ANNUAL REPORT
2020

Department of Pediatrics
A LOOK BACK
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020

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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.

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

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.

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

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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

Photo: Dr. Heather Patterson, Emergency Physician, Medical Photographer
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.
Infection Prevention & Control Highlights

Interim Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) novel coronavirus guidelines developed for the Alberta Children’s Hospital in January 2020

Development of Provincial Neonatal Management Pathway with provincial IPC colleagues

Participation in Provincial Maternal, Newborn, Child & Youth (MNCY) Pediatrics, MNCY NICU, and Zonal Obstetrics COVID-19 committees

Guidance provided regarding evolving personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements during the pandemic for prevention of workplace exposures

Reviewed Scientific Advisory Group’s Pediatric COVID-19 transmission document

Multiple presentations at Department meetings and ZPEC to provide updates on the COVID-19 situation at the zonal and provincial level

Dr. Jessica Dunn co-presented at Pediatric Grand Rounds with a focus on COVID-19 transmission, epidemiology and IPC issues

Providing review and feedback to multiple resuscitation simulations in the emergency department (ED) and pediatric intensive care unit (PICU)

Developing screening protocols for both ambulatory and inpatient settings with other hospital colleagues specific to the pediatric population

Addition of Dr. Jessica Dunn to the IPC physician team

Contributed to the Department of Pediatrics COVID-19 Task force

Providing guidance to Rotary Flames House for issues related to respite care

Participating in national surveillance of COVID-19 cases through the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program

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

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)

Collaboration with Safest Together at ACH to improve patient safety and surveillance related to Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI)

Ongoing surveillance for viral respiratory & gastrointestinal infections, C. difficile, antibiotic resistant organisms (MRSA, VRE, Carbapenemase resistant organisms), CLABSI, and Surgical Site Infections (SSI)

Guidance for construction and renovation projects including the Connect Care expansion in patient care areas

Multiple meetings with Workplace Health Safety, Public Health and hospital teams to coordinate COVID-19 investigations

Collaboration with Operating Room and PICU teams to provide guidance related to complex and evolving COVID-19 scenarios

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

* Dr. Jennifer Thull-Freedman co-published an article about the importance of high reliability practices in preparing for the pandemic.
Research 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.
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) 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.
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).
RESEARCHER 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.”

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.”

- Nilly Espiritu, Department of Pediatrics

A discussion with Clinical Research Nurse Nilufer Espiritu

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

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

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
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, license examinations, and interviews with subspecialty resident candidates. Pediatric Grand 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
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. Khoshid 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 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 Priere Scholarship Award:**
Dr. Paige Burgess

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. Grazyuna Burek, Dr. Paige Burgess, and Dr. Jacqueline Harrison
- **Rural Resident - Red Deer:** Dr. Waheed Masoud and Dr. Eric Qing
- **Honour Roll:** Dr. Laura Davies, Dr. Renee Jackson, Dr. Nicole Johnson, and Dr. Robert Shyleyko
- **Honour Roll (Resident):** Dr. Nitykhya Antony, Dr. Marian Coret, and Dr. Anna Schwaumenberg

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

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

**Congratulations to all!**

Photo: Colin Way Photography Inc.
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.”

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.”

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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 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.

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.

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.
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.

“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 Romanini

Billing Coordinator
Tammy Bouchard

Communications Coordinator
Alison Shephard

Financial Analyst
Vincent Bali

Manager of Administrative Services
Alanise Featherstone

Manager of Administrative Services
Jessica Phillips

Physician Affairs Coordinator
Chantelle Cull

Physician Remuneration and Contract Coordinator
Karen Rudd

Senior Consultant
Child Health Research
Nico Romanow

Research Assistant
Ashvin Clough

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 Gileland
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-Masmontel
Nephrology – Dr. Silviu Grisaru
Neurology – Dr. Heinrike Schmeling
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

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 Bendik
Continuing Medical Education – Dr. Julian Midgley

SITE LEADS

PEDIATRICS

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

NEONATOLOGY

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

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.
Our Department
Current Faculty as of December 31, 2020

AdeLoope MediciNe
Dr. April Elliott
Dr. Jorge Pozo
Dr. Erika Wyner

CaardiOlogy
Dr. Robin Gegg
Dr. Deborah Foulman
Dr. Randall Guffre
Dr. Steven Greenway
Dr. Elin Haien *

Child & Family Health Research Unit
Dr. Robert Segall
Dr. Alberto Nettles-Aguero
Dr. Maria Santana
Dr. Suzanne Tough

Cuggestionary Pediatrics
Dr. Alysha Ablavas*
Dr. Hilda (Heidi) Anglins
Dr. Abbie Bond
Dr. Carolan Bone
Dr. Amanda (Alessa) Carter
Dr. Claire (Dana) Chilek
Dr. Nathaniel Chan
Dr. Shirley Chan
Dr. Caroline Chew
Dr. Amy Chey
Dr. Neel Cooper (Child Protection)
Dr. Kate Cunam
Dr. Brianne Eckert
Dr. Amanda Evans
Dr. Constantin Fink
Dr. Renee Farrar*

Critical Care
Dr. James Blackwood
Dr. Shauna Burkholder
Dr. Young-Whi Choi (Rose)
Dr. Paul Dougherty
Dr. Taras Dziew
Dr. Mary Fong
Dr. Jonathan Gamble
Dr. Eliau Hadi (Eliau)
Dr. Jennifer Hatem
Dr. Khalid Hassan
Dr. Laura Davis
Dr. Timm Dewar
Dr. Dominique Eunice
Dr. Julie Fisher
Dr. John Wu
Dr. Jennifer Zhang

Emergency Medicine
Dr. Sam Allison
Dr. Matthew Birkett
Dr. Francis Belanger
Dr. Donald Bethune (Supp)
Dr. Michelle Black
Dr. Andrew Bone (Supp)
Dr. Mark Bromley (Supp)
Dr. Robin Gegg

Endocrinology
Dr. Mohammad Khorshid
Dr. Lara Leijser
Dr. Thierry Lacaze-Masmonteil
Dr. Leonora Henderson
Dr. Shabih Hasan
Dr. Adel El-Sharkawy*
Dr. Belal Alshaikh
Dr. Ayman Abou Mehrem
Dr. Mary Ann Thomas
Dr. R. Brian Lowry
Dr. Matthew Lines
Dr. Aneal Khan
Dr. Joseph Vayalumkal
Dr. Otto Vanderkooi
Dr. Susan Kuhn
Dr. Jim Kellner
Dr. Devika Dixit*
Dr. Cora Constantinescu

Infectious Disease
Dr. Gemma Vomiero
Dr. Aaliya Sabir
Dr. Lindsay Long
Dr. Andrew Wade

Internal Medicine
Dr. Diann Maramba
Dr. Maria McRae
Dr. Cindy McCourt
Dr. Brian McLeod
Dr. Shannon McLeod
Dr. Richard Harrison
Dr. Scott McLeod
Dr. Eric Ross
Dr. Rob York

Pediatrics
Dr. Victoria Knechtel
Dr. Kristyan Kiefer
Dr. Kathleen Krion
Dr. Tosha Low
Dr. Jennifer Lander
Dr. Amanda Leong
Dr. Christopher Lever
Dr. Jennifer MacKenzie
Dr. Martina Vanderkuyk
Dr. Pamela Vede

Respiratory Medicine
Dr. Adam Adelaye
Dr. Amanda Bond
Dr. Glennia Bradshaw
Dr. James Blackwood
Dr. Khalid Hassan
Dr. Karla Marzric

Rheumatology
Dr. Susan Boon
Dr. Muhammad Dhalia*
Dr. Nicole Johnson
Dr. hadda Luna
Dr. Pavil Mullettan
Dr. Ineke Schmeling
Dr. Rebelka (Rebekah) Stevenson
Dr. Maritza Twitty

University of Calgary Appointment Only
Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta
Dr. Karen Barlow
Dr. Richard Rehman
Dr. Lawrence King
Dr. Beverley Collins
Dr. Margaret Ruth Connors
Dr. cheeky Buchhalter
Dr. Sean MacEachern
Dr. Victoria Curtis
Dr. Duncan Gregg
Dr. Mark Hamilton
Dr. Richard Harper (Supp)
Dr. Matthew Hall (Supp)
Dr. Bonnie Kaplan
Dr. Kathy Li
Dr. Nicole Loruscio
Dr. Kate Lough
Dr. William Martin
Dr. Marian Mersland
Dr. Shannon Macdonald
Dr. Leonard Smith
Dr. Andrew Wong (Supp)

University of Calgary Pediatrics
Dr. Abdulah Abulea
Dr. Lee Bubbleh
Dr. Elizabeth Condliffe
Dr. Darren Evers (Supp)
Dr. Renee Grenier
Dr. Nancy Ghiwa*
Dr. Vithiya Gnananukum
Dr. Dean Hagen
Dr. Margaret Grossman
Dr. Richard Haber (Supp)
Dr. Matthew Hall (Supp)
Dr. Christopher Hardcastle
Dr. Barbara Kelleher
Dr. Nancy Goodwin
Dr. Paul MacEachern (Supp)
Dr. Sarah Mohanasundaram
Dr. Scott MacEachern
Dr. Martin Vetter
Dr. Andrew Wong (Supp)

University of Calgary Pediatrics
Dr. Abdulah Abulea
Dr. Lee Bubbleh
Dr. Elizabeth Condliffe
Dr. Darren Evers (Supp)
Dr. Renee Grenier
Dr. Nancy Ghiwa*
Dr. Vithiya Gnananukum
Dr. Dean Hagen
Dr. Margaret Grossman
Dr. Richard Haber (Supp)
Dr. Matthew Hall (Supp)
Dr. Christopher Hardcastle
Dr. Barbara Kelleher
Dr. Nancy Goodwin
Dr. Paul MacEachern (Supp)
Dr. Sarah Mohanasundaram
Dr. Scott MacEachern
Dr. Martin Vetter
Dr. Andrew Wong (Supp)

"Locum"
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 Olip
Dr. Lana Rothfels
Dr. Alyse Schacter
Dr. John Storwick
Dr. Tamara Yee
R2
Dr. Marian Coret
Dr. Elizabeth Gonzalez Sierra
Dr. Rebecca Hey
Dr. Jenessa Kerr
Dr. Eliza Martin
Dr. Pauline Podgorny
Dr. Katherine Pohorenski
Dr. Madison Reidell
Dr. Meagan Roy
Dr. Alexa Scocella
Dr. John Yeo
Dr. Katherine Yorkiw
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
R4
Dr. Nikytha Antony
Dr. Paige Burgess
Dr. Briamee Dergousoff
Dr. Chantel de Ruiter
Dr. Louise Ing
Dr. Kaspar Ng
Dr. Ramaeem Pinnun
Dr. Law Revivo
Dr. Anna Schwallenberg
DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS
Dr. Laurie-Anne Oulour
Dr. Michelle Hsu
Dr. Sarah MacEachern
EMERGENCY MEDICINE
Dr. Katie Anker
Dr. Jason Baxerman
Dr. Grainya Burek
Dr. Anne Iswar Cote
Dr. Omar Damaj
Dr. Nicholas Monfreres
Dr. Brij Sunderani
Dr. Gloria Yoo
ENDOCRINOLOGY
Dr. Matthew Feldman
GASTROENTEROLOGY
Dr. Leena Desai
Dr. Amelia Kellar
Dr. Simone Kurthbeam
Dr. Jaclyn Srauss
HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY
Dr. Mohammad AlNajjar
Dr. Jaspreet Gharial
Dr. Georgina Martin
Dr. Candace Rypsen - Fellow
INFECTION DISEASES
Dr. Khadi Al Sager - Fellow
KIDSIM PEDIATRIC SIMULATION
Dr. Robert Carey
Dr. Genevieve Gravel
Dr. Tyson Savage
MEDICAL GENETICS & GENOMICS
Dr. Lauren Borch
Dr. Gabrielle Gruzel
Dr. Tyron Savage
NEONATAL/PERINATAL
Dr. Rehna Bansal - Fellow
Dr. Maria Luisa Espinosa
Dr. Anirban Ghosh
Dr. Farzana Hamid - Fellow
Dr. Chekko Justin Joseph
Dr. Merina Journah
Dr. Martin Perlepey
Dr. Adriana Reyes Londo
Dr. Deepta Roudagi
Dr. Ankur Srivastava
Dr. Soumya Thomas
NEPHROLOGY
Dr. Anjna Aliyin-Karan
Dr. Laura Kaufman
Dr. Augustine Okperhe
NEUROLOGY
Dr. Maron Braun - Fellow
Dr. Mary Dunbar - Fellow
Dr. Stephanie Hammond
Dr. Allison Marshall
Dr. Solia Sanhan
Dr. Kristen Spernars
Dr. Ratika Srivastava - Fellow
Dr. Jordan Van Den
Dr. Kristine Woodward
PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL MEDICINE
Dr. Raman Chawla - Fellow
Dr. Christopher Hovak - Fellow
RESPIRATORY MEDICINE
Dr. Majid Al Tenai - Fellow
Dr. Kristen Ebbett - Fellow
Dr. Josey Platt - Fellow
PHOTO: COLIN WAY PHOTOGRAPHY INC.
OUR DEPARTMENT

2019-2020 DEMOGRAPHICS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Male (37%)</th>
<th>Female (63%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;70</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Average Age = 49.2 years

University Faculty Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Status</th>
<th>Primary Appointment (331)</th>
<th>Joint Appointments (63)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clinical Faculty</td>
<td>GFT Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Medical Staff Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary AHS Pediatrics*</th>
<th>Supplementary AHS Pediatrics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>324</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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

90,108
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS
ACROSS ALL SITES (EXCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH AND SURGICAL ADMISSIONS)

9,164
INPATIENT VISITS
ACROSS ALL SITES (EXCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH AND SURGICAL ADMISSIONS)

359,630
OUTPATIENT VISITS
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

2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR

Calgary Zone Pediatric Discharges
Total Discharges per Year by Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH Pediatrics*</td>
<td>4,533</td>
<td>4,588</td>
<td>4,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLC Pediatrics*</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>1,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICU Total (ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC)</td>
<td>3,179</td>
<td>3,295</td>
<td>3,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary Zone Total Pediatrics (ACH, PLC) and NICU (total)</td>
<td>9,624</td>
<td>9,132</td>
<td>9,164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Excluding Neonatology

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH Pediatrics*</td>
<td>26,098</td>
<td>33,335</td>
<td>31,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLC Pediatrics*</td>
<td>2,720</td>
<td>2,278</td>
<td>2,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICU Total (ACH, FMC, PLC, RGH, SHC)</td>
<td>40,405</td>
<td>43,122</td>
<td>42,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary Zone Total Pediatrics (ACH, PLC) and NICU (total)</td>
<td>69,223</td>
<td>78,735</td>
<td>76,609</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Excluding Neonatology
**2019-2020 DATA AND METRICS**

**ACH Pediatric Inpatient Length of Stay Trends**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Discharges per Year by Length of Stay (Days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fiscal Year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>ACH</th>
<th>PLC</th>
<th>FMC</th>
<th>RGH</th>
<th>SHC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017/2018</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
<td>91.5%</td>
<td>98.8%</td>
<td>96.2%</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/2020</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>92.0%</td>
<td>99.2%</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
<td>90.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLC Pediatric Unit Admissions by Admission Type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Pediatric Admits to Ped Unit (age &lt;18Y)</th>
<th>Direct Inpatient Transfer From ACH</th>
<th>Direct Outpatient Transfer from ACH</th>
<th>Admit Thru PLC ED</th>
<th>Other - Jaundice Diagnosis</th>
<th>Other - No Jaundice Diagnosis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019/2020</td>
<td>1,204</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACH Frequent Inpatient Activity by Most Responsible Physician Section**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019/2020</th>
<th>Medical Sections</th>
<th>Discharges</th>
<th>Total Days Stay</th>
<th>Average Length of Stay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrinology</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>1,020</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastroenterology</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensivist</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>2,772</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatology</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>3,548</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurology</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oncology/Hematology</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>4,949</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Hospital Medicine</td>
<td>3,196</td>
<td>18,827</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total - Medical</td>
<td>5,033</td>
<td>34,754</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACH Frequently Encountered Discharge Diagnoses**

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

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

**NICU Indicators ACH FMC PLC* RGH SHC Total**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discharges</th>
<th>240</th>
<th>1,031</th>
<th>683</th>
<th>652</th>
<th>398</th>
<th>3,004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Days Stay</td>
<td>6,910</td>
<td>12,939</td>
<td>9,144</td>
<td>8,464</td>
<td>5,116</td>
<td>42,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Length of Stay (ALOS)</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intracity Transfer</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Days in NICU Unit</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>12,314</td>
<td>8,033</td>
<td>8,033</td>
<td>4,842</td>
<td>37,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Case Weight (ACW)</td>
<td>10.38</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>2.89</td>
<td>3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unique Patients</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,331</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Neonatal Length of Stay per Patient (Days)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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 all 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH</td>
<td>1,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMC</td>
<td>683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLC*</td>
<td>652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RGH</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PHU 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 all 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PICU Cases</td>
<td>853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Admissions/Transfers into PICU*</td>
<td>864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions to PICU*</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers into PICU from Units*</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers into PICU from ADOP/PACU*</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge from or Death in PICU</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers out of PICU to Units*</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICU Unit LOS</td>
<td>3,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital LOS - PICU Cases</td>
<td>12,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) Cases*</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.

**ACH Pediatric Emergency Department (ED) Visits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total ED Visits by Site for Fiscal Year 2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH 75,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHC 14,447</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Total Ped ED Visits</th>
<th># Mental Health ED Visits</th>
<th>% Mental Health ED Visits</th>
<th>Mental Health from ED to Same Site</th>
<th>Mental Health Transfer to Other Acute Care Facility</th>
<th>Mental Health ED Discharge/ Other</th>
<th>Mental Health ED Left Without Being Seen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH</td>
<td>75,661</td>
<td>3,287</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>2,531</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHC</td>
<td>14,447</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Sites (FMC, PLC, RGH)</td>
<td>11,372</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pediatric ED defined by diagnoses codes used by Addictions and Mental Health on ED visits.

**ACH Emergency Room Visits and Admissions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Patients by CTAS Score</th>
<th>Total Emergency Room Visits by CTAS Score</th>
<th>Admissions from ACH Emergency Room by CTAS Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>240</td>
<td>24,708</td>
<td>24,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>683</td>
<td>24,937</td>
<td>24,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>652</td>
<td>24,365</td>
<td>24,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>398</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>683</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>652</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>398</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

**Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) Cases**

- 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.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Research Revenue</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>$11.0M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>$213.4M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Research Revenue Per Research Equivalent (RE)</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>$0.55M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>$0.96M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total CIHR Research Revenue</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>$2.88M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>$45.3M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Clinical Research Revenue</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>$7.64M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>$67.3M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publications/Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citations/FTE</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Department/Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>50+ Citations in First 5 Years</th>
<th>% Change 2019/2020 vs 2018/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>2019/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumming School of Medicine</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. She is the principal investigator of the All Our Babies, All Our Time (AOBAOT) study. This observational study is one of the largest evidence-based recommendations to improve programs and policies related to the health of children and families in our communities. Dr. Tough’s research program is aimed at improving the health and well-being of women during pregnancy to achieve optimal maternal, infant, and early childhood outcomes. Specifically, Dr. Tough’s research interests include but are not limited to maternal and child health, preconception care, perinatal care, 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 Babies 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 is a cofounder of the prestigious Geoffrey Grant Awards for the Canadian Paediatric Society in 2017, and was recognized by the United Nations in November 2019 for her work in supporting new mothers in Senegal. Her research has been disseminated to many international audiences and has earned her recognition as a leading researcher in the field of maternal and child health.

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 information and guidance to health-care providers and the public through the COVID-19 infection prevention and control throughout ACH, the Calgary Zone, and across Alberta. As early as January 2020, Dr. Vayalumkal had already written the specific COVID guidelines for infection prevention and control to ensure that ACH was prepared in 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 remarkable persistence and passion in his work.

CARE AWARD: ADVOCATE AND LEADER
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 is a true leader as he motivates others with his passion for his work. Dr. Galbraith is known as a highly accomplished researcher and a thoughtful and well-rounded clinician that others strive to emulate. Dr. Galbraith has been influential in the development of educational programs 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 well-received - he has the ability to调动 the audience while keeping them entertained. Furthermore, Dr. Galbraith has a wealth of humanism experience and is the type of person others strive to emulate. He is an incredible teacher and incorporates evidence and experience into his teaching and his practice. Despite his vast knowledge and clinical experience locally and internationally, he is always keen to continue learning and growing as a physician.
OUR RECOGNITION

TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION AWARDS

2019 INNOVATION AWARDS

Drs. Tammy Dewan, Kathryn Birnie, Melanie Noi, 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, Ojasra Nikhouria, Balal 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 Mchekwezic, Nils Fokert, Shaurma Huston, Karen Kapsules, Kathy McCoy, and Mr. Matthew Lau
“The Systemic and Local immune landscape of Children presenting to the Emergency Department with suspected appendicitis (SIUCED): Innovation through Multiplex Ion Beam Imaging”
Primary Project Type – Research
Awarded $25,000

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 Shlyakhto
Pediatrics Gold Star Awards (Residents): Dr. Grayra Burek, Dr. Paige Burgess, Dr. Jacqueline Harrison; Honour Roll (Residents): Dr. Nakytha Antong, Dr. Marian Core, Dr. Valerie Masuda, Dr. Eric Ong, Dr. Anna Schwallenberg
Gold Star Award (Integratives): Dr. Kim Smyth
Jersey Award (Course 6): Dr. Theresa Wu — “Children Are Not Just Small Adults”
Gold Star Award (Course 6): Dr. Isabella Stuhrk
Honour Roll: Dr. Gesche Tallen, Dr. Ian Wiltshire, Dr. Debbie McAllister; Dr. Erik Saule, Dr. Kim Smyth, Dr. Pamela Valeo, Dr. Leanna McKenzie, Dr. Cora Constantinescu, Dr. Heather Patterson, Dr. Ping-Wai Chen

NEONATOLOGY TEACHING AWARDS

Teacher of the Year for Bedside Clinical Teaching, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program 2019-2020: Dr. Amosho Sourashan
Teacher of the Year for Academic Half Day Teaching, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program 2019-2020: Dr. Khordoh Muhmmad

DR. HUSAM ZAKI (SAM) DARWISH CLINICAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

(Presented by the Alberta Children’s Hospital Pediatric 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. JEANETTE PRIEUR PEDIATRIC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Dr. Paige Burgess (General Pediatrics)

ANNUAL RESIDENTS & FELLOWS RESEARCH DAY 2020

First Place – Dr. Dana Stewart (Emergency Medicine)

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ANNUAL RESIDENTS & FELLOWS RESEARCH DAY 2020

First Place – Dr. Dana Stewart (Emergency Medicine)
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

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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.