



# UI HEALTH PEDIATRICS

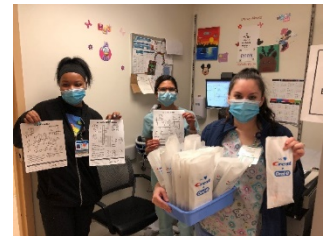
MARCH / APRIL 2021 CELEBRATION NEWSLETTER

## News Briefs

### Valentines and Dental Health in February



Examples of efforts throughout February to “spread the love” to inpatients included make-your-own donut kits provided by Dunkin’ Donuts, make-your-own Valentine kits provided by such groups as Carz for Kidz and ArtHopeHeals, distribution of goodie bags by such groups as Old St. Patrick’s Church and Project Kennedy, and blankets and candies provided by a donor for oncology patients. To celebrate National Children’s Dental Health Month, pediatric dental residents were among those who assembled oral care kits for CYC patients.



### Be Brave! Get Bald!!

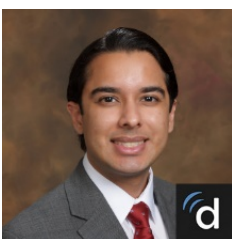
On a recent segment of *CBS 2 Chicago*, a survivor of childhood cancer shaved the head of Dr. Paul Kent, UIC/RUSH/Stroger Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Program Faculty. The UIC Pediatrics community (e.g., patients, families, faculty, staff) is encouraged to consider participating in a “live” virtual shave to be held 3.11.21 from 4-7 pm that will be sponsored by St. Baldrick’s Foundation. St. Baldrick’s is the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants worldwide, and it has had a major impact in Chicago – including supporting the UIC/Rush/Stroger COG Clinical Trials Program since 2006. For more about encouraging donations during the pandemic, please visit [20 Years of Shaving in Chicago Virtual Event](#).



### Dr. Shah Featured in Chicago Magazine



Dr. Reshma Shah shared insights in *Chicago Magazine*’s 2.9.21 feature titled “What Three Pediatricians Do for Their Own Kids.” Some topics covered included: (1) keep them moving, (2) give them a routine, (3) turmeric is your friend, (4) don’t panic about diet, and (5) be reasonable about encouragement. Read full article here: <https://www.chicagomag.com/chicago-magazine/february-2021/top-docs-kids-moms/what-three-pediatricians-do-for-their-own-kids/>



### Dr. Sharma Receives Advocacy Scholarship

Dr. Neal Sharma, a second-year fellow in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, has received a Section on Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Advocacy Scholarship Award. His attendance will be paid at the 2021 AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) Advocacy Conference to be held virtually from April 11 to 13, where skills-building workshops and other activities will offer preparation for continuing advocacy action.

## Our NICU Is Four-Years CLASBI-Free

Our NICU was CLASBI free from 1.30.17 to 12.31.20 (and still counting). To quote from the 2.3.21 Nursery Newsletter: “We appreciate all our staff and our NICU Anti-CLASBI members! We just wanted to say ‘congratulations’ and ‘thank you’ for all that you do each and every single day. We couldn’t do it without you.”



## Two Pediatricians Are “Black History Makers”

Congratulations to Dr. Claudia Boucher-Berry and Dr. Felicia Scott-Wellington, who were recognized for “making history here at UIC because of their roles and responsibilities.” They were honored on 2.22.21 at an award ceremony held annually during Black History Month by the Chancellor’s Committee on the Status of Blacks (CCSC). Drs. Boucher-Berry and Scott-Wellington and ten others were named a “Black History Maker” by the CCSC, which works collaboratively on- and off-campus to develop and maintain a supportive environment for all members of UIC’s diverse population.

## UIC Pediatric Residents Featured in Reach Out & Read Illinois

The [Reach Out & Read Illinois Newsletter](#) included an announcement that our pediatrics residency program had raised more than \$3000 to support our ROR program in memory of Dr. Chaniece Wallace. Dr. Wallace was a Pediatric Chief Resident at Indiana University School of Medicine and Riley Children’s Hospital who “tragically was yet another woman of color lost to complications related to preeclampsia.” Donations are still being accepted at: <https://reachoutandreadil.networkforgood.com/projects/118786-ui-health-campaign-december-2020>



## Jocelyn Mallard Receives a CARE Award



Congratulations to Jocelyn Mallard, a pediatric nurse practitioner in the Sickle Cell Program at the Section of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, who received a January 2021 CARE Award. She is shown in the photo with her colleagues (nurses, social worker, and physicians), as well as (at far left) a nurse she is mentoring. In part, the patient nomination stated: “... when my daughter was suffering from depression in the hospital, she met me outside and I had no words ...she knew exactly what to say at that moment that was so hard for my daughter and our family. ...

She has been such an inspirational human being in our lives. UI Health is definitely very lucky to have individuals like her ...” Former CARE Award winners include WaConda Curington, a customer service representative at the Child & Youth Center (October 2020), and the 4W NICU Team (November 2020).



## Black History Spotlights



During Black History Month, African-American leaders in the Department of Pediatrics were celebrated and acknowledged on the Children’s Hospital University of Illinois page of Facebook, including Melishia Bansa, Chanel Brown, Dr. Kristen Kenan, Tamika Lee, Jocelyn Mallard, and Yolander Rivers. Visit and “Like” our Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/ChildrensHospUIC>

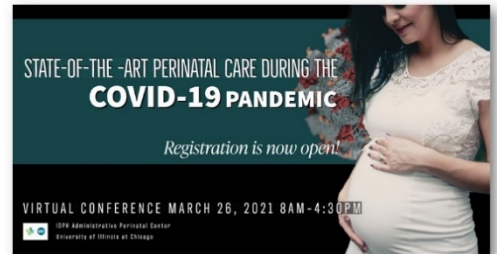


### Pediatrics Has a Sparkathon Team

Although a dance marathon is not part of the fundraiser this year, more than 20 Chicagoland organizations have formed teams to support the Long Term Survivors of Childhood Cancer Clinic at UI Health. The UIC Sparkathon, a student-driven event, will run until March 12, 2021. To donate and represent the Department of Pediatrics, visit on google chrome: <https://flamesfunded.uic.edu/sparkathon/?cpage=/o/university-of-illinois-chicago/i/sparkathon-2021/s/pediatrics>. Please note that eligible gifts made through the Sparkathon will allow the Childhood Cancer Survivorship Program to maximize our challenge grant through the Circle of Service Foundation this year – doubling the impact of gifts made.

### Perinatal Center Sponsors Conference

An all-day conference entitled “State-of-the-Art Perinatal Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic” on 3.26.21 will be sponsored by UIC’s IDPH Administrative Perinatal Center. Tactical solutions to some of today’s COVID-related healthcare challenges will be presented by experts in the field. [Click here](#) to access brochure for the event and [click here to register](#). Trainees who are interested in attending can email [perinatalcenter@uic.edu](mailto:perinatalcenter@uic.edu) for a fee waiver.



### Recipes for Pediatrics Diversity Cookbook

Building on the success of the 2020 Pediatrics Diversity Cookbook, recipes are being collected until mid-March for the 2021 edition by Dr. Kristen Kenan who is the Director of the Pediatric Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. Along with your recipe, please send a photo of something for which you are thankful or an inspirational quote to [kkenan@uic.edu](mailto:kkenan@uic.edu). Dr. Kenan will email 2-3 recipes each Thursday. You’re invited to try out these recipes at home and send photos to Dr. Kenan (no matter what the results).



### “Top Doctors for Kids”

The following faculty were included in *Chicago Magazine’s* “Top Doctors for Kids” list: Adolescent Medicine, Dr. Karen Bernstein; Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, Dr. Reshma Shah; Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Dr. De-Ann Pillers; Pediatric Allergy & Immunology, Dr. C. Lucy Park; Pediatric Gastroenterology, Dr. James Berman and Dr. T.S., Gunasekaran; Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, Dr. Lewis Hsu and Dr. Mary Lou Schmidt; Pediatric Infectious Disease, Dr. Karen Hayani; and Pediatrics, Dr. Rachel Caskey and Dr. Amanda Osta.



### CMO Leadership Update



In connection with the UI Health Top Box Doc Year-end Review, congratulations were extended in the February 2021 edition of *CMO Leadership Update* to Pediatrics physicians who maintained 90 percent or above in 3 CGCAPHS (Clinical and Group Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) categories (rate the provider, recommend the physician, physician communication quality) throughout the year: Dr. Roxana Aguirre, Dr. Maria Isabel Angulo, Dr. Michelle Barnes, Dr. Karen Bernstein, Dr. Claudia Boucher-Berry, Dr. Kiranmai Gorla, Dr. Lewis Hsu, Dr. Naveen Imran, Dr. Alexandra King, Dr. Sonia Krishnan, Dr. Stacy Laurent, Dr. Andrea Pappalardo, Dr. Jalene Shoener, Dr. Sindhuja Harsha Vardhan, and Dr. Akira Yoshii. Read the [Digital Magazine Style](#) here.

### New Adults with Disabilities Clinic at UIC

An “Adults with Disabilities Clinic” is a new resource to ensure that older children / young adults receive consistent and comprehensive care. The clinic provides a primary home designed for adults (over the age of 16) with disabilities and medical disorders that began in childhood; and also offers a one-time “Transitional Care” visit. For more information about making a referral, please call the Primary Care Plus Clinic at 312-413-3627.

## Selected Recent Publications



Dr. Jordan Hupert, Chief of General Pediatrics, is on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Pediatrics* and wrote the EMB Pearl (Bonferroni correction) and Critical Statistical Distinction Pearl (non-inferiority limits of equivalence) column in the “Current Best Evidence” section of the March 2021 edition. <http://jpeds.com/content/societyCollectionCBE>.



The approach of our UI Health NICU to caring for infants born to COVID-19 positive mothers was presented in a preprint paper titled: “Center-Based Experiences Implementing Strategies to Reduce Risk of Horizontal Transmission of SARS-Cov-2: Potential for Compromise of Neonatal Microbiome Assemblage.” Authors were: Joann Romano-Keeler, MD, MS; Dana Fiszbein, DO; Jilei Zhang, PhD; Joseph Horowitz, MD; Karen Hayani, MD; Irina Buhimschi, MD; Christina Lopez, MS, RN; Zaynab Kadhem; James Berman, MD; Phornphat Rasamimari, MD; Aarti Raghavan, MD, FAAP, MS; De-Ann M. Pillers, MD, PhD; and Jun Sun, PhD. The paper can be found at: <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.01.07.21249418v2>



A CHECK school paper has been accepted for publication in the March 2021 edition of the *Journal of School Health* (91[3]:187-194). It is titled “Trends in School Attendance for Low-Income Children with Chronic Health Conditions: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial.” Authors are Molly A. Martin, MD, MAPP; Rachel Caskey, MD, MAPP; Anne Elizabeth Glasgow, PhD, LCSW; Andrea A. Pappalardo, MD; Lewis H. Hsu, MD, PhD; Jiyeong Jang, MS; Sanjib Basu, PhD; Mark Minier, MD, FAAP; Kenneth Fox, MD; and Benjamin Van Voorhees, MD, MPH. The paper can be found at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/josh.12989>

## Selected Grants and Research News



**Dr. Lewis Hsu / Jocelyn Mallard / Ronisha Edwards:** A gift from the M.R. Bauer Foundation will support efforts of the STAR (Sickle Cell Transition Adolescent Readiness) Clinic to provide continued care to young adults with sickle cell disease.

**Dr. Reshma Shah:** The collaboration of the American Academy of Pediatrics was extended until 2022 with Dr. Shah, who is serving as a global early childhood development project technical advisor. Her work supports pediatric societies throughout Kenya and Tanzania in cross-sector engagement and national planning through effective early childhood development policies and guidelines at the country level.



**Dr. Nishant Srinivasan:** A collaborative project is being finalized between Dr. Srinivasan and the Ryan Ability Lab. The two-year study is entitled “Wearable Sensors and Video Recording for Children to Monitor Motor Development.” Along with Dr. Srinivasan, Dr. Saurab Patel and Dr. Hernan Sierra-Fernandez will serve as co-investigators with the goal of developing an automated, precise, quantitative diagnostic tool for detecting atypical motor behavior and development from birth to 24 months.

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Please continue to send news items to Ann Lindner at [lindnera@uic.edu](mailto:lindnera@uic.edu)