

# Professional Staff News

News and information for the professional staff of  
Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota



Professional Staff News is e-mailed monthly to the professional staff of Children's of Minnesota.

September 2008

## Notes from Peter Dehnel, MD, Chief of Staff

### Learning lessons — again

In the "lessons once learned, now forgotten" category we have measles and rubella infections becoming more common in Minnesota — again. For those of you who are on one of the state or county "Health Alert" Listservs, this is not news.

The international sources of measles include the countries of Switzerland, Israel, Belgium, Germany, China, Pakistan, Russia, and the Philippines. This is hardly a list of Third World countries, but does reflect a growing population of un- or under-vaccinated people.

The 1998 study inappropriately linking MMR to autism is having its full, unintended effect, and pediatric patients are the ones who suffer the consequences of leaving vaccination as a "discretionary item."

The necessary response by professionals who care for children and adolescents is to ensure that all patients are fully vaccinated, and fully inform reluctant parents that they cannot rely on "herd immunity" to protect their children.

Measles can be devastating, especially for younger or immunocompromised patients. While rubella may not be quite as devastating to our patients, there are likely enough women of childbearing age who have marginal or non-protective titers against rubella to make it a real public health concern.

### Influenza update

This is the second year in which members of Children's professional staff are required to receive the influenza vaccination. This year we will begin to track immunization rates for all members.

Kathie Jacques and Margo Dempsey of our professional staff office will collect the information, which will then be forwarded to the credentials department for inclusion in your credentials file. Look for more information in a letter later this month.

### Support for the Children's Hospital Association's 59th Annual Ball

On Nov. 22, Children's Hospital Association, which has been supporting programs at Children's for the last 75 years, is hosting its 59th annual ball.

I encourage all members of the professional staff to support this event and very valuable organization by sponsoring a table or donating one or more bottles of wine (minimal purchase price: \$25.00) for the event's "Wall of Wine" auction.

Bottles of wine can be brought to the Professional Staff Quarterly Meeting on Oct. 14 at Town and Country Club or dropped off at either of the professional staff offices on the St. Paul or Minneapolis campuses. Donations received by Oct. 14 will be acknowledged in the event's program.

Further information on CHA's annual ball is available at [www.cha-stpaul.org](http://www.cha-stpaul.org). You may also contact Roberta Keller at (952) 935-5746 or [rkeller45@aol.com](mailto:rkeller45@aol.com) about donating to the event.



Delivering Next Generation Care

## Notes from Phillip M. Kibort, MD, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer

### Children's market share — We are the leaders

Many of you are aware of the great programs at Children's, both from a clinical standpoint and service orientation. What you may not know is that in many programs, from an inpatient perspective, Children's is distinctly the market leader.

Based on the latest Minnesota Hospital Association data for the state of Minnesota and part of the Dakotas, Children's Hospitals and Clinics is the market leader for children in the following specialties:

Urology	68 percent of all admissions
Oncology	65 percent of all admissions
Neurology/Neurosurgery	60 percent of all admissions
General pediatric surgery	60 percent of all admissions
Cardiology	58 percent of all admissions
General pediatric medicine	50 percent of all admissions

Within the seven county metropolitan area, for children from 0-14 years of age (excluding normal newborns), Children's cares for 34.6 percent of all children — about twice that of our closest competitor. Multiple community hospitals care for anywhere from 0.1 percent up to 6.5 percent.

Over the last six years Children's market share for inpatient children has gone from 49.2 percent to 53.8 percent. Our closest competitor has gone from 16.4 percent to 17.7 percent. Based on discharges from a days standpoint, Children's has gone from 50.1 percent to 58 percent, while our nearest competitor has gone from 26.3 percent to 23.1 percent. From the standpoint of neonatal services, Children's patient days have gone from 27,080 to 31,437 over the last six years, while our next competitor is at 18,865.

Thank you for your continued confidence in our ability to care for your patients. We continue to strive to improve our quality and service so that we will always be your first choice for pediatric patients who need care.

### Transparency of Quality and Outcomes Data

Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota prides itself on being a transparent organization and being willing to share our outcomes data, whether good, bad, or neutral. As part of that commitment, we have started posting some of our outcomes data on our Internet site under the "For Health Professionals" section. On that page, select "Resource Materials" and then "Outcomes and Quality of Care."

### ECMO earns "Center of Excellence" award

As you will see, we have committed to showing our data versus national databases in which we participate. We designed this information to meet the needs of all of our stakeholders, including parents, families, physicians, other providers, payers, and policy makers. We will continue to update this on a quarterly basis. If you have any suggestions, comments, criticisms, or compliments please feel free to contact me.

In the last 20 years Children's ECMO program has provided complex care to more than 300 children. I am pleased to announce that the program, led by director Virginia Husted, MD, has just received the Center of Excellence Award from the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization. This represents a tremendous collaborative effort by Dr. Husted and all members of the ECMO team: nurse specialists, perfusionists, ECMO physicians, clinical educator, and the ECMO coordinator, Lynn Orton. Congratulations!

## Call for next generation care examples

Do you have a story to share about the care you're providing in the outpatient or inpatient environment? If so, I'd like to hear from you. Please contact me to let me know what you are doing in your fields. I can be reached at (612) 813-6165, (651) 220-6165 or [phil.kibort@childrensmn.org](mailto:phil.kibort@childrensmn.org).

## Children's welcomes Rachel Miller, MD, pediatric and adolescent gynecologist

I'm pleased to welcome Rachel Miller, MD, to the Children's pediatric and adolescent gynecology clinic. Dr. Miller, who is Minnesota's only pediatric gynecologist, will work with the clinic's multidisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, and support staff in the evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of children and adolescents with complex gynecological disorders. The clinic provides care for females from birth to age 18.

Dr. Miller is a graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences. She completed an obstetrics and gynecology internship and residency at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland and was a pediatric and adolescent gynecology fellow at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Miller is a member of the Society for Adolescent Medicine, Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health, North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology, and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Children's pediatric and adolescent gynecology clinics are located on both the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. For referral, consultation, or more information, call (651) 220-5999.

## Programs and Services

### ECG reports available in new format

A color PDF version of the final ECG has been added to the EMR. The reports will post to Cerner once they have been read/confirmed by the cardiologist.

Periodically, demographic information will be modified on an already confirmed ECG. When this occurs, a second copy of the ECG will post to Cerner. When viewing the result in clinical documents, the ECG will post based on the date of exam. The display will also show the edited date and time. This will allow providers to identify which is the last updated copy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Children's Help Desk at 3-2500 or (651) 855-2500.

## Upcoming Events

### 18<sup>th</sup> annual Practical Pediatrics for the Primary Care Physician

September 25-26, 2008  
John Nasseff Medical Center  
Children's - St. Paul campus  
Topics: Autism spectrum disorders, obesity, pulmonology, and sleep disorders

### 5<sup>th</sup> annual National Pediatric Telehealth Conference

September 25-27, 2008  
Hilton MSP Airport, Bloomington  
[www.cponline.org](http://www.cponline.org)

### 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Midwest Pediatric Cardiology Society Scientific Session

September 25-26, 2008  
Radisson Plaza Hotel, Minneapolis

### First Biennial Kent S. Wilson, MD, and Midwest Ear, Nose & Throat Specialists Pediatric Otolaryngology Lecture

(Part of Children's Grand Rounds series)  
October 9, 2008  
John Nasseff Medical Center  
Children's - St. Paul campus  
Topic: Management of Pediatric Rhinosinusitis

### Children's Quarterly Professional Staff Meeting

October 14, 2008  
Town and Country Club, St. Paul  
Topic: Children's Pain and Palliative Care Program

Visit Children's Web site, [www.childrensmn.org](http://www.childrensmn.org), and click on "For Health Professionals" for conference and registration information.

## Awards and Accolades

**Sheldon Berkowitz, MD**, presented "Diagnosis and Management of Acute Otitis Media: Review of 2004 AAP Guidelines" at the Mercy and Unity Hospital Pediatrics Conference, Sept. 2008.

**Timothy Culbert, MD**, Lynda Richtsmeier Cyr, PhD/LP, published a chapter titled "Mind/Body Approaches" *Integrative Medicine for Children*, Philadelphia, Elsevier, 2008.

**Stefan Friedrichsdorf, MD**: American Cancer Society: Peer Review Committee on Cancer Control and Prevention Research: Palliative Care. Atlanta, Ga, June 2008.

**John McNamara, MD, James Sidman, MD, Marsha Finkelstein, et al.** "Sinus surgery in Cystic Fibrosis patients: Comparison of sinus and lower airway cultures" *International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology* (Vol. 72, pps.1365—1369, Elsevier, July 2008).

**Gerald Rosen, MD**: "Sleep and Wakefulness in Children with Brain Tumors" *Sleep Medicine Clinics* (Vol. 3, pps. 455–467, Elsevier Saunders, 2008).

**James Sidman, MD**, was recently appointed to the Editorial Board of *The Laryngoscope* journal.

**Patsy Stinchfield, RN, CNP**, was sponsored by the Illinois chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to speak at the Hope Children's Hospital's Advances in Pediatrics conference on "Communicating Effectively with Parents about Vaccine Safety."

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