeing.....

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many issues to the forefront, one being the critical importance of a healthy work environment. As we navigate these challenging times, the Department of Pediatrics has committed to empowering our workforce to do the best work they can. In order to accomplish this goal, we must continue to prioritize physician wellness and a psychologically safe work environment, promote an equitable and diverse workplace, and encourage leadership development amongst our colleagues.

Our members and learners are the heart of our Department. We are committed to enhancing physician wellness and appreciate its direct correlation with providing optimal care for our patients. In collaboration with Well Doc Alberta, we have initiated the collection of an annual Department-wide wellness metric to gauge levels of burnout, identify drivers of poor physician wellness, and ultimately develop strategies to enhance wellness. Various members of the Department have demonstrated a strong commitment to this work through additional initiatives, including but not limited to visiting speakers, peer-to-peer support sessions, yoga classes, meditation, fitness challenges, and a regular Department-wide publication focused on promoting wellness.

The events of the past year have shed light on the ongoing importance of equity, diversity, and inclusivity within our workplace. We are united in our common goal of promoting the health and wellbeing of children and their families, and we truly believe we are stronger together as a result of our diversity. Throughout the past year we have launched several initiatives aimed at enhancing equity, diversity, and inclusivity within our Department, including the establishment of a



ABOVE: Dr. Sarah Hall is the Deputy Head of Professional Affairs in the Department of Pediatrics.

Gender Equity & Diversity Task Force. In order for our talented members to thrive, we must ensure our work environment within the Department of Pediatrics is free from bullying, harassment, intimidation and intolerance. Our leadership is strongly committed to facing workplace issues head on and addressing potential obstacles as they arise. In accordance with recognized predictors of safe work environments, physician wellbeing, and career satisfaction, we have developed an anonymous reporting tool for untoward workplace events and have implemented a 360-degree leadership program comprised of collecting multi-source feedback and executive coaching sessions to help promote strong leadership within our Sections.

We are excited about the steps we have taken this year within our Department and look forward to building on this momentum in 2021. Together, we will continue to create and maintain a healthy, safe and supportive work environment where our members and learners are valued, engaged and able to thrive in their personal and professional lives.

## WELL DOC ALBERTA WELLNESS SURVEY

As part of our Department's commitment and intent to improve physician wellness, a longitudinal wellness metric has been developed in collaboration with Well Doc Alberta. This initiative included a department-wide survey in the Fall of 2020 to help physician groups gauge levels of burnout as well as to identify drivers of poor physician wellness and strategies to enhance wellness, which elicited an impressive response rate from our membership. Using these survey results, we have progressed to the next steps of enhancing wellness and will continue to collaborate with Well Doc Alberta as they provide guidance and support change within our group. We look forward to better understanding our levels of burnout and identifying potential drivers of poor physician wellness and strategies to enhance overall emotional, psychological, and physical wellbeing within the Department of Pediatrics.



## NEW ANONYMOUS REPORTING TOOL

A new [anonymous reporting tool](#) designated for physicians within the Department of Pediatrics was developed in collaboration with Alberta Health Services to help address workplace concerns and issues.

## GENDER EQUITY & DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

The Department of Pediatrics is committed to creating an environment that is equitable in opportunity, diverse in our ideas and inclusive for all members. In May 2020, the Department created the Gender Equity and Diversity (GED) Task Force to evaluate equity, diversity and inclusivity in our workplace and to provide recommendations for change. As part of this initiative, the GED Task Force has created a department-wide survey to help inform recommendations and action within the Department regarding gender equity. Results from this survey are expected in early 2021.

## DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS

The Department of Pediatrics Twitter account was launched in early 2020. In the summer of 2020, we focused our efforts on increasing our presence and followers went up by 75%. The newly updated Department of Pediatrics [website](#) was also launched in December 2020.





# Enhancing Wellness at the Alberta Children's Hospital

As co-presidents over the past year, Drs. Catherine Macneil and Monique Jericho have been able to promote physician wellness and healthy work environments from within the Alberta Children's Hospital Medical Staff Association (MSA). Understanding the association between leadership, diversity, and physician wellness, they have focused their terms on the development of leadership and diversity within the MSA.

Before the pandemic, they helped coordinate a speaker series with a focus of Women in Leadership, including Alberta Health Services (AHS) CEO Dr. Verna Yiu, AHS CMO Dr. Francois Belanger, and AHS ACMO Dr. Debrah Wirtzfeld. They were on the organizing committee and were group facilitators for the "Building Solutions" Women in Medicine Solutions Circles event and continue to be involved in the follow up of action items. Further events planned were put on hold with COVID but have restarted this fall with "He/She/They/Them", a presentation on transgendered care and diversity with Calgary psychiatrist Dr. Martin Vetter.

Within their terms, bias training has become a requirement for search and selection committees. They have been part of Search and Selection (S&S) committees promoting diversity in hiring. Drs. Macneil and Jericho have strengthened connections between the varied departments involved in pediatric care at Alberta Children's Hospital and the community feel of the hospital has grown. Encouraging diversity in all of its dimensions enhances wellness and a better working environment, laying the foundations for better patient outcomes.

COVID has impacted the ability of the Department to promote social activities, for some a mainstay of physician wellness. Drs. Macneil and Jericho have instead been able to provide refreshments and coffee breaks, ensure clean workstations, and encourage a treat or two as well. They have been celebrating our local COVID champions, those who have put in extraordinary efforts over the past year. They continue to plan ways to recognize the physicians around us and the inspiring ways they are seeing us through this pandemic.



Photo: Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation



Photo: Leah Hennel, Alberta Health Services





# .....*Highlighting Wellness Within Our Community*



## **WELLNESS SPOTLIGHT: DR. SIDNEY NESBITT**

Dr. Sidney Nesbitt emigrated to Canada with his family in 2017. He was previously based at Gertrude's Children's Hospital – a not-for-profit pediatric hospital in Nairobi, Kenya – for nearly two decades, where he was engaged in hospital leadership and directing several pediatric training programs. Dr. Nesbitt joined the Section of Community Pediatrics in Calgary in April 2020, right in the midst of the initial pandemic closures. Since that time, he has worked with his colleagues to help improve overall efficiency and reduce physician stress in the pediatric clinic he is based at in Northwest Calgary. His advocacy work involves improved support for International Medical Graduate (IMG) residents and physicians. Furthermore, he is currently working to establish a peer-to-peer support system for community pediatricians, with a focus on mindfulness and promoting resiliency.



## **WELLNESS SPOTLIGHT: DR. ROXANNE GOLDADE**

"It has been a great privilege to be a part of the Department of Pediatrics over the last 2.5 decades. It has offered me the opportunity to be of service to my colleagues. Our journeys are varied yet entwined. We cannot function in isolation and to put it simply, we need each other. Community pediatricians are particularly vulnerable given our distanced practices.

When I think of Physician Wellness, I think of:

- Camaraderie in breaking bread together with a meal or a glass of wine
- Holding each other up with a text of support or an email to simply say "Hi"
- Sharing stories of hope and loss in the hallway
- A Zoom call just to see how long our hair has grown or how big our kids are
- Offering words of comfort or a hug as we walk this journey together
- Encouraging a colleague to nurture an idea

I am honoured to have been a part of the lives of many giving people. My colleagues have truly been a source of learning, joy and humility."



# OUR DEPARTMENT

## 2019-2020 ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

Dean, Cumming School of Medicine  
University of Calgary  
Dr. Jon Meddings

Medical Director, Calgary Zone  
Alberta Health Services  
Dr. Sid Viner

Department Head  
Pediatrics  
Dr. Mark Anselmo

Deputy Head  
Clinical & Strategic Affairs  
Dr. Michael Leaker

Deputy Head  
Education  
Dr. Leanna McKenzie

Deputy Head  
Professional Affairs  
Dr. Sarah Hall

Deputy Head  
Research  
Dr. Adam Kirton

Department Manager  
Cecilia Lee

Lead for Development  
of Research Capacity  
Dr. Brent Hagel

Medical Director of Quality and Safety,  
Alberta Children’s Hospital  
Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman

Administrative Assistant to  
Department Head  
Debbie Wall

AMHSP Controller  
Marco Romanzin

Billing Coordinator  
Tammy Bouchard

Communications Coordinator  
Alison Shepherd

Financial Analyst  
Vincent Bali

Manager of Administrative Services  
Alanise Featherstone

Manager of Administrative Services  
Jessica Phillips

Physician Affairs Coordinator  
Chantelle Cini

Physician Remuneration  
and Contract Coordinator  
Karen Rudd

Senior Consultant  
Child Health Research  
Nicole Romanow

Research Assistant  
Ashton Chugh

## 2019-2020 ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

### PEDIATRIC SECTION CHIEFS & UNIT DIRECTORS

Adolescent Medicine – Dr. April Elliott  
Cardiology – Dr. Kim Myers  
Child & Family Health Research Unit – Dr. Brent Hagel  
Community Pediatrics – Dr. Roxanne Goldade  
Deputy Section Chief – Dr. Caroline Chee  
Child Abuse Service – Dr. Jennifer MacPherson  
Social Pediatrics Unit - Dr. Jennifer MacPherson  
Critical Care – Dr. Simon Parsons  
Deputy Section Chief – Dr. Jonathan Gilleland  
Pediatric Transport – Dr. Ping-Wei Chen and Dr. Eli Gilad  
Developmental Pediatrics – Dr. Pamela Veale – to December 31, 2020  
Dr. Jean-Francois Lemay – from January 1, 2021  
Emergency Medicine – Dr. Antonia Stang  
Endocrinology – Dr. Carol Huang  
Gastroenterology – Dr. Iwona Wrobel  
Global Child Health Unit – Dr. Jenn Brenner,  
Dr. Jean-Francois Lemay, Dr. Nalini Singhal  
Hematology & Immunology/Allergy – Dr. Michael Leaker  
Hospital Pediatrics – Dr. Gemma Vomiero  
Deputy Section Chief – Dr. Karen-Rose Wilson  
Infectious Diseases – Dr. Mireille LeMay – to August 31, 2020  
Dr. Otto Vanderkooi – from September 1, 2020  
Medical Genetics – Dr. Francois Bernier  
Neonatology – Dr. Thierry Lacaze-Masmonteil  
Nephrology – Dr. Silviu Grisaru  
Neurology – Dr. Michael Esser  
Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant – Dr. Victor Lewis  
Palliative Medicine – Dr. Debbie McAllister  
Respiratory Medicine – Dr. Candice Bjornson  
Sleep Medicine – Dr. Adetayo Adeleye  
Rheumatology – Dr. Heinrike Schmeling

There are over 100 members, including administrators and research staff, who support the Department of Pediatrics at all University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services sites throughout the Calgary Zone.

### EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Undergraduate Medical Education – Dr. Susan Bannister

Postgraduate Medical Education  
Developmental Pediatrics – Dr. Scott McLeod  
Emergency Medicine – Dr. Naminder Sandhu  
Endocrinology – Dr. Rebecca Perry  
Gastroenterology – Dr. Gary Galante  
General Pediatrics – Dr. Amonpreet Sandhu  
Hematology/Oncology/BMT – Dr. Ron Anderson  
Infectious Diseases – Dr. Taj Jadavji  
KidSIM Pediatric Simulation – Dr. Vincent Grant  
Medical Genetics – Dr. Rebecca Sparkes  
Neonatology/Perinatology – Dr. Prashanth Murthy  
Nephrology – Dr. Anke Banks  
Neurology – Dr. Colleen Curtis  
Respiratory Medicine – Dr. Glenda Bendiak

Continuing Medical Education – Dr. Julian Midgley

### SITE LEADS PEDIATRICS

Foothills Medical Centre – Dr. Chris Lever  
Peter Lougheed Centre – Dr. Carrah Bouma  
Rockyview General Hospital – Dr. Darrell Palmer  
South Health Campus – Dr. Harish Amin

### SITE LEADS NEONATOLOGY

Alberta Children’s Hospital – Dr. Alexandra (Alix) Howlett  
Foothills Medical Centre – Dr. Amuchou Soraisham  
Peter Lougheed Centre – Dr. Leonora Hendson  
Rockyview General Hospital – Dr. Hussein Zein  
South Health Campus – Dr. Belal Alshaikh



# OUR DEPARTMENT

## CURRENT FACULTY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

New Physicians  
■ Retirees  
\*Locum

**ADOLESCENT MEDICINE**

Dr. April Elliott  
Dr. Jorge Pinzon  
Dr. Ellie Vyver

**CARDIOLOGY**

Dr. Robin Clegg  
Dr. Franciscus Dicke  
Dr. Deborah Fruitman  
Dr. Randall Giuffre  
Dr. Steven Greenway  
Dr. Kim Haberer\*  
Dr. Joyce Harder  
Dr. Kandice Mah  
Dr. Lindsay Mills  
Dr. Kimberley Myers  
Dr. David Patton  
Dr. Erika Vorhies

**CHILD & FAMILY HEALTH**

**RESEARCH UNIT**

Dr. Deborah Dewey  
Dr. Gerald Giesbrecht  
Dr. Brent Hagel  
Dr. Alberto Nettel-Aguirre  
Dr. Maria Santana  
Dr. Suzanne Tough

**COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS**

Dr. Syeda Abbas\*  
Dr. Hilda (Heidi) Angeles  
Dr. Rachel Bond  
Dr. Carrah Bouma  
Dr. Alexandra (Alixé) Carter\*  
Dr. Ciara Chamberlain\*  
Dr. Nathaniel Chan  
Dr. Shirley Chan  
Dr. Caroline Chee  
Dr. Amy Chow  
Dr. Neil Cooper (Child Protection)  
Dr. Kate Culman  
Dr. Kirsten Ebbert  
Dr. Amanda Evans  
Dr. Kristin Evashuk  
Dr. Renee Farrell\*  
Dr. Elsa Fiedrich (.75 Neonatology Supp)  
Dr. Cody Flexhaug  
Dr. Natalie Forbes (Child Protection)  
Dr. Frank Friesen  
Dr. Janis Friesen  
Dr. Cara Gilman  
Dr. Roxanne Goldade  
Dr. Sivalingum (Thiru) Govender  
Dr. Janice Heard  
Dr. Hardally Hegde  
Dr. Kathryn Hluchy  
Dr. Ernst Hoppenbrouwers  
Dr. Kristen Hui  
Dr. Keith Jorgenson  
Dr. Michele Kalny  
Dr. Raisa Kanji\*  
Dr. Cham-Pion Kao  
Dr. Lori Kardal  
Dr. Brian Kelly

Dr. Victoria Kendrick  
Dr. Krystina Kiefer  
Dr. Kelleigh Klym  
Dr. Faruqa Ladha  
Dr. Jennifer Landero  
Dr. Alexander Leung  
Dr. Christopher Lever  
Dr. Jennifer MacPherson (Child Protection)  
Dr. Vicky Mah  
Dr. Laura Miles

Dr. Kathleen Mitchell  
Dr. May Mones  
Dr. Danielle Nelson  
Dr. Sidney Nesbitt  
Dr. Jane Ng  
Dr. Peter Nieman  
Dr. Steven Olliver  
Dr. Darrell Palmer  
Dr. Viktoria Pankiv  
Dr. Billie Dawn Parsley\*  
Dr. Jody Patrick  
Dr. Melanie Purtzki  
Dr. Asma Quadir  
Dr. Phillip Quon\*  
Dr. Laine Racher  
Dr. Michele Ramien  
Dr. Nadira Rashid  
Dr. Lioba Redel  
Dr. Lauren Redgate  
Dr. Sergei Reznikov\*  
Dr. Elizabeth (Betty) Robinson  
Dr. Daniel Ross  
Dr. Elizabeth Shyleyko  
Dr. Robert Shyleyko\*  
Dr. Pamela Stone

Dr. Tracy Taylor  
Dr. Stephen Wainer  
Dr. Lori Walker  
Dr. Amy Chow  
Dr. Byron Wong  
Dr. John Wu ■  
Dr. Douglas Yeung  
Dr. Desiree Yow  
Dr. Shaila Zaver\*

**CRITICAL CARE**

Dr. Jaime Blackwood  
Dr. Shauna Burkholder  
Dr. Ping-Wei Chen (Supp)  
Dr. Paul Doughty  
Dr. Tanya Drews  
Dr. Mary Fras  
Dr. Jonathan Gamble  
Dr. Elyahu (Eli) Gilad  
Dr. Jonathan Gilleland  
Dr. Stacey Holbrook  
Dr. Shelina Jamal  
Dr. Meagan Mahoney  
Dr. Simon Parsons  
Dr. Barbara (Cathy) Ross  
Dr. Jennifer Rutledge\* (Supp)  
Dr. Jonathan Sniderman\*  
**DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS**  
Dr. Geraldine Farrelly

Dr. Jennifer Fisher  
Dr. Ben Gibbard  
Dr. Jean-Francois Lemay  
Dr. Kathryn (Kate) MacLellan  
Dr. Scott McLeod  
Dr. Alison Moore  
Dr. Kara Murias  
Dr. Kimberley Smyth  
Dr. Pamela Veale

**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

Dr. Rami Ableman  
Dr. Hilary Ambrose  
Dr. Francois Belanger  
Dr. Donald Bethune (Supp)  
Dr. Michele Bjornson  
Dr. Andrea Boone (Supp)  
Dr. Mark Bromley (Supp)  
Dr. Robyn Buna  
Dr. Gavin Burgess  
Dr. Adam Cheng  
Dr. Jennifer D’Mello (Child Protection)  
Dr. Shirmee Doshi  
Dr. Shawn Dowling (Supp)  
Dr. Marc Francis (Supp)  
Dr. Stephen Freedman  
Dr. Roger Galbraith  
Dr. Jennifer Graham Wedel  
Dr. Jeffrey Grant (Supp)  
Dr. Vincent Grant  
Dr. Frederick Guilfoyle  
Dr. Carey Johnson  
Dr. David Johnson  
Dr. Kevin Johnson (Supp)  
Dr. Sharron Spicer  
Dr. Christine Kennedy  
Dr. Tanuja Kodeeswaran  
Dr. Russell Lam  
Dr. Kerri Landry  
Dr. David Lendrum (Supp)  
Dr. Ed Les  
Dr. Lorraine Mabon  
Dr. Joseph MacLellan (Supp)  
Dr. Gordon McNeil (Supp)  
Dr. Sarah McPherson (Supp)  
Dr. Constance McTimoney  
Dr. Andre Michalchuk (Supp)  
Dr. Patrick Mihalicz  
Dr. Kelly Millar  
Dr. Shabnam Minoosepehr  
Dr. Ellen Morrison  
Dr. Rhonda Ness (Supp)  
Dr. Cheri Nijssen-Jordan  
Dr. Mary-Louise O’Byrne  
Dr. Adam Oster (Supp)  
Dr. Heather Patterson (Supp)  
Dr. Karl Phillips (Supp)  
Dr. Michael Pierce  
Dr. Naminder Sandhu  
Dr. Erik Saude (Supp)  
Dr. Michelle Simonelli  
Dr. Derrick Smith  
Dr. Antonia Stang  
Dr. Fiona Stewart

Dr. Dana Stys  
Dr. Izabela Sztukowski  
Dr. Graham Thompson  
Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Thomson  
Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman  
Dr. Phillip Ukrainetz (Supp)  
Dr. Hussein Unwala  
Dr. Melanie Willimann  
Dr. Ashlea Wilmott (Supp)  
Dr. Ian Wishart (Supp)  
Dr. Bryan Young (Supp)

**ENDOCRINOLOGY**

Dr. Krista Clark  
Dr. Jonathan Dawrant  
Dr. Josephine Ho  
Dr. Carol Huang  
Dr. Paola Luca  
Dr. Daniele Pacaud  
Dr. Rebecca Perry  
Dr. Katie Soper\*  
Dr. Zoyah Thawer\*  
Dr. Karin Winston

**GASTROENTEROLOGY**

Dr. Dana Boctor  
Dr. Jennifer DeBruyn  
Dr. Gary Galante  
Dr. Dominica Gidrewicz  
Dr. Jocelyn Jeong\*  
Dr. Simon Lam  
Dr. Helen Machida  
Dr. Steven Martin  
Dr. Leanna McKenzie  
Dr. Kristen Johnson  
Dr. Christopher Waterhouse  
Dr. Iwona Wrobel  
Dr. Alfred Yeung

**HEMATOLOGY/IMMUNOLOGY**

Dr. Doan Le  
Dr. Michael Leaker  
Dr. Luis Murguia Favela (Immunology)  
Dr. Gurpreet Singh  
Dr. MacGregor Steele  
Dr. Nicola Wright

**HOSPITAL PEDIATRICS**

Dr. Christopher Andrews  
Dr. Michelle Bailey  
Dr. Susan Bannister  
Dr. Chantelle Barnard  
Dr. Adeline Brimacombe  
Dr. Gary Chow  
Dr. Deanna Cook  
Dr. Heather Cooke  
Dr. Laura Davies  
Dr. Tammie Dewan  
Dr. Dominique Eustace  
Dr. Julie Fisher  
Dr. Michael Friesen  
Dr. Sarah Hall  
Dr. Michelle Jackman  
Dr. Renee Jackson

Dr. Sangeeta Jain  
Dr. Lindsay Long  
Dr. Catherine Macneil  
Dr. Sonia Menard\*  
Dr. Swati Rastogi  
Dr. Candace Rypien  
Dr. Aaliya Sabir  
Dr. Amonpreet Sandhu  
Dr. Lindsay Stockdale  
Dr. Cristina Stoian  
Dr. Siddharth Thakore  
Dr. Peter Vetere  
Dr. Michael Vila  
Dr. Gemma Vomiero  
Dr. Karen-Rose Wilson  
Dr. Theresa Wu

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Dr. Cora Constantinescu  
Dr. Devika Dixit\*  
Dr. Jessica Dunn  
Dr. Tajdin Jadavji  
Dr. Jim Kellner  
Dr. Susan Kuhn  
Dr. Mireille LeMay  
Dr. Otto Vanderkooi  
Dr. Joseph Vayalumkal

**MEDICAL GENETICS**

Dr. Ping-Yee (Billie) Au  
Dr. Francois Bernier  
Dr. Allan (Micheil) Innes  
Dr. Aneal Khan  
Dr. Julie Lauzon  
Dr. Matthew Lines  
Dr. R. Brian Lowry  
Dr. Julian Marcadier  
Dr. Renee Perrier  
Dr. Rebecca Sparkes  
Dr. Mary Ann Thomas

**NEONATOLOGY**

Dr. Ayman Abou Mehrem  
Dr. Albert Akierman  
Dr. Essa Al Awad  
Dr. Belal Alshaikh  
Dr. Harish Amin  
Dr. Amina Benlamri  
Dr. Ashley Blagdon\*  
Dr. Deborah Clark ■  
Dr. Stefani Doucette\*  
Dr. Adel ElSharkawy\*  
Dr. Carlos Fajardo  
Dr. Shabih Hasan  
Dr. Jennifer Heath (Neonatal Follow-Up)  
Dr. Leonora Hendson  
Dr. Alexandra (Alixé) Howlett  
Dr. Majeeda Kamaluddeen  
Dr. Thierry Lacaze-Masmonteil  
Dr. Lara Leijser  
Dr. Abhay Lodha  
Dr. Khorshid Mohammad  
Dr. Prashanth Murthy  
Dr. Yacov (Jack) Rabi

Dr. Nalini Singhal  
Dr. Amuchou Soraisham  
Dr. Amelie Stritzke  
Dr. Sumesh Thomas  
Dr. Anne Tierney  
Dr. Jennifer Unrau  
Dr. Kamran Yusuf  
Dr. Hussein Zein

**NEPHROLOGY**

Dr. Anke Banks  
Dr. Silviu Grisaru  
Dr. Lorraine Hamiwka  
Dr. Matthew Harding\*  
Dr. Julian Midgley  
Dr. Susan Samuel  
Dr. Andrew Wade

**NEUROLOGY**

Dr. Juan (JP) Appendino  
Dr. Margaret Clarke  
Dr. Colleen Curtis  
Dr. Michael Esser  
Dr. Heather Graham  
Dr. Alice Ho  
Dr. Julia Jacobs-Le Van  
Dr. C. Adam Kirton  
Dr. Jean Mah  
Dr. Aleksandra Mineyko  
Dr. Serena Orr  
Dr. Eric Payne  
Dr. Beverley Prieur  
Dr. Harvey Sarnat  
Dr. Morris Scantlebury

**ONCOLOGY/HSCT**

Dr. Ronald Anderson  
Dr. Melanie Finkbeiner\*  
Dr. Gregory Guilcher  
Dr. Lucie Lafay-Cousin  
Dr. Victor Lewis  
Dr. Zoulficar Menhem\*  
Dr. Arumugavadeivel Narendran  
Dr. Ravi Shah\*  
Dr. Douglas Strother  
Dr. Tony Truong

**PALLIATIVE MEDICINE**

Dr. Mala Arasu  
Dr. Naomi Goloff\*  
Dr. Estee Grant  
Dr. John McLennan  
Dr. Erin Kwolek\*  
Dr. Kevin Levere  
Dr. Debbie McAllister (Supp)

**RESPIRATORY MEDICINE**

Dr. Adetayo Adeleye  
Dr. Mark Anselmo  
Dr. Glenda Bendiak  
Dr. Candice Bjornson  
Dr. Jennifer Brenner  
Dr. Marielena DiBartolo  
Dr. Karen Kam

Dr. Valerie Kirk  
Dr. Paul MacEachern (Supp)  
Dr. Ian Mitchell  
Dr. Mark Montgomery  
Dr. Mary Noseworthy

**RHEUMATOLOGY**

Dr. Susanne Benseler  
Dr. Muhammed Dhalla\*  
Dr. Nicole Johnson  
Dr. Nadia Luca  
Dr. Paivi Miettunen  
Dr. Heinrike Schmeling  
Dr. Rebeka (Beka) Stevenson  
Dr. Marinka Twilt

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**

**APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta  
Dr. Karen Barlow  
Rev. Phillip Behman  
Dr. Karen Benzies  
Dr. Graham Boag  
Dr. Thomas Bowen  
Dr. Brian Brooks  
Dr. Marie-Anne Bründler  
Dr. Jeffrey Buchhalter  
Dr. Helen Carlson  
Dr. Catherine Chrusch  
Dr. Beverly Collisson  
Dr. Margaret Ruth Connors  
Dr. Dianne Creighton  
Dr. Lawrence de Koning  
Ms. Kathleen Douglas-England  
Dr. Carolyn Emery  
Dr. Taryn Fay-McClymont  
Dr. Laura Flores-Dinorin (Sarnat)  
Dr. Clare Gallagher  
Dr. Daniel Gilfoyle  
Dr. Walter Hader  
Dr. Mark Hamilton  
Dr. Laura Kaminsky  
Dr. Bonnie Kaplan  
Dr. Faisal Khan  
Dr. Nicole Letourneau  
Dr. Katelyn Lowe  
Dr. William MacAllister  
Dr. Shannon MacDonald  
Dr. Frank MacMaster  
Dr. Carina Majaesic  
Dr. Sheila McDonald  
Dr. John McLennan  
Dr. Carly McMorris  
Dr. Tamara Pringsheim  
Dr. Jordan Raugust  
Dr. Ivan Rebeyka  
Dr. Jong Rho  
Dr. Ganesh Shanmugam  
Dr. Leonard Smith  
Dr. Gesche Tallen  
Dr. Lianne Tomfohr  
Dr. Samuel Wiebe  
Dr. Thomas Christopher Wilkes  
Ms. Brenda Wilson

Dr. Kathryn (Kay) Wotton  
Dr. James (JR) Wright  
Dr. Keith Yeates  
Dr. Weiming Yu  
Dr. Ephrem Zewdie

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
REGIONAL**

Dr. Abdelbasat Aborawi  
Dr. Charles Bester  
Dr. Sophia Capisonda  
Dr. Kerry Chan  
Dr. Kathryn Cooke  
Dr. Magriet du Plooy  
Dr. Talita Ferreira-Van der Watt  
Dr. Loretta Fiorillo  
Dr. Charlotte Foulston  
Dr. Josias Grobler  
Dr. Hendrik Hak  
Dr. Maya Harilal  
Dr. Liesl Heyns-Janse van Rensburg  
Dr. John Holland  
Dr. Ilona Levin  
Dr. Mark Mahood  
Dr. Kyle McKenzie  
Dr. Carey Molberg  
Dr. Vanessa Orrego  
Dr. Desmond Shulman  
Dr. Gerald Vaz

**SUPPLEMENTARY/OTHER**

Dr. Abdullah Alabbas  
Dr. Lee Burkholder  
Dr. Elizabeth Condliffe  
Dr. Derek Exner (Supp)  
Dr. Rex Farran  
Dr. Nancy Ghazar\*  
Dr. Vithya Gnanakumar  
Dr. Daniel Gregson (Supp)  
Dr. Jennifer Grossman (Supp)  
Dr. Richard Haber (Supp)  
Dr. Matthew Hall (Supp)  
Dr. Christina Hardcastle  
Dr. Barbara Kellner (Supp)  
Dr. Pierre LeVan  
Dr. Ian MacDonald (Supp)  
Dr. Davide Martino  
Dr. Jamin Mulvey\*  
Dr. Jennifer Nicol (Supp)  
Dr. Tyler Pirlot  
Dr. Man-Chiu Poon (Supp)  
Dr. Vimal Prajapati (Supp)  
Dr. Kathleen (Kathy) Reynolds  
Dr. Justyna Sarna  
Dr. Adam Spencer (Supp)  
Dr. Oksana Suchowersky (Supp)  
Dr. Martin Vetter  
Dr. Andrew Wong (Supp)

New Physicians  
■ Retirees  
\*Locum





# PEDIATRIC TRAINEES

## CURRENT RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

**GENERAL PEDIATRICS**

**R1**

Dr. Daphne Cheung  
Dr. Brielle Cram  
Dr. Tara Evans-Atkinson  
Dr. Christian Farrier  
Dr. Michelle Fric  
Dr. Mackenzie Gault  
Dr. Keon Ma  
Dr. Chika Olijio  
Dr. Lana Rothfels  
Dr. Alyse Schacter  
Dr. Kayla Sliskovic  
Dr. John Storwick  
Dr. Tamara Yee

**R2**

Dr. Marian Coret  
Dr. Elizabeth Gonzalez Sierra  
Dr. Rebecca Hay  
Dr. Jenessa Kerr  
Dr. Elise Martin  
Dr. Paulina Podgorny  
Dr. Katherine Pohoreski  
Dr. Madison Riddell  
Dr. Meagan Roy  
Dr. Alexa Scarcello  
Dr. Jordan Yeo  
Dr. Katherine Yurkiw

**R3**

Dr. Abdulaziz Abul  
Dr. Jazmyn Balfour-Boehm  
Dr. Amanda Brett  
Dr. Alexa Geddes  
Dr. Rouzbeh Ghadiry-Tavi  
Dr. Dylan Ginter  
Dr. Ceilidh Kinlin  
Dr. Susan Knechtel  
Dr. Jovana Milenkovic  
Dr. Gayathri (Gaya) Narendran  
Dr. Jennifer Saunders  
Dr. Roopa Suppiah

**R4**

Dr. Nikytha Antony  
Dr. Paige Burgess  
Dr. Brianne Dergousoff  
Dr. Chantel de Ruiter  
Dr. Louise Ing  
Dr. Kaspar Ng  
Dr. Roxanne Pinson  
Dr. Lea Restivo  
Dr. Anna Schwalfenberg

**DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS**

Dr. Laurie-Anne Dufour  
Dr. Michelle Huie  
Dr. Sarah MacEachern

**EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

Dr. Katie Anker  
Dr. Jason Baserman  
Dr. Grazyna Burek  
Dr. Anne-Josee Cote  
Dr. Omar Damji  
Dr. Nicholas Monfries  
Dr. Brit Sunderani  
Dr. Gloria Yoo

**ENDOCRINOLOGY**

Dr. Matthew Feldman

**GASTROENTEROLOGY**

Dr. Leena Desai  
Dr. Amelia Kellar  
Dr. Simone Kortbeek  
Dr. Jaclyn Strauss

**HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY**

Dr. Mohammad AlNajjar  
Dr. Jaspreet Gharial  
Dr. Georgina Martin  
Dr. Candace Rypien - Fellow

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Dr. Khaled Al Sager - Fellow

**KIDSIM PEDIATRIC SIMULATION**

Dr. Robert Carey  
Dr. Genevieve Gravel  
Dr. Tyson Savage

**MEDICAL GENETICS & GENOMICS**

Dr. Lauren Borch  
Dr. Samuel Bradbrook  
Dr. Eliza Phillips  
Dr. Bradley Prince  
Dr. Michelle Siu - Fellow  
Dr. Chris Smith  
Dr. Tara Spence - Fellow  
Dr. Amanda Tyndall - Fellow  
Dr. Xiao-Ru Yang

**NEONATAL/PERINATAL**

Dr. Neha Bansal - Fellow  
Dr. Maria Liza Espinoza  
Dr. Anirban Ghosh  
Dr. Farzana Hamid - Fellow  
Dr. Chacko Justin Joseph  
Dr. Marina Journault  
Dr. Martin Perlsteyn  
Dr. Adriana Reyes Loreda  
Dr. Deepika Rustogi  
Dr. Ankur Srivastava  
**Dr. Soumya Thomas**

**NEPHROLOGY**

Dr. Areefa Alladin-Karan  
Dr. Laura Kaufman  
Dr. Augustina Okpere

**NEUROLOGY**

Dr. Marvin Braun - Fellow  
Dr. Mary Dunbar - Fellow  
Dr. Stephanie Hammond  
Dr. Alison Marshall  
Dr. Sarila Sanhan  
Dr. Kirsten Sjonnesen  
Dr. Ratika Srivastava - Fellow  
Dr. Jordan Van Dyk  
Dr. Kristine Woodward

**PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL MEDICINE**

Dr. Raman Chawla - Fellow  
Dr. Christopher Novak - Fellow

**RESPIRATORY MEDICINE**

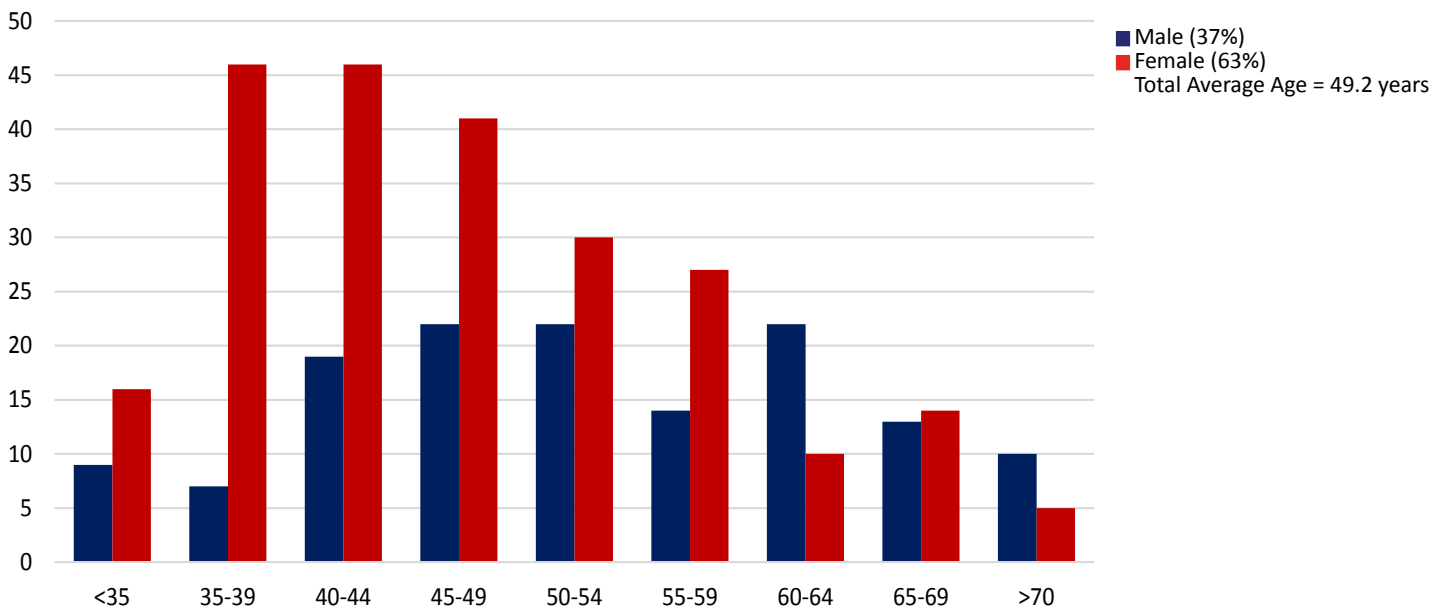
Dr. Majid Al Teneiji - Fellow  
Dr. Kirsten Ebbert - Fellow  
Dr. Jody Platt - Fellow



# OUR DEPARTMENT

## 2019-2020 DEMOGRAPHICS

Department Demographics\*  
 Number of Members by Age Group (Years)  
 \*Includes primary appointees only



University Faculty Appointments

Academic Status	Primary Appointment (331)			Joint Appointments (63)		
	Clinical Faculty	GFT Faculty	Adjunct/Research Faculty	Clinical Faculty	GFT Faculty	Adjunct/Research Faculty
Lecturer	90	0	1	13	0	0
Assistant Professor	105	7	15	13	3	1
Associate Professor	52	25	5	7	12	0
Professor	4	23	4	1	11	2
Totals	251	55	25	34	26	3

There are 4 additional members with emeritus or honorary university appointments.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Medical Staff Appointments

Primary AHS Pediatrics*	Supplementary AHS Pediatrics
324	50

\*This number contains 25 part-time or full-time locums.





# CLINICAL ACTIVITY

## 2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

### CRITICAL CARE VISITS

3,857

3,004 NICU ADMISSIONS  
853 PICU ADMISSIONS

2019-2020  
FISCAL YEAR

90,108

### EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS

75,661 AT ACH  
14,447 AT SCH

9,164

### INPATIENT VISITS

ACROSS ALL SITES  
(EXCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH  
AND SURGICAL ADMISSIONS)

359,630

303,211 FACE-TO-FACE VISITS  
56,419 OTHER (TELEPHONE/TELEHEALTH)

THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN  
SEEN BY MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WHO  
ARE COMMUNITY-BASED PEDIATRICIANS

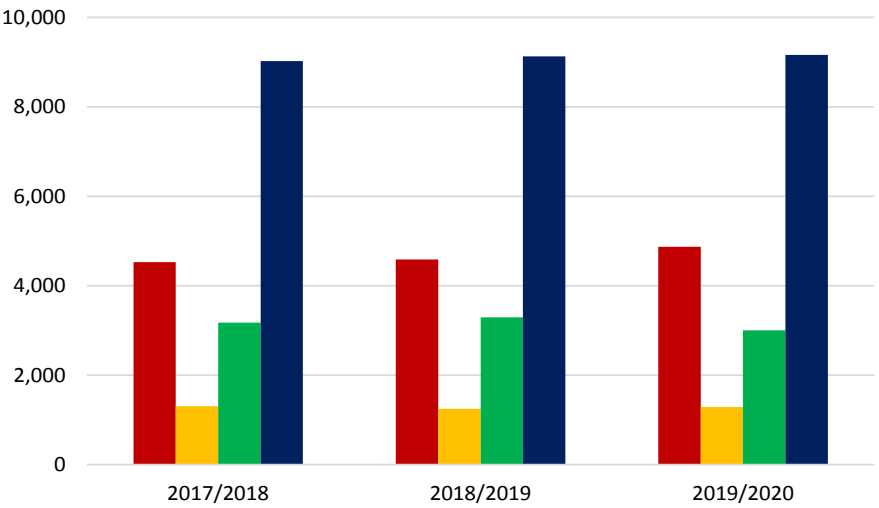
ACH	Alberta Children's Hospital
FMC	Foothills Medical Centre
PLC	Peter Lougheed Centre
RGH	Rockyview General Hospital
SHC	South Health Campus

## 2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

Calgary Zone Pediatric Discharges  
Total Discharges per Year by Site

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
ACH Pediatrics*	4,533	4,588	4,871
PLC Pediatrics*	1,312	1,249	1,289
NICU Total (ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC)	3,179	3,295	3,004
Calgary Zone Total Pediatrics (ACH, PLC) and NICU (total)	9,024	9,132	9,164

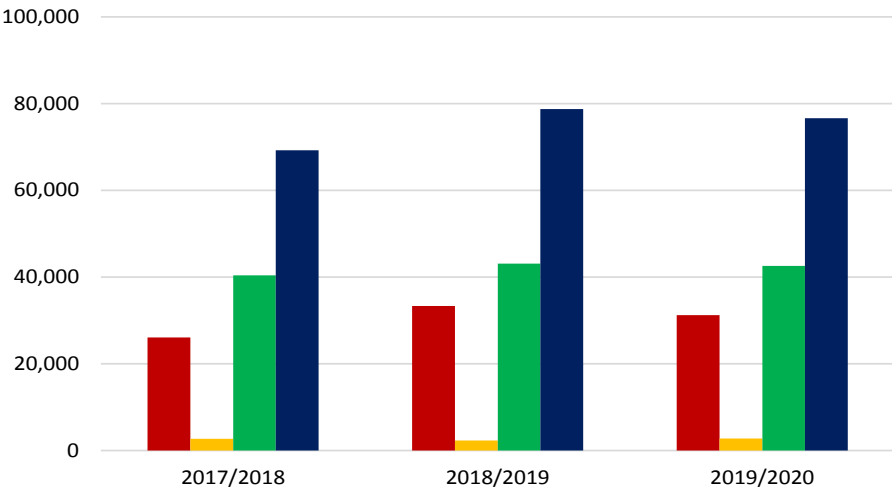
\*Excluding Neonatology



Calgary Zone Pediatric Hospital Days  
Total Hospital Days per Year by Site

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
ACH Pediatrics*	26,098	33,335	31,236
PLC Pediatrics*	2,720	2,278	2,800
NICU Total (ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC)	40,405	43,122	42,573
Calgary Zone Total Pediatrics (ACH, PLC) and NICU (total)	69,223	78,735	76,609

\*Excluding Neonatology

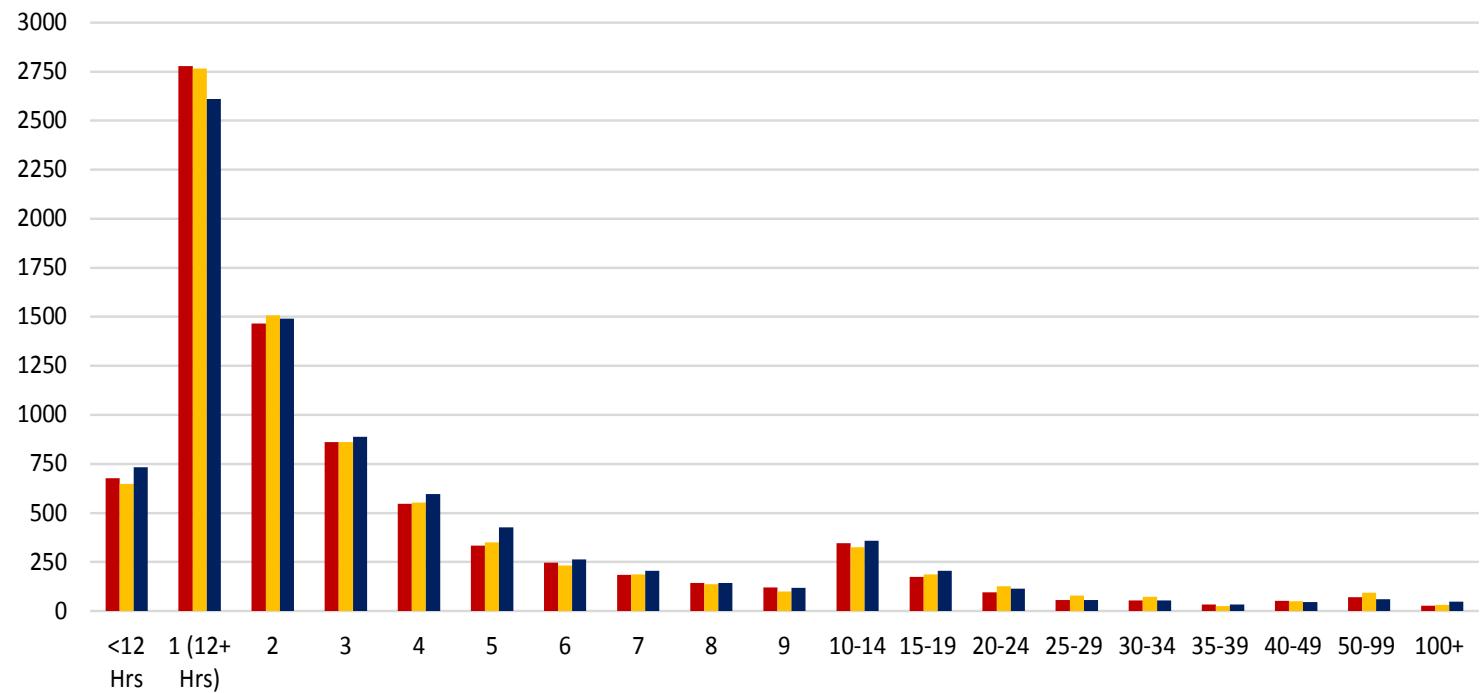




ACH	Alberta Children’s Hospital
FMC	Foothills Medical Centre
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2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

ACH Pediatric Inpatient Length of Stay Trends  
Total Discharges per Year by Length of Stay (Days)



2017/2018	677	2,778	1,465	862	547	333	246	184	143	121	345	173	95	56	53	33	51	71	28
2018/2019	648	2,766	1,507	862	553	350	231	186	137	99	325	187	127	79	72	24	50	94	32
2019/2020	732	2,610	1,490	888	596	426	262	204	143	119	359	206	113	55	53	34	45	60	48

Days stay is the total number of accumulated inpatient days for patients discharged (including deaths). The day of admission is counted but not the day of discharge. LOS <12 hours included pseudo admissions, and patients in and out the same day or the next calendar day.

Annual Unit Pediatric Occupancy

Fiscal Year	ACH									PLC		FMC	RGH	SHC
	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Mental Health	NICU	PICU	Surgical Short Stay	Total	Peds	NICU	NICU	NICU	NICU
2017/2018	86.9%	88.9%	94.0%	92.4%	109.4%	86.6%	65.2%	50.2%	88.3%	69.1%	84.2%	89.0%	77.0%	83.0%
2018/2019	90.7%	91.5%	98.8%	96.2%	108.0%	86.9%	64.2%	53.6%	90.8%	63.9%	92.3%	92.7%	84.4%	90.0%
2019/2020	92.5%	92.0%	99.2%	97.9%	103.2%	87.2%	66.0%	53.9%	90.8%	73.9%	89.6%	90.0%	77.0%	86.0%

PLC Pediatric Unit Admissions by Admission Type

Fiscal Year	Pediatric Admits to Ped Unit (age <18Y)	Direct Inpatient Transfer from ACH	Direct Outpatient Transfer from ACH	Admit Thru PLC ED	Other - Jaundice Diagnosis	Other - No Jaundice Diagnosis
2019/2020	1,204	37	544	129	385	109

2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

ACH Inpatient Activity by Most Responsible Physician Section

Medical Sections	2019/2020		
	Discharges	Total Days Stay	Average Length of Stay
Cardiology	84	661	7.9
Endocrinology	131	1,020	7.8
Gastroenterology	166	942	5.7
Intensivist	329	2,772	8.4
Neonatology	162	3,548	21.9
Nephrology	145	806	5.6
Neurology	231	741	3.2
Oncology/Hematology	553	4,949	8.9
Pediatric Hospital Medicine	3,196	18,827	5.9
Respirology	36	518	14.4
Total - Medical	5,033	34,784	9.0

ACH Frequently Encountered Discharge Diagnoses

Diagnosis	2019/2020		
	Discharges	Total Days Stay	Average Length of Stay
Acute Bronchiolitis	359	1,460	4.1
Asthma	290	630	2.2
Epilepsy	170	830	4.9
Pneumonia, Organism Unspecified	138	441	3.2
Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus	122	298	2.4
Unspecified Acute Lower Respiratory Infection	102	418	4.1
Acute Upper Respiratory Infections of Multiple and Unspecified Sites	97	336	3.5
Acute Obstructive Laryngitis (Croup) and Epiglottitis	93	188	2.0
Abdominal and Pelvic Pain	79	136	1.7
Viral and Other Specified Intestinal Infections	69	314	4.6
Convulsions, Not Elsewhere Classified	69	149	2.2
Agranulocytosis	60	245	4.1

These are some of the most frequent discharge diagnoses, excluding mental health and surgical admissions.



ACH	Alberta Children's Hospital
FMC	Foothills Medical Centre
PLC	Peter Lougheed Centre
RGH	Rockyview General Hospital
SHC	South Health Campus

## 2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

### ACH Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Activity

Fiscal Year	2019/2020
PICU Cases	853
Total Admissions/Transfers into PICU*	864
Admissions to PICU*	477
Transfers into PICU from Units*	240
Transfers into PICU from ADOP/PACU*	147
Discharge from or Death in PICU	250
Transfers out of PICU to Units*	603
PICU Unit LOS	3,634
Hospital LOS - PICU Cases	12,646
Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) Cases*	7

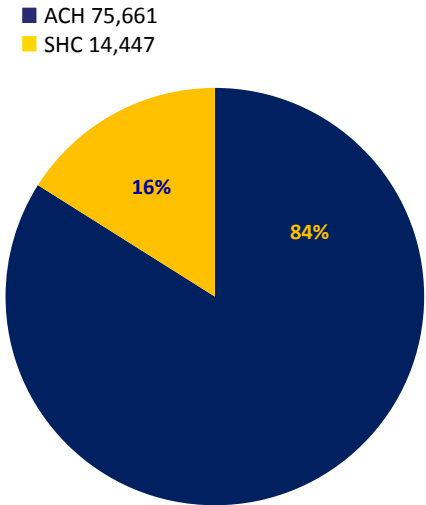
\*Fiscal year based on hospital admission date, others based on hospital discharge date.  
Patients may have more than 1 admission, transfer into PICU, and transfers out of PICU on a hospital stay.  
Extracorporeal life support cases are collected if the the following CIHI criteria are met, effective April 2012:  
- performance in an operating/intervention room (e.g. endoscopy room, cardiac catheterization room) or;  
- performance in the presence of an anesthetist (i.e. anesthetic record on the chart) or;  
- performance using the following approaches: open, endoscopic, percutaneous transluminal/transarterial.

### Emergency Department (ED) Pediatric Mental Health Visits

Site	Total Ped ED Visits	# Mental Health Visits	% Mental Health ED Visits	Mental Health Admit from ED to Same Site	Mental Health Transfer to Other Acute Care Facility	Mental Health ED Discharge/ Other	Mental Health ED Left Without Being Seen
ACH	75,661	3,287	4.3	631	255	2,331	70
SHC	14,447	593	4.1	112	27	438	16
Total Other Sites (FMC, PLC, RGH)	11,372	561	4.9	169	44	323	25

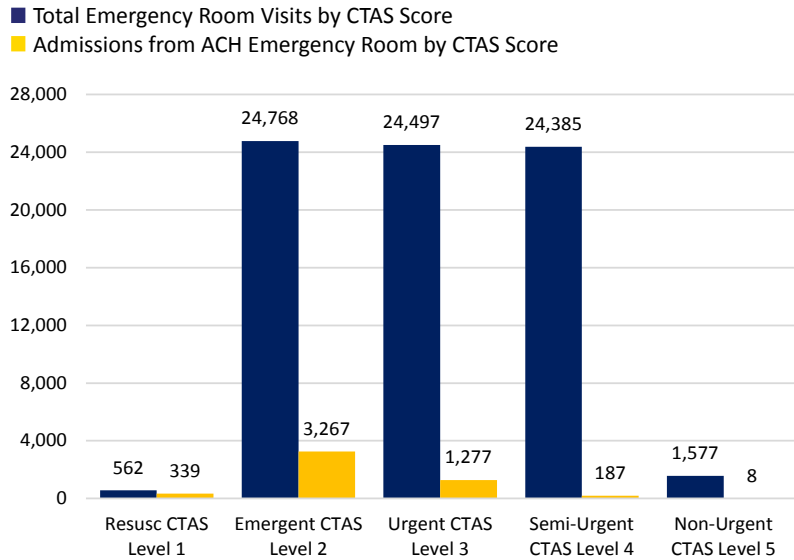
Pediatric refers to patients < 18 years of age.  
Mental Health defined by diagnoses codes used by Addictions and Mental Health on ED visits.

### Pediatric Emergency Department (ED) Visits Total ED Visits by Site for Fiscal Year 2019/2020



### ACH Emergency Room Visits and Admissions

#### Total Patients by CTAS Score



## 2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

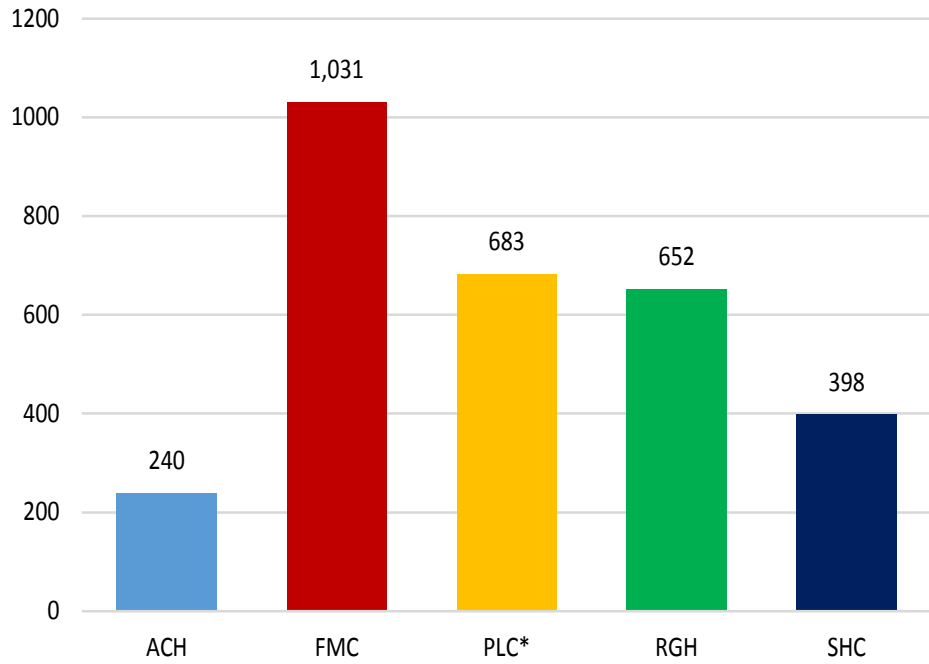
### Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Activity by Site

	2019/2020					
NICU Indicators	ACH	FMC	PLC*	RGH	SHC	Total
Discharges	240	1,031	683	652	398	3,004
Total Days Stay	6,910	12,939	9,144	8,464	5,116	42,573
Average Length of Stay (ALOS)	28.8	12.5	13.4	13.0	12.9	14.2
Intracity Transfer	49	483	43	44	26	645
Total Days in NICU Unit	4,190	12,314	8,612	8,033	4,842	37,991
Average Case Weight (ARIW)	10.38	3.89	2.83	2.82	2.89	3.80
Unique Patients	-	-	-	-	-	2,331
Average Neonatal Length of Stay per Patient (Days)	-	-	-	-	-	18.3

\*PLC NICU Cases may be included in the PLC Pediatric unit data if patients were discharged from that unit.  
Unique Patients is the number of babies with a stay in NICU (based on uli) discharged in the fiscal year.  
Average neonatal stay for these patients includes all days stay in a Calgary hospital prior to discharge home by March 31.  
Average Case Weight for all years is based on current year values.

### Calgary Zone NICU Discharges

#### Total Discharges by Site



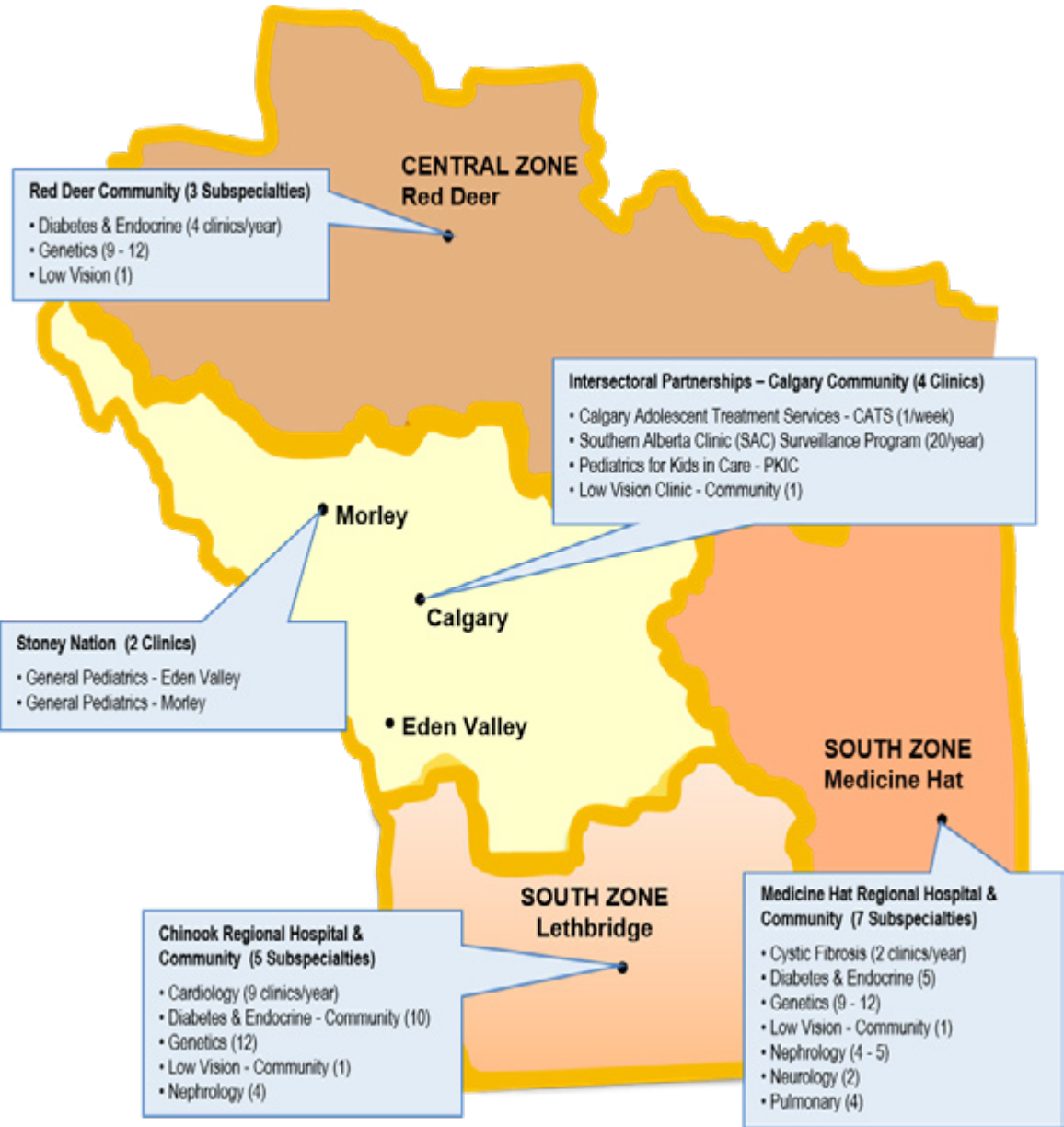
\*PLC NICU Cases may be included in the PLC Pediatric unit data if patients were discharged from that unit.



# OUTREACH ACTIVITY

## LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND BEYOND

Providing subspecialty services to children, youth, and families across Southern Alberta  
(Updated November 2020)







# RESEARCH ACTIVITY

## 2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS

Department/Faculty	Total Research Revenue		% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019
	2018/2019	2019/2020	
Pediatrics	\$11.0M	\$12.4M	+13%
Total Cumming School of Medicine	\$213.4M	\$213.8M	+0.2%

Department/Faculty	Total Research Revenue Per Research Equivalent (RE)		% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019
	2018/2019	2019/2020	
Pediatrics	\$0.55M	\$0.60M	+9%
Total Cumming School of Medicine	\$0.96M	\$0.93M	-3%

Department/Faculty	Total CIHR Research Revenue		% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019
	2018/2019	2019/2020	
Pediatrics	\$2.88M	\$3.32M	+15%
Total Cumming School of Medicine	\$45.3M	\$46.7M	+4%

Department/Faculty	Total Clinical Research Revenue		% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019
	2018/2019	2019/2020	
Pediatrics	\$7.64M	\$5.59M	-26%
Total Cumming School of Medicine	\$67.3M	\$47.9M	-29%

Department/Faculty	2018/2019	2019/2020	% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019
	Publications/Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)		
Pediatrics	4.6	4.9	+7%
Cumming School of Medicine	4.1	4.5	+10%
	Citations/FTE		
Pediatrics	163	198	+21%
Cumming School of Medicine	267	298	+11%
	50+ Citations in First 5 Years		
Pediatrics	50	63	+26%
Cumming School of Medicine	671	761	+13%



# OUR RECOGNITION

## 2020 DEPARTMENT AWARDS

### CARE AWARD: CLINICIAN

#### DR. ROGER GALBRAITH



Dr. Roger Galbraith is an exceptional clinician and has provided outstanding care to patients in the emergency department at the Alberta Children’s Hospital for many years. He is a highly skilled and compassionate physician and a strong advocate for patients and their families, and his wisdom and clinical acumen are greatly valued. Others strive to emulate his professionalism and bedside manner, with his colleagues describing him as “the type of emergency department physician that others strive to be.” Dr. Galbraith’s approach is thoughtful and well-rounded; he sees patient care from all angles and considers each individual case in a holistic way. Dr. Galbraith instills a sense of calm in the families and patients with whom he interacts and has contributed significantly to patient safety at the Alberta Children’s Hospital. He has held many leadership roles in the past and has an amazing rapport with all members of the emergency department team. Dr. Galbraith is an invaluable resource for new staff and acts as an excellent mentor to many trainees and junior members of the emergency department team. His clinical lectures and presentations are always showstoppers - he has the ability to broaden the horizons of attendees while keeping them entertained. Furthermore, Dr. Galbraith has a wealth of humanitarian experience with his teaching endeavours in developing countries. He is an incredible teacher and incorporates evidence and experience into his teaching and his practice. Despite his vast knowledge and clinical experience both locally and internationally, he is always keen to continue learning and growing as a physician.

### CARE AWARD: RESEARCHER

#### DR. SUZANNE TOUGH



Dr. Suzanne Tough is a longstanding member of the Department of Pediatrics and is well-known as a highly accomplished researcher at the University of Calgary and beyond. She is the principal investigator of the All Our Families cohort, which provides evidence-based recommendations to improve programs and policies related to the health of children and families in our communities. Dr. Tough’s research program seeks to improve the health and well-being of women during pregnancy to achieve optimal maternal, birth and early childhood outcomes. Specifically, Dr. Tough’s research interests include but are not limited to maternal and child health, preconception and prenatal care, preterm birth, maternal mental health, and child development. Her research has helped to identify evidence that informs the development of community and clinical programs and influences policy to optimize birth and childhood outcomes. As a member of the United Way Council of Champions and other advisory committees, Dr. Tough has taken a collaborative approach to develop the All Our Families research agenda to provide relevant and useful evidence for decision making, program planning, and policy development. Her work has been recognized with various awards, including a Global TV Women of Vision Award, an Alumni Award of Excellence, and a People’s First Award. Furthermore, she was the recipient of the prestigious Geoffrey C. Robinson Award from the Canadian Paediatric Society in 2017, and was recognized in 2019 by the United Nations on International Women’s Day as one of 100 women around the world whose work was celebrated by the UN Women Global Innovation Coalition for Change (GICC).

### CARE AWARD: ADVOCATE AND LEADER

#### DR. JOSEPH VAYALUMKAL



Dr. Joseph Vayalumkal has led the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team at the Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH) with incredible vision over the past decade, demonstrating exceptional leadership, resilience, kindness, patience and perseverance. He has worked tirelessly and effectively since before the pandemic was declared, providing important, steadfast and expert leadership in planning and managing COVID-19 infection prevention and control throughout ACH, the Calgary Zone and across Alberta. As early as January 2020, Dr. Vayalumkal had already written site-specific COVID guidelines for infection prevention and control to ensure that ACH would be well-prepared in its pandemic response. At a provincial level, Dr. Vayalumkal is a key member and important influence for both the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and the Maternal, Newborn, Child & Youth (MNCY) group for COVID, helping to protect our youngest and most vulnerable patients. Dr. Vayalumkal is always available to respond to questions from any area or division, providing continuous IPC expertise and leadership to help ensure a consistent approach. He is a source of strength and clear direction during uncertain times, addressing concerns and arriving at solutions to keep our patients and families, staff, and hospital safe. Dr. Vayalumkal is the ultimate team player and consistently provides encouragement and education for his team members and colleagues to help them navigate difficult situations, keeping his passion for IPC and his dedication to the safety of patients, families, and staff at the forefront. Throughout it all, his efforts and advocacy have not wavered. Dr. Vayalumkal consistently demonstrates incredible persistence and passion in his work.

### CARE AWARD: EDUCATOR

#### DR. THERESA WU



Dr. Theresa Wu has had significant impacts on education in the Department of Pediatrics at all levels. She is an inspiring role model for lifelong learning and has a unique ability to simultaneously provide excellent support to both learners and faculty, with a strong focus on supporting best practice in clinical care. She is a dedicated and supportive advocate for residents and is the Assistant Program Director for Academic Support for the General Pediatrics Residency Program, contributing hours of work to committee meetings, resident reviews, and 1-1 mentorship with residents to support their academic progress and ongoing success. Dr. Wu has helped re-envision various areas of medical education within the Department of Pediatrics. She is the inaugural Chair of the Department of Pediatrics Competence Committee and has successfully established the Faculty Advisor Program, delivering various workshops to advisors and residents and aiding in the creation of learning plans for trainees. She has led the development of ‘PaedsPortal’, a Department-funded project which has centralized all education resources for Pediatric-focused teaching for clerkship and residency, and has also been a key contributor for Cards, an online, open access set of clinical questions that are used internationally and at every medical school within Canada. Furthermore, Dr. Wu is the Chair for Course 6 (Women’s and Children’s Health) and has relaunched the clinical core, the first for this course since February 2020. During the pandemic, she has contributed to the development of new educational elective experiences for learners, various resident-level resources, and virtual sessions for trainees and advisors. Dr. Wu is a valued asset within our Department and a true champion for medical education.

### DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD

#### DR. JOHN WU



Dr. John Wu has retired after 49 years with the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Wu arrived in Calgary in 1981 as a one of the first Pediatric Hematologists/Oncologists in the city, and has made many significant contributions to pediatric hematology, both in the clinical and research realms, since that time. His last several decades have been dedicated to providing comprehensive pediatric care in the community setting, serving some of our most vulnerable populations. He is the founder of the Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth, an organization that continues to help tens of thousands of immigrant youth every year, and he has spent countless hours providing community advocacy and education locally, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Wu has been a role model and devoted advocate for many and will be greatly missed by his colleagues and patients.

### DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD

#### DR. DEBORAH CLARK



Dr. Deborah Clark has retired after 26 years with the Department of Pediatrics. Originally from Scotland, Dr. Clark moved to Canada to complete her Neonatal Fellowship at the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC). Throughout her career she held various roles at the Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH), including Head of the neonatal beds in the PICU and the Fellowship Director for Neonatal Perinatal Medicine. She also worked in the Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic. Dr. Clark was later appointed as the Site Director for the NICU at the Rockyview General Hospital (RGH) and was the liaison for antenatal consults. While at RGH she was committed to patient care, quality improvement, and education for all learners. Her dedication to the wellbeing of babies and families, as well as to the RGH team and the Section of Neonatology, will be greatly missed.

### COMMUNITY PEDIATRICIAN OF THE YEAR

#### DR. CARRAH BOUMA



Dr. Carrah Bouma is a skilled clinician, committed leader, and a strong advocate for her patients, colleagues, and fellow staff. She was appointed as Site Lead for Pediatrics at the Peter Lougheed Centre in January 2020 and has shown tireless dedication to the role since that time. Through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Bouma has worked to support children in vulnerable communities in Northeast Calgary, advocating to maintain services for them through the Peter Lougheed Centre. She has also helped develop COVID guidelines for her team and unit, attended countless leadership meetings, and communicated constantly and effectively with her team to ensure that everyone is well-informed. Dr. Bouma has demonstrated tenacity, adaptability, and endless hard work through the logistical and administrative constraints of the pandemic, all while continuing to deliver excellent clinical care to her patients as a community pediatrician.

### ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

#### IRENKE PAYNE



Irenke Payne joined the Department of Pediatrics in July 2018 and began her role as Program Administrator for the General Pediatrics Residency Program during a challenging and uncertain time. Irenke has been instrumental in helping navigate the pandemic in 2020 and has adapted seemingly effortlessly to the many changes it has brought. During the initial pandemic closure, the demand for administrative support for the General Pediatrics Residency Program was very intense. Irenke rose to the challenge and managed the multiple changes to schedules and processes. She is a problem solver and provides outstanding support to the program and its 40+ pediatric residents. Irenke is always calm, kind, and respectful, even in times of stress and uncertainty. She is efficient, approachable, knowledgeable, and always reliable. Furthermore, she is incredibly hard working, organized, and resourceful, and consistently goes above and beyond. Irenke’s organization and communication skills are outstanding. She often anticipates issues and attends to them before being asked. Irenke is conscientious and communicates well with all faculty and residents. Her support, efficiency, initiative, organization and commitment to her role has truly helped the Program Director, Assistant Program Directors, and pediatric residents thrive.

## 2020 DEPARTMENT AWARDS



# OUR RECOGNITION

## TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION AWARDS

**UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (UME) TEACHING AWARDS**  
Pediatrics Gold Star Awards (Faculty): Dr. Lauren Redgate, Dr. Sergei Reznikov, Dr. Theresa Wu; Honour Roll (Faculty): Dr. Laura Davies, Dr. Renee Jackson, Dr. Nicole Johnson, Dr. Robert Shyleyko  
Pediatrics Gold Star Awards (Residents): Dr. Grazyna Burek, Dr. Paige Burgess, Dr. Jacqueline Harrison; Honour Roll (Residents): Dr. Nikytha Antony, Dr. Marian Coret, Dr. Waleed Masoud, Dr. Eric Ong, Dr. Anna Schwalfenberg  
Gold Star Award (Integrative): Dr. Kim Smyth  
Jersey Award (Course 6): Dr. Theresa Wu - “Children Are Not Just Small Adults”  
Gold Star Award (Course 6): Dr. Izabela Sztukowski  
Honour Roll: Dr. Gesche Tallen, Dr. Ian Wishart, Dr. Debbie McAllister, Dr. Erik Saude, Dr. Kim Smyth, Dr. Pamela Veale, Dr. Leanna McKenzie, Dr. Cora Constantinescu, Dr. Heather Patterson, Dr. Ping-Wei Chen

**NEONATOLOGY TEACHING AWARDS**  
Teacher of the Year for Bedside Clinical Teaching, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program 2019-2020: Dr. Amuchou Soraisham  
Teacher of the Year for Academic Half-Day Teaching, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program 2019-2020: Dr. Khorshid Mohammad

**DR. HUSAM ZAKI (SAM) DARWISH CLINICAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
*In Recognition of Excellence in Clinical Teaching*  
*(Presented by the Alberta Children’s Hospital Pediatric Residents)*  
Subspecialty Pediatrics: Dr. Paul Doughty (Critical Care)  
Community Pediatrics: Dr. Lauren Redgate  
Hospital Pediatrics: Dr. Peter Vetere

**CLINICAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
*Awarded to Subspecialty Fellows in Recognition for Outstanding and Dedicated Teaching to the Pediatric Residents at Alberta Children’s Hospital*  
Dr. Georgina Martin (Hematology/Oncology Fellow)

**2020 DR. GEORGE PRIEUR PEDIATRIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**  
Dr. Paige Burgess (General Pediatrics)

**ANNUAL RESIDENTS & FELLOWS RESEARCH DAY 2020**  
First Place – Dr. Dana Stewart (Emergency Medicine)

**2019 INNOVATION AWARDS**  
**Drs. Tammie Dewan, Kathryn Birnie, Melanie Noel, and Jennifer Zwicker**  
“Post-traumatic stress symptoms and post-traumatic stress disorder in parents of children with recurrent hospitalizations”  
Primary Project Type – Research  
Awarded \$21,204

**Drs. Sheila McDonald, Suzanne Tough, Brent Hagel, and Susan Graham**  
“Let’s Talk About You: Engaging Youth in Health Outcomes Research”  
Primary Project Type – Research  
Secondary Project Type – Education  
Awarded \$7,500

**Drs. Ayman Abou Mehrem, Eli Gilad, Michelle Bailey, Sarah Hall, Dejana Nikitovic, Belal Alshaikh, Hussein Zein, Essa Al Awad, Julie Lauzon, Michael J. Esser, Candice Bjornson, Fiona Clement, Maria J. Santana, and Ms. Tanya Spence**  
“Virtual Subspecialty Consultations to Calgary NICUs”  
Primary Project Type – Clinical Care  
Secondary Project Type – Research  
Awarded \$24,648

**Drs. Kelly Millar, Nicholas Monfries, and Naminder Sandhu**  
“An App to Combat Healthcare Provider Burnout in the Pediatric Emergency Department”  
Primary Project Type – Research  
Awarded \$1,800

**Drs. Graham Thompson, Mary Brindle, Margaret Kelly, Craig Jenne, Beata Mickiewicz, Nils Fokert, Shaunna Huston, Karen Kopciuk, Kathy McCoy, and Mr. Matthew Lau**  
“The Systemic and Local Immune landscape of Children presenting to the Emergency Department with suspected appendicitis (SLICED): Innovation through Multiplex Ion Beam Imaging”  
Primary Project Type – Research  
Awarded \$25,000







**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Department of Pediatrics gratefully acknowledges and thanks the following individuals and groups for their contributions to this report:

**Project Lead**

Dr. Sarah Hall, Deputy Head Professional Affairs, Department of Pediatrics

**Design and Editorial Management**

Alison Shepherd, Communications Coordinator, Department of Pediatrics  
Mary Garcia, Communications Coordinator, Department of Pediatrics

**Photography**

Colin Way Photography Inc., Calgary, AB  
Dr. Heather Patterson, Emergency Physician, Medical Photographer  
Leah Hennel, Photographer, Alberta Health Services  
Monique de St. Croix, Unique Perspectives Photography  
Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation

**Data Collection, Preparation, and Reporting**

Diane Moser, Health Information Analyst, Alberta Health Services  
Alberta Health Services Child Health Annual Report 2019/2020  
Tina Sakon, Project Coordinator, Outreach Services, Alberta Children’s Hospital

Special thanks to the Alberta Children’s Hospital Foundation,  
Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute, Administrative Staff  
and Members of the Department of Pediatrics for their contributions.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to  
our patients and their families featured in this report.



