



President's Report

President, NASPGHAN: Karen Murray, MD

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Having just had our 47th Annual Meeting, the strength of our Society, and the dedication and collaboration of our members, are once again witnessed and confirmed. Kudos to the great work of Ben Gold, President-Elect, in conjunction with the Committee Chairs and Councilors, for organizing such a great meeting in Chicago. Similarly, our financial status remains solid thanks to the vigilant oversight of our Secretary-Treasurer, Jeannie Huang. The **NASPGHAN** executive office itself has also never been stronger, with 7 individuals working in concert for the Society and our Foundation, now with the band-width to consider opportunities for improvement, and plan for the future.

It is the future to which I now want to turn, and how **NASPGHAN** can most effectively advocate for our patients, our members, and our profession. We have now initiated the elite-member status of 'Fellow of **NASPGHAN**' to distinguish our most accomplished and society-committed members (application now available via the [website](#)). See *related story*, page 8. Looking beyond today, leadership will soon sign a contract launching our open-access journal, *JPGN Reports*, which will now allow more of the worthy submissions to *JPGN* to be published, inclusive of case reports, while preserving the focus of the parent *JPGN* on manuscripts with the greatest impact on our field. Simultaneously, we are gainfully partnering with EPIC (and have reached out to other vendors) to assure that our electronic medical record systems are capturing the unique aspects of pediatric gastroenterology, allowing our professionals to show the effort and value that they bring to the clinical care of children with gastrointestinal conditions, and setting the stage for allowing us to learn from each other's best practice for the betterment of our own care delivery.

On the advocacy front, not only is our society tirelessly advocating for our gastroenterology patients, but we are serious about equity and diversity in our profession and Society. Our new partnership with American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) (#DiversityinGI) is focused on educating and informing potential future gastroenterology practitioners, at their earliest stage of professional learning, and the new SIG on Diversity and Equity will engage our Society's members around the cause, and inform our Professional Development efforts. As relates to our patients, I have asked that our committee chairs and council members consider guidelines by which our society may more broadly advocate for the welfare of children, selectively beyond the scope of gastrointestinal disease, to use the power of our respected Society, in partnership with other pediatric societies, to **do what is right** on behalf of the most vulnerable members of our population, children.

I am excited by the work we are doing and am confident that the beneficial impacts that **NASPGHAN** is making will continue to shine bright.

Best to you all for the Holiday Season and the New Year, and see you in Copenhagen in June and San Diego in November, 2020.

Respectfully,

Karen F. Murray, MD
President, **NASPGHAN**
Chief of Pediatrics, Physician-in-Chief
Cleveland Clinic Children's

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 2	President Elect
Page 3	Secretary-Treasurer's Report
Page 4	Foundation News
Page 7	NASPGHAN Foundation 2019 Donors / Fellow of NASPGHAN
Page 9	2020 World Congress / FISPUGHAN Award / CEGIR Award
Page 10	CPNP / APGNN News / New & Improved GIKids Website
Page 11	Committee and Special Interest Group Reports
Page 12	Bowel Sounds Podcast
Page 13	Third-Year Fellows Conference

Page 15	JPGN Report
Page 16	AAP Corner
Page 17	CoPS / 2020 NASPGHAN Dues
Page 18	Save These Dates
Page 19	Billing and Coding
Page 21	Public Affairs & Advocacy Report
Page 22	Past Presidents / Corporate Sponsors
Page 23	2019 Annual Meeting Pictures and Stories
Page 33	Employment Opportunities

President-Elect Report

President-Elect, NASPGHAN: Benjamin Gold, MD



Greetings and happy-belated Thanksgiving as well as happy holidays to you all! It seems like yesterday that we were all together at the Sheraton Grand Chicago hotel for the 2019 Annual Meeting. The weather couldn't have been better (even at 6:30 am Saturday for the annual 5K) and it seemed like this meeting had it all—from listening and watching lectures incorporating art animation and graphics to hearing different disciplines discuss and debate approaches to a common pediatric problem.

Or, maybe it was catching up with long-time friends, making new ones, or experiencing dinners with colleagues at the incredible number of restaurants Chicago has available, and then . . . it was over—and we were headed to our respective homes, families and places of work—exhausted (at least I was), and yet, with a persisting excitement about all that took place over those 4 days.

The success of the Annual Meeting, Postgraduate Course, Single Topic Symposium and CHIME deserve a personal and huge thank you to all of the people who participated in the planning and assembly of each of the components that filled those 4 days! Yes, the Annual Meeting was a culmination and product of hard work and due diligence, mutual respect for one another, as well as respect for our Society and a time-honored, well-proven process. My heart-felt thanks to the executive committee and councilors, as well as committee chairs and the APGNN and CPNP officers who all contributed to making the 2019 Annual Meeting in its entirety a success—again, thank you.

The **NASPGHAN** 2019 Annual Meeting began bright and early on Wednesday with the Single Topic Symposium entitled *Chronic Liver Disease Management for the Gastroenterologist* led by Course Directors Saeed Mohammad, MD and Mercedes Martinez, MD, and advised by the Hepatology Committee. The [single topic course](#) had something for everyone, from the expert pediatric hepatologist to the general pediatric gastroenterologist in the community, and covered over 5 sessions with lectures ranging from Saul Karpen's "How Do I Interpret Genetic Results" to Estella Alonso's "What is a "Normal" Childhood After Liver Transplantation?"

Also on Wednesday, the Course on Hands-on Innovation and Methods in Endoscopy (CHIME) led by Doug Fishman, Diana Lerner and members of the Endoscopy Committee was held at the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) Institute for Training and Technology (IT&T) just outside of Chicago. Attendees heard didactic lectures ranging from Catherine Walsh's "Upskilling" and John Martin's "Future of Endoscopy" to hands-on stations, which allowed the attendees to experience a gamut of endoscopic skills and techniques, concluding with didactic lectures ranging from Victor Fox's "Vascular Malformations" to Petar Mamula's "Difficult Foreign Bodies".

The comprehensive Postgraduate Course, with the most attendees ever and organized by Jennifer Stropole and Maria Oliva-Hemker (Professional Education Committee) with input from leadership and **NASPGHAN**

committees, took place on Thursday. The five Postgraduate Course modules ranged from the opening module of *Endoscopy*, with exciting lectures like David Brumbaugh's "Management of Foreign Bodies", the *Potpourri Module*, including presentations like Alessio Fasano's passionate, state-of-the-art, "Celiac disease: beyond diagnosis", then the *Functional/Motility Module* with some outstanding lectures including another Carlo Di Lorenzo masterpiece entitled "Testing for functional disorders: the indispensable, the useless, the dangerous", the *Liver/Pancreas Module* with talks like Miriam Vos' outstanding "New News in NAFLD" to the final module, *Intestinal Inflammation*, which included an erudite brilliant talk to end the day given by Edaire Cheng entitled "Eosinophilic Inflammation—Beyond the Esophagus."

The scientific meeting kicked off with two incredible presentations given during the Plenary Session, including the William F. Balistreri Lecture entitled *Getting More Mileage out of Our Magnificent Microbiome* given brilliantly by the enthusiastic, dynamic Jack Gilbert. For all of the junior members and trainees who want some tips on giving a stellar presentation, Dr. Gilbert's talk gave every technique available in his brilliant and simply outstanding presentation that included state-of-the-art animation and graphics to illustrate complex concepts to Gilbert's own personal vignette's that tell the story and drive home the take-home points. The Keynote lecture directly followed and continued to raise the bar even further with the eloquent, dynamic Christopher Forrest, giving his talk entitled "*Learning Health Systems*" and providing a vision for the future of pediatric medicine particularly for the subspecialty space. After the Year in Review, given by Mel Heyman with state-of-the-art summaries from peer-reviewed articles published in 2019 in the areas of gastroenterology, hepatology, pancreas and nutrition, the Concurrent sessions began. There were 12 Concurrent sessions on Friday and 19 sessions on Saturday. They had a broad array of topics covered as well as a number of multi-disciplinary sessions, including a standing room only session on the topic of aspiration given from the ENT, Pulmonary and GI perspective, a session on Feeding disorders and even a session on the use of social media in healthcare. There were 12 well-attended, excellent Meet-the-Professor breakfasts and hands-on-endoscopy sessions over the two-day meeting. GI Jeopardy led by the dynamic, charismatic Norberto Rodriguez-Baez and then dinner and dancing closed out the 2019 Annual Meeting on a high note.

Please contribute your voice to the 2020 meeting and offer suggestions for topics and speakers!

Many blessings to you all for the Holiday Season and the New Year, and I hope to see you in Copenhagen in June 2020 and at the Marriott Marquis in San Diego in November, 2020.

Benjamin (Ben) D. Gold, MD
President-Elect, **NASPGHAN**
Children's Center for Digestive Healthcare
Atlanta, GA



Secretary–Treasurer's Report

Dear **NASPGHAN** Friends and Colleagues,

It was wonderful to meet in person with all of you at our recent Annual Meeting in Chicago and we trust and hope that you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with friends and family. As mentioned at our business meeting, **NASPGHAN's** financial standing remains strong, and solid attendance at the Annual Meeting and membership dues continue to solidify our financial bottom-line. We thank the Finance Committee for its recent review of our financial status and, with their input, have made solid plans for the future of the society and its activities as supported by you, our members.

It is an exciting time for **NASPGHAN** looking forward with the potential to literally bring on-line various tools to support you as you care for children with pediatric gastrointestinal, pancreatic, liver, and nutritional diseases/disorders. Our budding collaboration with electronic health record (EHR) vendors opens up the potential for members to capitalize on the work of others through use of shared EHR tools friendly to clinical workflow to ensure that every child receives standard of care (Look for an announcement shortly in early 2020 regarding the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Checklist to be available for those on Epic). Further, the newly formed EHR Special Interest Group offers great opportunity to expand this work to all EHR vendors that serve our membership.

2020 brings amazing opportunities to interact with colleagues worldwide with the upcoming World Congress in Copenhagen in June. There will also be a **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting to be held in my hometown of San Diego in November. We look forward to seeing you at both venues! As this is the season of giving, we always encourage you to think of **NASPGHAN** and particularly the [Foundation](#) when you contemplate charitable giving. As always, **NASPGHAN** and the Foundation are here to serve you, our members, and the important crucial work you do in ensuring the health of children everyday.

Happy Holidays and the very best for 2020!

Jeannie Huang, MD, MPH
Secretary Treasurer, **NASPGHAN**
San Diego, CA

COMING IN 2020 FROM THE NASPGHAN FOUNDATION

The ABCs of EGIDs

Recognizing the need for a deeper and more in-depth understanding of the pathogenesis of EoE and the presence of knowledge gaps in the use of diagnostic guidelines for providers, **NASPGHAN** is pleased to offer a web-based education series on Eosinophilic Esophagitis, The ABCs of EGIDs. In partnership with **NASPGHAN**, the **NASPGHAN** Foundation and CEGIR (Consortium of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Researchers), this series of 26 webinars is divided into six modules that will cover concepts from the basics of research processes to the study of rare diseases, engagement of patient advocacy groups and cutting edge information on EGIDs. The lectures were developed by experts to meet the educational needs of pediatric and adult gastroenterologists, allergists and immunologists, nutritionists, and other providers at various stages of training. The modules have been approved as CME/MOC Part II. The series will be available in the Spring of 2020 and all webinars will be offered for free. Stay tuned for additional details!

Support provided by an educational grant from Takeda Pharmaceuticals America, Inc.

NASPGHAN Foundation/NASPGHAN Nutrition Curriculum for Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellows

This didactic curricula with self-learning modules will cover topics including: nutritional assessment, basic nutritional physiology, micronutrients, feeding, malnutrition, nutritional support for GI and non-GI conditions, obesity, and macronutrients/formula composition. The Course is designed for use in pediatric GI fellowship training programs.

Support provided by an educational grant from Nestlé Health Sciences and Nestlé Infant Nutrition

NASPGHAN Nutrition University (N²U)

This popular conference is entering its 10th year and will be held April 17–18, 2020 at the Renaissance Chicago O'Hare. The application process will open in early 2020. Stay tuned for more information.

Support provided by an educational grant from Nutricia North America, Inc.

NASPGHAN Foundation News



..... Barry Wershil, MD
President, NASPGHAN Foundation

Dear Colleagues:

Season's greetings!! It's hard to believe that we're closing out another decade, and that the Foundation is turning 20 years old. The Foundation had a productive 2019 creating opportunities in research and education for **NASPGHAN** and our affiliate organizations, APGNN and CPNP.

We had another competitive year of grant applications, and were proud to present them at the national meeting in Chicago. This year's recipients are:

- ▶ **Dr. Dominique Bailey** from Columbia University Medical Center, NY received the Foundation/George Ferry Young Investigator Development Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Joshua Wechsler** from Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago received the Foundation/Takeda Pharmaceutical America, Inc. Research Innovation Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Zachary Sellers** from Stanford University, Palo Alto received the Foundation/Nestlé Nutrition Research Young Investigator Development Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Janet Wojcicki** from UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco received the Foundation Mid-Level Career Development Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Jodie Ouahed** from Boston Children's Hospital, Boston received the CCF/**NASPGHAN** IBD Young Investigator Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Nadia Ameen** from Yale, New Haven received the Foundation/QOL Research Award for the Study of Disorders Associated with Carbohydrate Malabsorption.
- ▶ **Karie Robinson** from Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City received the Foundation/APGNN Susan Moyer Nursing Research Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Sarah Orkin** from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati received the Foundation/Abbott Nutrition Fellowship Training Award.
- ▶ **Dr. Amanda Lee** from Vanderbilt and **Dr. Sharon Tam** from Children's Hospital of Los Angeles were recipients of the Foundation Innovations in Clinical Care Grants.
- ▶ **Catherine Karls** from Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and **Jennifer Smith** from Nationwide Children's Hospital were awarded Foundation/CPNP Nutrition Research Grants.

Special recognition awards were presented as follows:

- ▶ Gerard Odell Prize for Excellence in Liver Research was presented to **Dr. Amanda Ricciuto** from the Hospital for Sick Kids, Toronto.
- ▶ Richard Grand/John Watkins Prize was given to **Dr. Hongtao Wang** from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston.
- ▶ Teri Li Young Educator Award was presented to **Dr. Arvind Srinath** from UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.
- ▶ And a new recognition award, the Amin Tjota Prize for Excellence in Pancreatic Research was presented to **Dr. Sohail Husain** from Stanford University, Palo Alto.

The awarding of grants is always a double edge sword: congratulating the recipients, but recognizing that there were many worthy proposals not funded. The Foundation is firmly committed to the pursuit of new sources of research support for our members and affiliate societies. We stay rooted in the belief that innovative research is essential to advance patient care, educate the next generation of physicians, and maintain **NASPGHAN** as a leading voice in the field.

Our Educational Mission is also front and center with many activities occurring in 2019 and new "products" on the horizon for 2020. This last year has seen another successful session of N²U, the publication of NAFLD Guidelines and GERD Guidelines summaries and distribution of the NAFLD slide set. The Webinar "New Frontiers in Intestinal Failure" was well attended and an enduring version can be found on [our website](#). And an updated version of the patient friendly [Constipation Care Package](#) can be downloaded from the GIKids website to be utilized in your clinical practices. As promised, 2020 will see the roll out of both the EoE web-based educational program, and the Nutrition Educational Curriculum for Fellows.

As the end of the year approaches, I want to thank so many people. The work of the Foundation would not be possible without the support of all the Corporate Partners and Supporters. I want to thank the **NASPGHAN** members who have generously donated to the Foundation and ask those that haven't yet, please consider donating before the year's end. Giving to the Foundation has now been made mobile, just TEXT 4GIPEDS to 56512. And don't forget that in this holiday season, you can designate the **NASPGHAN** Foundation to receive 0.5% on each purchase from Amazon. Learn more on [our website](#).

This is my last Newsletter as President of the **NASPGHAN** Foundation. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this role. This is not good-bye, since I still will participate as Past President with the new President, Menno Verhave, but more a chance to acknowledge the wonderful people involved with the Foundation. First, I want to thank all of the staff in the **NASPGHAN** National Office and Monique Taylor, our Director of Development and Education. I couldn't have asked for better partners in leading the Foundation than John Barnard and Ann Scheimann. And saving the best for last, there are no words to adequately describe how great it is to work with Margaret Stallings, and how much she means to the Foundation and to **NASPGHAN**.

And with that, I wish you all a joyous Holiday season and a Healthy and Happy 2020.

Barry Wershil, M.D.

Barry K. Wershil, MD
President, **NASPGHAN** Foundation
Chicago, IL

NEWS from Our Foundation Partners

INNOVATIVE HEALTH SOLUTIONS, INC.

FDA permits marketing of IB-Stim® for relief of functional abdominal pain associated with irritable bowel syndrome in children 11-18 years of age. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has permitted marketing of the first medical device to aid in the reduction of functional abdominal pain in patients 11-18 years of age with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS). The device (IB-Stim®, Innovative Health Solutions, Inc) offers a non-pharmacological option for adolescents experiencing pain from IBS. The device works by gaining access to central pathways using peripheral, non-invasive, percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation (PENFS). A pre-clinical study published in *Neuroscience* and evaluated by the FDA, showed that PENFS can improve visceral pain and modulate neurons in the central nervous system, including the amygdala and spinal cord. The approval marks the first time a therapy has been approved for this condition in children. "Today's action reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing the development of pediatric medical devices so that children and adolescents have access to safe and effective medical devices that meet their needs," said Carlos Peña, PhD, director of the Office of Neurological and Physical Medicine Devices in the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

A randomized controlled trial published in *Lancet-Gastroenterology and Hepatology* included 115 children with functional abdominal pain disorders (functional dyspepsia, abdominal migraine, functional abdominal pain, and IBS). In the entire cohort, 68–85% had failed to respond to pharmacotherapy before entering the trial. Overall, 60% of patients in the active treatment group had a reduction in worst pain of 30% or more from baseline to 3 weeks of treatment compared with 22% in the sham group ($p=0.00031$). The symptoms response scale (SRS) was used to assess global symptom improvement. Seventy three percent of patients in the active group compared to 35% in the sham had SRS scores of 2 or more after 3 weeks of therapy ($p=0.00022$). The functional disability index was used to assess disability at baseline (pre-treatment) in both active and sham groups and was repeated at extended follow-up (8-12 weeks post-study). The baseline median FDI scores for both groups fell in the moderate disability range. At extended follow-up, the active treatment group, on average, decreased to the minimal disability range whereas the sham group remained in the moderate range. There were no serious adverse events reported in the trial.

A recent study published in *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* focused on the subset of children with IBS ($n=50$) and demonstrated that PENFS had significant benefit over sham treatment. Overall, similar improvements were noted in reduction of worst pain with 59% reporting at least a 30% reduction with active treatment compared to sham 26% in the sham ($p=0.024$). A SRS score of 2 or more was observed in 82% of patients who received active treatment compared to 26% in the sham group ($P \leq 0.001$), suggesting a clinically important differences in global symptom improvement. In those that had active treatment, 79% stated they were satisfied with the treatment and 95% stated they would recommend the therapy to family or friends.

References:

- ♦ Babygirija R, Sood M, Kannampalli P, Sengupta JN, Miranda A. Percutaneous electrical nerve field stimulation modulates central pain pathways and attenuates post-inflammatory visceral and somatic hyperalgesia in rats. *Neuroscience*. 2017;356:11-21.

- ♦ Kovacic K, Hainsworth K, Sood M, Chelimsky G, Unteutsch R, Nugent M, Simpson P, Miranda A. Neurostimulation for abdominal pain-related functional gastrointestinal disorders in adolescents: a randomised, double-blind, sham-controlled trial. *Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2017;2:727-737.

- ♦ Krasaelap A, Sood M, Li BUK, Unteutsch R, Yan K, Nugent M, Simpson P, Kovacic K. Efficacy of Auricular Neurostimulation in Adolescents With Irritable Bowel Syndrome in a Randomized, Double-Blind Trial. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2019 (In press).

MIRUM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Mirum Pharmaceuticals is recruiting pediatric patients with progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC) for a Phase 3 study of maralixibat, a novel ASBT inhibitor (ASBTi). The goal of the MARCH (MARalixibat in CHolestasis) study is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of maralixibat in children age 1 year or older who have bile salt export pump (BSEP) deficiency, also known as PFIC2. The study will assess maralixibat's impact on cholestatic pruritus severity and frequency, as well as the reduction of serum bile acids. The study will include a 6-month placebo-controlled period followed by a long-term open label extension period in which all patients will receive maralixibat.

The MARCH study is currently open at select sites across the U.S. and now opening across Europe. Target enrollment for MARCH is 30 patients in sites spanning North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia Pacific and Latin America. For a full list of participating sites and eligibility requirements, visit PFICtrial.com or clinicaltrials.gov.

In the Phase 2 INDIGO study of maralixibat in 33 patients with PFIC, multiparameter responses to maralixibat were observed on cholestatic pruritus, serum bile acids, normalization of liver enzymes if abnormal at baseline, and quality of life scores, in patients with PFIC2. These data supported maralixibat's breakthrough therapy designation for the treatment of PFIC2. A long-term analysis of the INDIGO clinical trial also showed an improvement in growth for those patients who had a response to maralixibat in serum bile acids and cholestatic pruritus. Maralixibat was generally well tolerated. Treatment emergent AEs were reported in 30 patients, most of which were mild or moderate in severity; the most frequent being diarrhea and abdominal pain. Four patients in the study experienced SAEs, two leading to discontinuation; all considered unrelated to maralixibat.

Maralixibat is a novel, minimally absorbed, orally administered investigational medicine that inhibits the apical sodium dependent bile acid transporter (ASBT). This mechanism results in more bile acids being excreted in the feces, thereby leading to lower levels of systemic bile acids and potentially reducing bile acid-mediated liver damage, related effects and complications. To date, more than 1,500 individuals have received maralixibat, including more than 100 children who have received maralixibat as an investigational treatment for Alagille syndrome (ALGS) and PFIC.

Maralixibat has been granted Breakthrough Therapy Designation from the FDA for PFIC2, and recently it was also granted Breakthrough Therapy Designation from the FDA for the treatment of pruritus associated with ALGS in patients age 1 year or older.

Check PFICtrial.com for the most current, up to date listing of sites participating in the MARCH trial.

NESTLÉ



Visit the Nestlé Nutrition Institute (NNI) web site for science based education resources and tools supporting nutrition therapy in pediatrics.

Please join us for a complimentary continuing education activity for clinicians: "Evolution of the Intestinal Microbiome: Helping Parents lay the Foundation for Childhood Health."

Pediatricians and other clinicians who advise parents about infant and child nutrition are challenged to provide parents with up-to-date information about probiotics and human milk oligosaccharides. In this video, the expert faculty (Dr. Michael Cabana, Dr. Ardithe Morrow, and Dr. Philip Sherman) discuss key issues regarding the importance of the infant gut microbiome and our still-evolving understanding of its critical role in the development of a healthy immune system, as well as its direct effects in the gastrointestinal tract.

The educational objectives include:

- ▶ **Describe** the intestinal microbiome and the role of pre- and probiotics in pediatric health and development of the immune system
- ▶ **Identify** factors, including vaginal birth and breastfeeding, that promote healthful microbial colonization of the infant gut
- ▶ **Recommend** evidence-based strategies for using probiotics in the management of pediatric diarrhea and colic
- ▶ **Advise** parents about the evolving understanding of the benefits of human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs) added to infant formula

To access the activity, Log on to [MyCME.com/pednutrition](https://www.mycme.com/pednutrition)

To sign up for other resources from the Nestlé Nutrition Institute web site, you can [register here](#).

NUTRICIA NORTH AMERICA

Nutricia is proud to support individuals with cow milk allergy, multiple food allergies and related GI and allergic conditions. Over 175 publications support the use of Neocate®. Click on the links below for some more recent findings.

- ▶ Title—Synbiotics-supplemented amino acid-based formula supports adequate growth in cow's milk allergic infants. [Publication](#)
 - Authors—Burks AW, Harthoorn LF, van Ampting MTJ, et al.
 - Products Studied
 - ♦ Infant amino acid-based formula (AAF) with specific synbiotics (test formula)*
 - ♦ Infant AAF (control formula)†
- ▶ Title—A synbiotic-containing amino-acid-based formula improves gut microbiota in non-IgE-mediated allergic infants. [Publication](#)
 - Authors—Candy DCA, Van Ampting MTJ, Oude Nijhuis MM, et al.
 - Products Studied
 - ♦ Infant AAF with specific synbiotics (test formula)*
 - ♦ Infant AAF (control formula)†
- ▶ Title—A specific synbiotic-containing amino acid-based formula in dietary management of cow's milk allergy: a randomized controlled trial. [Publication](#)
 - Authors—Fox AT, Wopereis H, Van Ampting MTJ, et al.
 - Products Studied
 - ♦ Infant AAF with specific synbiotics (test formula)*
 - ♦ Infant AAF (control formula)†
- ▶ Title—A specific synbiotic-containing amino acid-based formula restores gut microbiota in non-IgE mediated cow's milk allergic infants: a randomized controlled trial. [Publication](#)

- Authors—Wopereis H, van Ampting MTJ, Cetinyurek-Yavuz A, et al.
- Products Studied
 - ♦ Infant AAF with specific synbiotics (test formula)*
 - ♦ Infant AAF (control formula)†

- ▶ Title—Elemental diet decreases inflammation and improves symptoms in adult eosinophilic oesophagitis patients. [Publication](#)
- Authors—Warners MJ, Vlieg-Boerstra BJ, Verheij J, et al.
- Products Studied
 - ♦ Ready-to-feed AAF (for ≥ 1 year of age)‡
- ▶ Title—Longitudinal study shows improved nutrient intakes and growth with an amino acid formula for children ≥ 1 years with cow's milk allergy and related conditions. [Publication](#)
 - Authors—Sorensen K, Fry C, Allford A, et al.
 - Products Studied
 - ♦ AAF (for ≥ 1 year of age)§

Known as:

*Neocate® Syneo® Infant in the US

†Neocate® Infant DHA/ARA in the US and Neocate® DHA & ARA in Canada

‡Neocate® Splash in the US and Canada

§Neocate® Junior in the US and Canada

TAKEDA PHARMACEUTICALS AMERICA, INC.

Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Takeda is pleased to announce that Budesonide Oral Suspension (BOS), an investigational therapy for the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE), achieved co-primary and key secondary efficacy outcomes in the first of two pivotal Phase 3 studies. Positive results on histologic, symptomatic and endoscopic endpoints were presented during a Presidential Plenary Session of the 2019 American College of Gastroenterology Annual Scientific Meeting (Oct 25-30, San Antonio, TX). The study investigated the safety and efficacy of BOS over 12 weeks of treatment among adolescent and adult patients aged 11 to 55. BOS is an investigational, novel mucoadherent topical corticosteroid formulation being evaluated in the United States for the treatment of EoE in adolescents and adults.

Short Bowel Syndrome

Takeda would like to highlight the recent publication of the "Safety and Efficacy of Teduglutide in Pediatric Patients With Intestinal Failure due to Short Bowel Syndrome: A 24-Week, Phase III Study". In this 24-week, phase 3 study of 2 randomized, double-blind teduglutide dose groups and a nonblinded standard of care group, treatment with teduglutide reduced parenteral support (PS) volume, calories, and infusion time in pediatric patients with short bowel syndrome associated intestinal failure (SBS-IF). The safety profile was consistent with previous experience in adults and children with SBS-IF. This study is one of two pivotal trials that enabled the recent FDA approval of the use of Gattex (teduglutide) in pediatric patients at least one year of age and at least 10kg in May 2019.

1 Hirano et al. Efficacy of Budesonide Oral Suspension for Eosinophilic Esophagitis in Adolescents and Adults: Results from a Phase 3, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial. Presented during American College of Gastroenterology Annual Meeting, October 28, 2019. amily of hypoallergenic, amino acid-based medical foods for use under medical supervision and is indicated for cow milk allergy.

2 JPEN J Parenter Enteral Nutr. 2019 Sep 8. doi: 10.1002/jpen.1690.

NASPGHAN Foundation Donors

Thank you to our members for their generous donations

As of August 2019

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Miguel Saps MD
Richard Schreiber MD
Timothy Sentongo MD
Ala Shaikhkhalil MD
Harohalli Shashidar MD
Lesley Jacqueline Smith MD
Judith Splawski MD
Justine Turner MD, PhD
Alexander Weymann MD
Harland Winter MD

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Christine Bales MD
Michael Bates MD
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Millie Boettcher MSH, CPNP, CNSN
Conrad Cole MD
Robert Dahms
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Joan DiPalma MD
Looi Ee MD
Jeffrey Fahl MD
Fidelity Charitable Trust
Ryan Fischer MD
Glenn Furuta MD
Amy Garcia MD
Cheryl Garipey MD
Juan Gregory MD
David Gremse MD
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Ivor Hill MD, MD, ChB
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Linda Book MD
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Jennifer Crouse MS, RD, CD, CDE
Eileen Crowley MD
Saied Dallalzadeh MD

Patrick Daugherty MD
 Arthur de Lorimier MD
 Vera De Matos MD
 Gayle Diamond MD
 Rosalyn Diaz MD
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 Jill Dorsey MD
 Eric Drouin MD
 Christopher Duggan MD
 Debora Duro MD
 Larry Eisenberg MD
 Udem Ekong MD
 Jonah Essers MD
 Tom Ewald MD
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 Drew Feranchak MD
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 John Fortunato MD
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 Monique Goldschmidt MD
 Regino Gonzales-Peralta MD
 Kerri Gosselin MD
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 Maria Greene MD
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 Michael Hart MD
 Lara Hart MD
 Terry Hatch MD
 Hector Hernandez MD
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Kevin Kelly MD
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 Katja Kovacic MD
 Diana Lerner MD
 Steven Lichtman MD
 Simon Ling MD
 Anthony Loizides MD
 Oscar Loret De Mola MD
 Otto Louis-Jacques MD
 Mary Allyson Lowry MD
 Wieslaw Machnowski MD
 David Mack MD
 Eric Maller MD
 Yvonne McFarlane Ferreira MD
 Calies Menard-Katcher MD
 Alexander Miethke MD
 Douglas Mogul MD
 Parvathi Mohan MD
 Sean Moore MD
 Jonathan Moses MD
 Elaine Moustafellos MD
 Alisa Muniz Crim MD
 Rajeev Nagpal MD
 Shweta Namjoshi MD
 James Noel MD
 Robert Noel MD
 Michael Novielli MD
 Paula Ordonez MD
 Hilary Perr MD
 Randi Pleskow MD
 Kathleen and Keith Post
 Carol Potter MD
 Roy Proujansky MD
 Antonio Quiros MD
 Jonathan Ramprasad MD
 Bram Raphael MD
 Anthony Repucci MD
 Marc Rhoads MD
 Amanda Ricciuto MD

Brian Riedel MD
 Albert Marshall Ross MD
 Charis Faye Ross MD
 Robert Rothbaum MD
 Paul Rufo MD, MMSC
 Nasim Sabery MD
 Meghana Sathe MD
 Wael Sayej MD
 Adrienne Scheich MD
 Sally Schwartz BS, RD, CSP, LPN
 Sarah Jane Schwarzenberg MD
 Ameesh Shah MD
 Maryam Shambayati MD
 Lisa Sharda MA, RD, IBLC
 Mary Sharrett MD
 Jocelyn Silvester MD
 Edwin Simpson MD
 Mamata Sivagnanam MD
 Christopher Smith MD
 Jason Soden MD
 Ronald Sokol MD
 Jason Spence MD
 John Stephens MD
 Jennifer Strople MD
 Carolyn Sullivan MD
 Francisco Sylvester MD
 Phil Tarr MD
 Mary Elizabeth Tessier MD
 Kerry Thek MD
 John Thompson MD
 Erena Treskova MD
 David Tuchman MD
 Miranda van Tilburg MD
 Jorge Vargas MD
 Sarah Vermilyea RD, MS, CSP, LD, CNS
 Christine Waasdorp Hurtado MD
 Alex Wang MD
 Dana Williams MD
 Robert Williams MD
 Lauren Willis MD
 Desalegn Yacob MD
 Chunyue Yin MD
 Bella Zeisler MD
 Lori Zimmerman MD

NASPGHAN-F



Fellow of NASPGHAN Applications Now Available

Eligible **NASPGHAN** members [can now apply](#) for the new Fellow of **NASPGHAN** status (**NASPGHAN-F**).

Attainment of the prestigious Fellow of **NASPGHAN** status is for those **NASPGHAN** members who have made significant contributions to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology or nutrition. Members with a strong career track record for success as clinicians, physician scientists (MD/DO, MD/DO/PhD) or researchers (PhD/MS) in the field of

pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition are encouraged to apply. Fellow status can be attained by meeting all criteria for either Clinical Practice or Research expertise. The **NASPGHAN** Executive Council will review all applications, focusing on the quality and breadth of clinical, research and educational contributions and service to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition. Eligibility requirements are available online and details are available [here](#).



6th WORLD CONGRESS

of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

03-06 June 2020 Copenhagen · Denmark



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR 2020 WORLD CONGRESS

Registration for 6th World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, which will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark June 3-6, 2020, is **now open**. This collaboration, which only takes place every four years, brings together delegates from all over the globe for four days of science, education and technology in the fields of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. The early bird registration deadline is March 8, 2020 and the standard registration deadline is May 17, 2020.

— Visit the [World Congress home page](#) for additional information. —

FISPGHAN Outstanding Achievement Award



The FISPGHAN Outstanding Achievement Award is awarded to individuals who have made a major contribution to international pediatric gastroenterology or hepatology or nutrition with respect to clinical care, research, setting or implementing standards, education or training, or strengthening in other ways the field or FISPGHAN as a society. The award may recognize a major achievement or a lifetime accomplishment.

Criteria for selection may include:

- ▶ Outstanding scientific achievements related to pediatric gastroenterology and/or hepatology, and/or nutrition, usually documented by the candidate's publication and citation record
- ▶ Outstanding contributions to the standards, practice and training in the fields of pediatric gastroenterology or hepatology or nutrition
- ▶ Outstanding contributions to FISPGHAN as a society
- ▶ Personal integrity

The Prize shall be awarded at least every four years, on the occasion of the FISPGHAN World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. The FISPGHAN council may decide to award additional prizes also in years without a World Congress, but usually no more than one award per year should be given out.

Each full or associate member society of FISPGHAN may submit one nomination for each call of the FISPGHAN Outstanding Achievement Award to the FISPGHAN president or office. The nomination should include a letter highlighting the reasons for nomination, a characterization of the candidate's achievements, and preferably the nominee's CV, bibliography and citation record.

Nominations for the 2020 award should be submitted to the FISPGHAN office by e-mail (mstallings@naspghan.org) no later than by December 31, 2019.

The Prize Winner will be selected by the FISPGHAN council. The 2020 Award shall be presented at the World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition held June 3-6, 2020 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Welcome New NASPGHAN Members

Huda S. Algheffli, MBBS

Thomas Attard, MD

Sharon D'Mello, MD

David Scott Jones, MD

Nagraj Kasi, MD

Ishrat Mansuri, MD

Alejandro Ferreiro Marin, MD

Archie Ramaswami, MD

Thomas R. Walker, MD



CEGIR Gives Physician Training Awards—

Application Deadline January 15

The Consortium of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease Researchers (CEGIR), a NIH-funded collaborative consortium of clinician-investigators, translational scientists, physicians, patients, families and patient advocacy groups, is giving a training award in 2020 to train physicians to address the needs of patients with eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGIDs).

The award will provide \$25,000 per year for salary support and supplies. In addition, the awardee will participate in structured didactics, interact with experts in EGIDs, travel to meetings and CEGIR sites, receive research mentoring and lead an EGID related research project related to a CEGIR theme.

Applications are due January 15 at 2 pm and can be submitted directly to Rhona Jackson at (Rhona.Jackson@cuanschutz.edu). Funding will start March 15, 2020. A description of the grant details can be [found here](#).

CEGIR recognizes a need for physicians trained to address the needs of patients with EGIDs and the need for a greater focus in the clinical research focused on these diseases.

CPNP NASPGHAN

COUNCIL FOR PEDIATRIC
NUTRITION PROFESSIONALS



Sally Schwartz, CPNP President

Happy Holidays **NASPGHAN** members, 2019 has been another eventful year for the Council of Nutrition Professionals (CPNP) as our membership continues to grow over 250 members and we continue our collaborative efforts with **NASPGHAN**.

This year's Annual Meeting showcased many of our Council's members presenting at **NASPGHAN**, APGNN and CPNP sessions, authoring abstracts and exciting nutrition focused content. New this year, we were able to add additional continuing education hours for nutrition sessions at Friday's **NASPGHAN** sessions, making the meeting more competitive with other RD continuing education programs.

Due to our positive response of feedback from last year, we sent out a call for session topics for the 2020 **NASPGHAN** CPNP Nutrition Symposium to our CPNP membership again this year. If you have interests in specific topics for the CPNP sessions, please send an email with your session ideas. (Please send us an email: cpnp.naspghan@gmail.com).

We are thrilled to have had our inaugural **NASPGHAN** Foundation/CPNP Nutrition Research Grant this year, which has been supported by QOL Medical, LLC. We had 9 outstanding applicants this year, which demonstrates the desire of our CPNP members to be involved in research. The \$5000 grant has been split between 2 awardees. Congrats to our awardees; we can't wait to see the results of their work at 2020 CPNP Nutrition Symposium!

► **Catherine Karls, MS, RD, CD, CNSC** Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
Comparison of a new and novel nutrition screening tool with a previously validated tool to determine nutrition risk in pediatric patients with scoliosis undergoing elective spine fusion or growth modulation

► **Jennifer Smith, MS, RD, CSP, LD, LMT**—Nationwide Children's Hospital
A Single-Center Quality Improvement-Based Initiative for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Iron Deficiency and Iron Deficiency Anemia in Children and Adolescents with newly diagnosed Inflammatory Bowel Disease

We continue to support and collaborate with **NASPGHAN** through our members representing CPNP on several **NASPGHAN** Committees including patient education, consensus statements and position papers.

Some of our goals over the next year include developing an Ethics CPE with the **NASPGHAN** Ethics Committee; developing new **NASPGHAN** nutrition educational resources: Providers, RDs, & patients; creating a mentorship program within our membership, and research mentor collaboration with **NASPGHAN**'s Nutrition Committee.

Don't forget to look out for our Nutrition Pearls. We have 15 PEARLS completed that can be viewed anytime. To locate [click on the CPNP tab](#) on the **NASPGHAN** member's website, the Pearls link can be found on the CPNP home page.

We appreciate your ongoing support as we continue to grow. Please reach out if you have any suggestions or needs for nutrition resources in the work you are doing. Send us an email at (cpnp.naspghan@gmail.com).

Have a wonderful holiday season,

Sally Schwartz, RD, CSP, LDN
President, CPNP, Council for Pediatric Nutrition Professionals



Teresa Carroll, APGNN President



Greetings **NASPGHAN** membership,

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Teresa Carroll, and I am the new APGNN

President for 2019-2021. I am a nurse practitioner working in fabulous and warm Las Vegas. I am lucky to work in a private GI practice with 4 great **NASPGHAN** physicians who are also excited about me having this leadership opportunity. Writing this article reminds me of when I joined this GI practice 18 years ago, and one of the physicians told me about **NASPGHAN** as well as recommending that I join the APGNN nursing group. As you all know, being active in a professional organization helps you grow, keeps your practice current, and builds friendships/relationships that become invaluable.

This year's annual conference in Chicago was very successful with well attended sessions by all disciplines. Thank you again for your support as we could not do this without it.

We have several updates on ongoing projects. As always, we are offering discounted group memberships as "buy 3 get 1 free." Our partnership with NAPNAP offers a 20% discount on dual membership. The 3rd edition of our APGNN Clinical Handbook of Pediatric Gastroenterology is now available for purchase. Our mentorship program is ongoing matching up nurses new to GI with more experienced members. Our Patient and Family Education committee worked with **NASPGHAN** making much needed improvements to the GiKids.org website. Our Clinical Practice Committee is working with CCQ on a wonderful long-term project of building comprehensive multi-modality training modules geared to provide a consistent knowledge base.

I look forward to working with you over the next 2 years, and on behalf of APGNN membership I thank you for your support.

Teresa Carroll, APRN



New & Improved GIKids Website

Please check out the new and improved GIKids website (www.GiKids.org). Materials are being continuously being updated by the Public Education Committee (Chair: Shehzad Saeed MD) and web editors, Athos Bousvaros MD and Priya Raj MD. The latest revisions include patient and family information on the following topics: Allergies, Anorectal Manometry, Biliary Atresia, C. diff infection, Cow's Milk Protein Intolerance, Crohn's Disease, Cystic Fibrosis, Diarrhea (Acute), Fundoplication, H. pylori and Liver Transplantation. All of these materials are available in English, French and Spanish.

Committee and Special Interest Group Reports

HEPATOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chair: Mercedes Martinez, MD

Hepatology Committee members have been extremely busy during the past year, supporting societal educational activities. During this year's annual **NASPGHAN** meeting, we organized a Single Topic Symposium focusing on "Chronic Liver Disease Management for the Gastroenterologist". We also organized 3 concurrent sessions and 2 meet the professor breakfasts.

A group of world-renowned speakers, broadly covered both hepatology and liver transplantation topics, relevant to general gastroenterology during the single topic symposium. The first session, "Diagnostic Challenges in Pediatric Liver Disease," discussed evaluating the neonate with cholestasis, the pre-adolescent with abnormal liver enzymes, interpreting genetic results and abnormal radiology findings.

The second session, "Frontiers in Liver Therapeutics," initially focused on how to apply clinically-oriented research. The second portion consisted of three sub-lectures highlighting the most up-to-date management of acute liver failure, viral hepatitis and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis.

The third session, "Update on Portal Hypertension," concentrated on the assessment and management of the above mentioned heterogeneous group of conditions, affecting patients with cirrhotic and non-cirrhotic portal hypertension. Two discussions followed, outlining the role of the interventional radiologist and surgeon(s), and highlighting the importance of a multidisciplinary approach, given the complexity of these cases.

While the primary intention of the symposium was to teach general gastroenterologists how to approach common liver disease in their practice, given the quality of the speakers and the extensive coverage of recent advances in genetic testing, cutting edge diagnosis and therapeutic interventions, the hepatologist who attended, benefited greatly from the symposium.

Liver transplant, innovations in viral hepatitis and non-invasive biomarkers of hepatic fibrosis were covered in concurrent sessions during the Annual Meeting. Discussions with the professors during breakfast included complicated cases of autoimmune hepatitis, inflammatory bowel disease and interaction with the liver.

During the annual meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease, the AASLD/**NASPGHAN** Symposium reviewed the role of inflammation in the etiopathogenesis of acute liver injury. The most recent advances in clinical and basic science research were presented, focusing on their applicability to clinical practice.

Hepatology Committee members also updated hepatology materials for the GiKids.org website and published a [joint position paper](#) with ESPGHAN members on Nutritional Support of Children with Chronic Liver Diseases was published in *JPGN*.

Currently, we are working on few more publications and selecting the topics for next year's meetings. We would like to welcome the new committee members, including four new pediatric gastroenterology fellows.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Gitit Tomer, MD

Vice Chair: Rina Sanghavi, MD, MBA

The Professional Development Committee examines current issues of gender, diversity, equality, well-being and trends in the profession and their impact on the professional development of our members. Our events during the Annual Meeting included the Professional Development Symposium on Effective Communication and the 3rd Annual Women in Medicine breakfast titled Coaches, Mentors, Sponsors: Everything you need to know, were a great success and had excellent attendance. We are now working to plan the next symposium, which will be titled Leadership and Diversity. The Professional Development Committee sent two **NASPGHAN** liaisons who help organize and moderate the Gastroenterology Women Coalition (GWC) Symposium for advancing women's careers in GI and Hepatology during Digestive Disease Week (DDW) and there is always a **NASPGHAN** speaker representative. The GWC symposium has been phenomenal and I highly recommend attending the symposium during the next DDW. Feedback is always appreciated and if you have suggestions for lectures and speakers please email (gitomer@montefiore.org).

The Professional Development Committee, Clinical Practice Committee and **NASPGHAN** leadership are dedicated to supporting our colleagues in their activities. We recognize that our field is changing and would like to understand the current state of practice of pediatric gastroenterologists and hepatologists. Therefore, we are working on a burnout survey and division chief survey and it will be sent shortly to all **NASPGHAN** members.

We have been working with **NASPGHAN** leadership and our American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) on the '#DiversityinGI' social media campaign, to enhance awareness and diversity in Gastroenterology. **NASPGHAN** and ACG aim to enrich the professional GI community by positioning diversity and inclusion as a priority for both organizations, by demonstrating cultural sensitivity in healthcare delivery as well as and, particularly, by showcasing our GI healthcare professionals from underrepresented groups.

DIVERSITY SIG

Chair: Rina Sanghavi, MD, MBA

In June 2019, **NASPGHAN** established a Special Interest Group (SIG) on Diversity in GI to work along with the ACG (American College of Gastroenterology). The mission and purpose of this SIG is to assess and promote diversity and inclusion of all different races, ethnicities, beliefs and genders within **NASPGHAN**. Some of the initial goals of this SIG are:

- ▶ Conduct studies on the current situation of diversity within **NASPGHAN**. Diversity analysis will include ethnicities, races as

well as gender at all levels of **NASPGHAN** from young Pediatric GI fellows to the leadership.

- ▶ Introduce programs aimed at educating our members on promoting diversity and inclusion
- ▶ Modules to educate our members on unconscious bias training
- ▶ Promote leadership training to further advance our goal of a diverse leadership

The SIG is chaired by Rina Sanghavi, MD, MBA along with Conrad Cole, MD and Valeria Cohran, MD and is being overseen by the Professional Development Committee. Membership is open to all **NASPGHAN** members. Interested **NASPGHAN** members can email (Rinarani.sanghavi@utsouthwestern.edu) to be added to the SIG mailing and conference call list.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair: Bruno Chumpitazi, MD

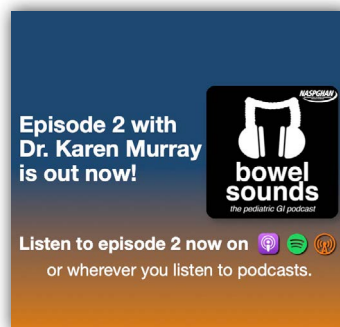
The **NASPGHAN** Research Committee has continued to actively support **NASPGHAN's** research effort. For the 2019 **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting, the Research Committee reviewed 440 abstracts. We also reviewed 33 grant applications for several **NASPGHAN** Foundation grant funding opportunities. The grant application reviews were finalized during a one-day study section meeting co-chaired by Drs. Bruno Chumpitazi and Kathy Loomes in Chicago in August. Overall, we're quite excited about the growing research **NASPGHAN** members are involved in and hope to encourage further submissions. Two new grants were available in 2019. They were the **NASPGHAN** Foundation/QOL Research award for the Study of Disorders Associated with Carbohydrate Malabsorption, which attracted four applicants, and the CPNP Nutrition Research Grant, supported by an educational grant from QOL Medical, LLC., which attracted nine applicants.

In addition to the grant application and abstract review responsibilities, the Research Committee is supporting **NASPGHAN's** research efforts by:

- ▶ Updating the research resources available on the **NASPGHAN** website by Dr. Sana Syed
- ▶ Continuing to standardize and improve the research mentor mentee program under the leadership of Maire Conrad and Calies Menard-Katcher
- ▶ Continuing to plan research career related sessions at the Annual Meeting
- ▶ Working with other groups within **NASPGHAN** such as CPNP and APGNN to encourage research grant ideas and submissions
- ▶ Seeking to expand **NASPGHAN's** research presence via social media.

Bowel Sounds Podcasts Hit the Airways

NASPGHAN's podcast, affectionately named Bowel Sounds: The Pediatric GI Podcast, is here!



Bowel Sounds was started by the **NASPGHAN** Technology Committee to provide a platform to both discuss interesting clinical topics within the fields of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition, and to give listeners the opportunity to hear from the leaders of our society. The hosts and producers of the podcast are Dr. Peter Lu

(pediatric gastroenterologist and GI motility specialist at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio), Dr. Jason Silverman (pediatric gastroenterologist and clinician educator at Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta) and Dr. Jennifer A. Lee (pediatric gastroenterologist and physician informaticist at Nationwide Children's Hospital).

"We want people to learn from entertaining interviews while getting to know leaders in the field," said Dr. Lee.

The first episode was released before the 2019 Annual Meeting and featured former **NASPGHAN** President, Dr. Carlo Di Lorenzo. Hosts Drs. Lee and Lu discussed hot topics related to pediatric constipation. With over 1300 downloads over the past month, there has been overwhelmingly positive feedback from pediatric gastroenterologists, pediatricians, trainees and allied health colleagues as well.

In one of the most recent episodes, current **NASPGHAN** President, Dr. Karen Murray, discusses advances in hepatitis C and provides guidance on work-life integration for young people in the field, particularly women. The newest episode was released on December 14th and features **NASPGHAN** President Elect, Dr. Ben Gold, and includes a discussion on the evaluation and management of *Helicobacter pylori* and Dr. Gold's former experience as a DJ. The team will be releasing a new episode on the 14th of every month.



You can listen and subscribe on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts or wherever else you listen to podcasts. You can also listen to episodes on the [podcast website](#). Follow the podcast on Twitter at @BowelSounds for updates on upcoming episodes. The hosts want to know what you think about the episodes, and any suggestions for future episodes by emailing (bowelsounds@naspgghan.org).

NASPGHAN—Mead Johnson Nutrition Third-Year Pediatric GI Fellows Conference

Course Co-Director: Norberto Rodriguez-Baez, MD

Course Co-Director: Christine Lee, MD



Mead Johnson Nutrition supported the 3rd Year Fellows Conference in Phoenix, Arizona from September 12-15, 2019, with record fellow attendance. The “Transition from Fellow to Attending” conference focuses on career development/planning, the interview process, and the transition from training to practice. The outstanding faculty included Drs. Maria Oliva-Hemker, John Barnard, Steve Guthery, Vicky Ng, Matthew Riley, Jeannie Huang, Steven Liu, Norberto Rodriguez-Baez and Christine Lee. Since the conference occurred at a time when most fellows were starting the job hunting process, the fellows were very engaged in the talks, panel and small group discussions and one-on-one meetings with faculty as they carefully consider their career options and choices, prepare to interview, transition, and build a career. Many thanks to **NASPGHAN**, the faculty, the fellows, and Mead Johnson Nutrition for their continued support of this excellent fellows conference.



NASPGHAN Welcomes 2019 First-Year Fellows

Atu Agawu
 Ashwin Agrawal
 Julia Maritza Alberto Meledéz
 Huda Suhail Alghfeli
 Awab I. Ali Ibrahim
 Maria Alejandra Amador Artiles
 Shamel Amin
 Carla Eliana Araoz Laura
 Dalia Arostegui
 Araceli Arredondo Cruz
 Mohammed Ayoub
 Neeharika Bade
 Darnna Banks
 Katarzyna Bigaj
 Katherine Black
 Michael Boechler
 Hassan Bokaie
 Geetanjali Bora
 Grace Boram Ji
 Kristen Bortolin
 Brooke Boyer
 Megan Brunswick
 Rasmita Budhathoki
 Samantha Butzke
 Yasemin Cagil
 Amanda Cantor
 Claudia Mariel Castellanos LaFont
 Daniel Castillo
 Gabriela Monica Ceron Molina
 Kevin Cesa
 Alvin P. Chan
 Christopher Chu
 Jaqueline Cisneros Gallardo
 Madelyn Cohen
 John Collier
 Caroline Conley
 Violeta Contreras Gardiño
 Montserrat Corbera-Hincapie
 Eric Dean
 Jessica Deas
 Jenna Diaz
 Adi Ein-Dor
 Lucia Escobedo Berumen
 Dyadin Esharif
 María De Lourdes Estrada León
 Yamen Ezaizi
 Rosa Miguel Fernández Nolasco
 Jenelle Fernandez
 Alvaro G. Flores
 Kendra Francis

Miquel Servando Gallardo Luna
 Jermie Gandhi
 Carmen Alicia Garcia Molina
 Duke Geem
 Amanda Glinky
 Karla Zuleima Gomez Marquez
 Amanda Gomez
 Esthermari Gonzalez
 Irina Gorbounova
 Andrea Gosálvez Tejada
 Maria Del Sol Granados Alonso
 Arielle Grossman
 Jennifer Halma
 Kayla Hartjes
 Galen Hartman
 Phillipp Hartmann
 Kathryn Hawa
 Rachel Herdes
 Jorge Alberto Hernández Alvarez
 Sarah Higgins
 Elizabeth Hilow
 Allyson Hodgkins
 Natalie Hoffmann
 Amari Howard
 Diane Hsu
 Mariana Alfaro Hurtado
 Rohit Josyabhatla
 Claire Keith
 Amelia Kellar
 Salina Khushal
 Lauren Klein
 Corie Klepper
 Gael Kornitzer
 Simone Kortbeek
 Archana Sravanthi Kota
 Kara Kwiatkowski
 Frances Lee
 Jamie Lee
 Jeffrey Lee
 Chelsea Lepus
 Rebecca Little
 Ana Paulina Luna Orozco
 April Mathews
 Eve May
 Caitriona McGovern
 Andrea Mejia-Sanchez
 Jonathan Miller
 Camilla L. Mills
 Kevin Murray
 Melissa Musser

Gopinathan Nambiar
 Derek Ngai
 Mason Nistel
 Dieudonne Nonga
 Eunice Odiase
 Debra Okafor
 Arvind Panchoo
 Sindhu Pandurangi
 Halee Patel
 Namrata Patel
 Rubén Pena Velez
 Celeste Del Carment Pérez Rivera
 Adriana Perez
 Mora Puertolas
 Ana Isabel Quesada Tortoriello
 Daniela Quiros-Lamadrid
 Anjali Rai
 Ana Ramirez Flores
 Patrick Reeves
 Natalie Reitzel
 Elizabeth Reyes Cruz
 Muhammed Safwan Riaz
 Syed Ahsan Rizvi
 Yolainis Mercedes Rosado Arias
 Alejandra Sabillón Mendoza
 Raul Sanchez
 Prathipa Santhanam
 Jacobo Santolaya
 Samantha Saul
 Kenneth Schmidt
 Rilla Schneider
 Albert Shan
 Eliana Shaul
 Medha Shukla
 Rachel Smith
 James Stevens
 Kim Sutton
 Kate Templeton
 Aravind Thavamani
 Sandra Torres Molina
 Paul Tran
 Janet Lizete Varela Huertero
 Nerissa Velazco
 Srisindu Vellanki
 Carter Wallace
 Michelle Wiepjes
 Kerry Wong
 Joseph Woolley
 Jocelyn Young
 Stephanie Zacharias



JPGN

News from the Editor

Mel Heyman, MD, Editor-in-Chief
Western Hemisphere, JPGN

Ranking!

The *Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition* continues to evolve into the 21st century. As you know, our journal achieved a milestone with an Impact Factor of 3.015, one of the highest impact factors among pediatric subspecialty journals. For comparison only, *JPGN* is ranked 16th of 124 pediatric journals!

Infographics

Infographics, sponsored/funded by both **NASPGHAN** and **ESPGHAN**, is an exciting new initiative to be included in our journal! You will start noticing 4 infographics in each issue. These will provide visual images highlighting the main findings in the selected articles. We look forward to your feedback regarding the usefulness of this venture.

CME/MOC in JPGN

NASPGHAN now offers MOC part II in addition to CME credit for those of you taking advantage of the CME material, typically 1 or 2 CME articles, in each issue. MOC-2 and CME credit will be available if you answer the questions on the **NASPGHAN** website. Thank you to the hard work of Dr. Sandeep Gupta in organizing the CME and MOC credit, to all of the authors now contributing to this activity, and to the Professional Education Committee members who review, edit, and approve the material that is then posted on the **NASPGHAN** website for your benefit. You can find CME/MOC articles [here](#).

Reviewers

I would like to thank all of our peers who review our submissions; this is an invaluable service and time commitment to our profession. A listing to thank all reviewers (highlighting the top reviewers) is included in the December issue each year (you can use this on your promotion package!).

We are constantly seeking new reviewers. If you have not signed up to be a reviewer, please take a few moments to do so. Easiest is to send an email to Marianna Hagan (Marianna.Hagan@wolterskluwer.com) or to me (mel.heyman@ucsf.edu) requesting to be added as a reviewer.

If you are already in our database, and especially if you have not heard from us and would like to assist in peer review, please take a moment to update your information in our database to make sure we are aware of your areas of interest and to make sure we have your correct contact information. Please visit the JPGN.org website to update your information at the "Update My Information" link at the top of every page. Feel free to send me an email to let me know of your interest.

JPGN Editor in Chief — Call for Applications:

As most of you are aware, I have had the privilege to serve two terms (5 years each) as your Editor in Chief, now completing my 9th year in this role. Next year is my final year. **NASPGHAN** leadership is seeking applications for a new Editor in Chief to begin in January 2021. Please consider applying. Applications are due January 13, 2020. Application information can be found [here](#). I am happy to assist anyone in the transition over the next year.

Filler Items

The Journal is soliciting content specifically to maximize any blank space in the print publication. This content will not appear online.

Materials considered for publication as fillers include:

- ▶ Brief articles [under 150 words] dealing with the history of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, pancreatology, and nutrition
- ▶ Cartoons
- ▶ Photographs
- ▶ Original artwork

Please be sure to use the "Invited Filler" article type for your submission.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions to continue to improve our journal. And please submit your best research to our journal!

Happy Holidays!

2020 AASLD-NASPGHAN Joint Pediatric Symposium

A joint AASLD/**NASPGHAN** Pediatric Symposium on "Medical and Ethical Dilemmas of Patient and Organ Selection for Liver Transplantation" will be held during The Liver Meeting November 13–17, 2020 in Boston, MA. An exact day and time for the symposium will be announced.

NASPGHAN members Drs. Jennifer Vittorio and Vania Kasper are chairs of the joint program.



American Academy of Pediatrics Corner

Dear Colleagues,

So great to see many of you at the **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting and again, a short week later, at the AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE)! Congratulations again to Susan Baker, recipient of the 2019 AAP Murray Davidson Award. And please join me in also congratulating Ivor Hill, who was presented with the 2019 AAP Education Award for his lifetime contributions to the broad education mission of the Academy at the NCE last month in New Orleans. Two highly deserving award recipients who inspire us all!

I am pleased to report that the 2019 NCE was a tremendous success with over 25,000 attendees. Our thanks to Jonathan Teitelbaum, who does an excellent job representing our field on the NCE Planning Group. There were a number of wonderful general GI sessions designed to educate pediatricians and other specialists that were presented by Carlo Di Lorenzo and Sam Nurko. In addition, SOGHN awarded three Fellow Travel Grants to Zeyad Abdulkader (Nationwide Children's Hospital), Michael Foreman (Riley Children's Hospital), and Thu Pham (Children's Hospital of San Antonio) to participate in the NCE. Together with Carlo, they educated pediatricians and other specialists through clinical case presentations on functional abdominal disorders (see photo). We will be pleased to again offer Fellow Travel Grant Awards at next year's NCE, October 2–6, 2020, in San Diego, supported by Abbott Nutrition. Be on the lookout for this RFA—as this opportunity to attend the NCE as a speaker is great for trainees who are interested in developing careers in clinical education.

Launched in 2015, PREP GI, as an online course for MOC Part II credit and developed in collaboration with **NASPGHAN**, is still going strong! I'd like to give a special shout out and HUGE thank you to the founding editors, Steve Schwarz and Judy Sondheimer, who have worked very hard in their service as excellent leaders of what has become a fantastic resource for all of us that boasts high quality questions and commentaries (see photo below). Congratulations and best wishes also to the new chief editors, Sarah Lusman (Editor) and Aaron Turkish (Deputy Editor). A call for nominations has recently been distributed for new writers to join the Editorial Board—and again this is a great opportunity for interested clinical educators!



PrepGI is a result of a collaboration of various AAP members.

In other activities of the Section, we have continued to focus on strengthening our ties to the AAP's Committee on Coding and Nomenclature (COCN) which sponsors the Academy's representation on all major national and international panels for coding (i.e. the CPT Editorial Panel), code valuation (the Relative Update Committee of the AMA or RUC), and diagnostic coding (National Center for Health Statistics of NCHS at CDC). We are proud to say that the COCN has been listening and has declared gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition as prominent on a list of pediatric subspecialties that may benefit from



Pediatric gastroenterologists educated pediatricians and other specialists at NCE in October.

specific pediatric representation. Please join us in giving special thanks to Bryan Rudolph, who has accepted the position of SOGHN liaison to COCN and is working hard to make GI codes more pediatric-friendly. Bryan's commitment on behalf of pediatric GI gives the opportunity to provide input on issues around diagnostic coding and valuation that impact us all on a daily basis.

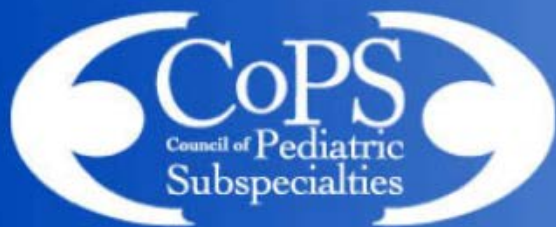
As many of you know, the AAP has a multi-disciplinary Committee on Nutrition (CON), comprised of pediatric experts in gastroenterology, neonatology, endocrinology, cardiology, and adolescent medicine. George Fuchs and Praveen Goday are the current GI representatives to CON, and have been involved in a number of important statements (most recently, on seafood, non-nutritive sweeteners, and aluminum) that have high national policy impact. Under the editorial leadership of Ronald Kleinman, the Committee also just published the 8th edition of *Pediatric Nutrition* in October 2019. This great resource has been generously supported by Nestlé Nutrition to provide the e-book version to the entire AAP membership. We hope you all can look for it and use it often!

An important reminder that calls for nomination have been issued for the 2020 AAP Murray Davidson Award and Samuel J. Fomon Nutrition Award. Both of these awards recognize individuals for outstanding achievements in gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition that have positively impacted child health. Nomination materials for both AAP awards should be submitted to the AAP office by March 15, 2020, and any questions should be directed to Debra Burrowes at (dburrowes@aap.org) or 630-626-6427.

This will be my last submission to the **NASPGHAN** newsletter as SOGHN Chair. It has been my great honor to serve you in this position for the past 4 years, and to do my best to advance our field of pediatric gastroenterology through policy development, education, and advocacy for children. I truly believe that subscribing to the maxim "E Pluribus Unum" is critical in our current healthcare era, and that pediatric gastroenterologists should be well represented in the AAP, as the strongest universal voice demanding respect for the well-being of children and their doctors. I want to thank the entire Section for joining me in this effort, particularly my Executive Committee members for collaborating on our initiatives. I especially want to thank Debra Burrowes, from the AAP staff, for her inimitable hard work and support of SOGHN and of me. Finally, I want to wish my successor, Mitch Cohen, the best of luck as he becomes SOGHN Chairperson this winter, and to pledge my ongoing dedication to working on and promoting Section initiatives.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season, and a happy, healthy 2020!

Jenifer Lightdale, MD, MPH, FAAP
Chair, AAP Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
(jenifer.lightdale@umassmemorial.org)



All pediatric subspecialties
working together for
optimal child health.



Council of Pediatric Subspecialties (CoPS) Update

Cary Sauer, MD & Mel Heyman, MD, MPH

The Council of Pediatric Subspecialties fall meeting in October brought together representatives from all subspecialties as well as representatives from the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP), Council of Medical Student Education, Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs (AMSPDC), and Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD). Pediatric Gastroenterology was well represented with Mel Heyman, Cary Sauer, Mitch Cohen (Department Chair) and John Barnard (Department Chair). Below is a brief update of the major discussions:

Women in Subspecialties—discussion on how to encourage women in subspecialties and ensure equality in compensation

- ▶ ABP Roadmap Initiative: Improving Resilience and Emotional Health of Children with Chronic Conditions—this initiative is designed to provide resources on addressing emotional health (behavior and mental health) needs of children and families with chronic conditions
- ▶ Length of Training—an update by the ABP confirmed that length of training will stay at the current 3 years given the requirements for clinical training and academic pursuits

- ▶ Physician Scientist Training—there was a discussion regarding recruiting and sustaining physician scientists in pediatric subspecialties
- ▶ Milestones 2.0—the next iteration of ACGME Milestones will be coming in the next few years once general pediatrics is complete. It is hopeful that these will mirror entrustable professional activities (EPAs)
- ▶ Further plans are underway to determine the workforce within the various subspecialties. This is a long-term project that CoPS is conducting with support from and collaboration with the ABP, AAP, APPD and AMSPDC.
- ▶ Other actions CoPS is tackling include transition care from pediatric to adult providers, funding issues facing subspecialty trainees and programs, equity of compensation for pediatric compared with adult subspecialists, and advocacy at the federal level (e.g., for loan repayment)

Further information is available at www.pedsubs.org including a listing of pediatric subspecialties that is useful for medical students and residents considering a career in a subspecialty.

NASPGHAN 2020 MEMBERSHIP FEES CAN NOW BE PAID ONLINE

You can now view and pay your 2020 **NASPGHAN** and CPNP and APGNN dues online. To view your account, please: 1. [Go to the Member Center](#) 2. Log in with your user name and password 3. Click on Renew Now on the left-hand side of the page.

When you pay your **NASPGHAN** 2020 dues online, you will be taken first to a page that will ask for some demographic information. Completion of the information is optional. However, gender, age, race and ethnicity data collection offers opportunities for **NASPGHAN** to focus on our members' diverse values, beliefs, and behaviors and to tailor the structuring of **NASPGHAN's** programs to meet members' social, cultural, and linguistic needs.

Please also click My Account and consider taking some time to review your information and make sure that **NASPGHAN** has correct information for you. The **NASPGHAN** National Office soon will be preparing the annual update of the membership directory. Also, consider uploading a personal picture.

If you pay online, you will receive an automatically generated receipt and confirmation. Please remember that you will not receive *JPGN* after January, 2020, if you have not paid your 2020 **NASPGHAN** membership fees or paid for a 2020 *JPGN* subscription.

If you have any trouble logging onto the **NASPGHAN** website or have any questions, please contact Gina Brown at (gbrown@naspghan.org) or 215-641-9800.

Save these dates!

NASPGHAN Meetings & Important Deadlines

2020

► JANUARY 16–19, 2020

First Year Fellows Conference

Rosen Plaza Hotel—Orlando, FL

Supported by an educational grant from Abbott Nutrition

► APRIL 2–5, 2020

Second Year Fellows Conference

Scottsdale Plaza Hotel—Scottsdale, AZ

Supported by an educational grant from Abbott Nutrition

► APRIL 17–18, 2020

Nutrition University

Renaissance Chicago O'Hare Suites Hotel—Chicago, IL

► JUNE 3–6, 2020

2020 World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Copenhagen, Denmark

► SEPTEMBER 10–13, 2020

Third-Year Fellows Conference

Vinoy Renaissance St. Petersburg—Saint Petersburg, FL

Supported by an educational grant from Mead Johnson Nutrition

► NOVEMBER 5–7, 2020

2020 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting & Postgraduate Course

Marriott Marquis—San Diego, CA

2021

► NOVEMBER 4–6, 2021

2021 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting & Postgraduate Course

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center—

Nashville, TN

DON'T FORGET: YOU CAN GET MOC THROUGH NASPGHAN

Hosted by **NASPGHAN**, Maintenance of Certification (MOC) activities are available for practicing pediatric gastroenterologists. Please [visit here](#) to find everything needed to engage in self-directed Quality Improvement (QI) activities. Modules offered include Colonoscopy, Constipation, Enteral Nutrition, Failure to Thrive, Informed Consent, Transition, Hepatitis B, and Upper Endoscopy. Each module takes a minimum of 4 months to complete and will offer 25 MOC IV credits each. By choosing more than one module, you are able to meet the 40 points per cycle needed to maintain the American Board of Pediatrics Part IV MOC. If you have any questions about the **NASPGHAN** MOC modules, please contact Kathleen Regan at (kregan@naspghan.org).

Meetings of Interest

7th International PFD Conference

♦ Date: January 24–25, 2020

♦ Virtual and On Demand

PIBD Hands-On Master Class

♦ Date: January 28–29, 2020

♦ Jerusalem, Israel

The Baveno VII Consensus Workshop—Personalized Care in Portal Hypertension

♦ Date: March 20–22, 2020

♦ Baveno, Lake Maggiore, Italy

Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting

♦ Date: April 29–May 6, 2020

♦ Philadelphia, PA

Digestive Disease Week 2020

♦ Date: May 2–5, 2020

♦ Chicago, IL

42nd Annual Aspen Conference on Pediatric Gastrointestinal Disease: Advances in Pediatric Liver Disease and Liver Transplantation

♦ Date: July 13–17, 2020

♦ Location: Snowmass Village, Colorado

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND MOC CREDIT FOR 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

How to get your certificate:

- Go to: naspghan.cmecertificateonline.com
- Click on the sessions you attended
- Evaluate the meeting
- Print all pages of your certificate for your records

If you are seeking ABP MOC Part 2 credits for the 2019 Postgraduate Course & Single Topic Symposium, you will need to complete a post-test. Please have your ABP ID handy and make sure to click on the correct link. Please print all pages of your certificate for your record. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABP MOC credit. Participant must complete the assessment within 30 days of the activity. Participant information will be uploaded to ABP 30 days post activity.

Questions? Email (Certificate@AmedcoEmail.com)



Billing & Coding

Provided by Kathfleen A Mueller, RN, CPC, CCS-P, QMC, QMGC, CGCS, ICD-10 Proficient President, AskMueller Consulting, LLC in Association with McVey Associates, Inc.

CMS PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE— CMS has released the Final Rule for the Physician Fee Schedule for 2020. The publication date was November 15, 2019. Listed below is the conversion factor for 2020, which does impact pediatric gastroenterology practices since many of your commercial contracts can be based upon the Medicare fee schedule.

APPLICATION OF PAYMENT MODIFIERS FOR 2020

MODIFIER	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME ADJUSTMENT	TIME ADJUSTMENT
51	Multiple procedure	50%	Intraoperative portion
52	Reduced Services	50%	50%
53	Discontinued Procedure	50%	50%
62	Cosurgeons	62.5%	50%

Of interest is the payment for both modifier 53 and modifier 52, which are at 50% of the approved amounts. Both of these modifiers will require review of records prior to payments.

CMS Physician Assistant Update Effective January 1, 2020

CMS has revised supervisory regulations by physicians over PA's as listed below. That a PA must furnish their professional services in accordance with state law and state scope of practice rules for PAs in the state in which the PA's professional services are furnished. Any state laws or state scope of practice rules that describe the required practice relationship between physicians and PAs, including explicit supervisory or collaborative practice requirements, describe a form of supervision for purposes of section 1861(s)(2)(K)(i) of the Act.

For states with no explicit state law or scope of practice rules regarding physician supervision of PA services, physician supervision is a process in which a PA has a working relationship with one or more physicians to supervise the delivery of their health care services. Such physician supervision is evidenced by documenting at the practice level the PA's scope of practice and the working relationships the PA has with the supervising physician/s when furnishing professional services.

Another Two Payers Stopped Paying Consultation Codes

- ▶ Effective with dates of service of October 1, 2019, UHC no longer reimburses CPT codes 99241-99255 when billed by any health care professional or medical practice.
- ▶ Effective with dates of service of October 19, 2019, Cigna no longer reimburses CPT codes 99241-99255 when billed by any health care professional or medical practice

Practices are to submit new patient visits when seeing patients in the office or observation unit in the hospital and initial inpatient care when seeing inpatients.

CMS Teaching Provider Update

We are explicitly naming PA and NP, CNS, CNM and CRNA students as APRN students, along with medical students, as the types of students who may document notes in a patient's medical record that may be reviewed and verified rather than re-documented by the billing professional; and revising 410.20, 410.69, 410.74, 410.75, 410.76, 410.77, 415.172 and 415.174 to reflect this change. This is in conjunction with revision of the teaching physician update in 2019.

Outpatient E&M 99214 Billing on the Rise

Medicare 2018 claims data: spike in billing of 99214
Between 2014-2018, overall utilization of 99214 rose 19.9%
Between 2017-2018, claims for 99214 increased by around 2 million

Commercial payers are also ramping up auditing for those providers in the practice who submit a higher number of 99214 as compared to their peers.

- ▶ Often times, the diagnosis submitted with 99214 will trigger a payer down-code of the level of service.
 - Example: Diagnosis of GERD is submitted with 99214
- ▶ If you receive multiple down-coded claims, this can trigger an audit if the payer suspects a pattern of over-coding.

- ▶ A payer may detect over-coding by one provider in the group but this can also lead to an audit for the entire practice.
- ▶ Providers should pay close attention to the core elements of an E&M service:
 - HPI and Medical Decision Making
 - Compare the diagnosis code(s) submitted against the chief complaint, HPI and impression/plan of care.
 - Be sure the provider uses MDM when 2/3 components are required to score any established E&M level
- ▶ Often times, the provider simply doesn't fully document everything done in that encounter.
 - Focus on an impression/plan that includes each problem addressed with a plan to match.
- ▶ Time billing is now encouraged:
 - As of now, 25 minutes of face-to-face time with the patient is required for a 99214.
 - The provider must document a total time spent with the patient, the amount of time spent in counseling and/or coordination of care (must be greater than half the total time of visit), AND what specifics were done in that time in the care of the patient.
 - Example: I spent 30 minutes in total time with AB Patient today. 20 minutes were spent in extensive discussion regarding long term PPI therapy for the patient's diagnosis of GERD. The patient asked questions and understood the plan of care going forward.
 - (99214 billed based upon time)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—

Question:

We are receiving a denial for an EGD w/ PEG placement from Gateway. We typically bill these with R63.3 (Feeding Difficulties). As per their updated policy, MP-092-MD-PA that is not an approved diagnosis code. Due to continuing ventilator dependence, tracheostomy has been requested. PEG placement is also been requested to provide nutrition. The only approved diagnosis code that even comes close to acceptable in my opinion is T18.198A (Other foreign object in esophagus causing compression of trachea, initial encounter). Would that be an appropriate code? If not, what would you suggest using?

Answer:

As per the last coding column published in the spring, payers are looking closely at medical necessity for any EGD service. They are just developing policy for EGD like most of the national payers have done and unfortunately didn't think outside the box and provide feeding difficulties and malnutrition. The patient would have difficulty swallowing if on a ventilator and I would recommend that you discuss this with your providers. Providers have never really provided a good indication for this, since they should go back and indicate what causes the feeding difficulties like dysphagia, stricture, etc. Even though most payers, don't include patients under 19 years of age in their policies, some do.

Question:

What criteria is needed in order to bill both 91034 and 91038 together? Is it diagnosis driven? Do you need a modifier on 91034 if they are able to be billed together?

Answer:

91034 (Esophagus, gastroesophageal reflux test; with nasal catheter pH electrode(s) placement, recording, analysis and interpretation) and 91038 (Esophageal function test, gastroesophageal reflux test with nasal catheter intraluminal impedance electrode(s) placement, recording, analysis and interpretation; prolonged (greater than 1 hour, up to 24 hours) are bundled services and no modifier will bypass this edit since the pH study is part of the impedance test. The only way both can be billed is if there are two separate devices on two separate dates.

Question:

We transitioned to a new EHR billing system at the beginning of 2019. We are just settling in from a billing perspective with the work queues and reports. Our A/R, especially 120 days seems high. My question is this, what percentage is reasonable for GI 120 days? What are you seeing in other GI practices?

Answer:

Well, most of your AR should be in the 30-day bucket. Around 25% in the 60 day and less than 10% in 120 days. That is just an average and of course varies by payers, too.

Question:

I have been hearing rumors about ICD-11 starting in 2021. Is that true?

Answer:

Looks like it won't be 2021, but as for a story published on November 4, 2019, in the ICD-10 Monitor, the expected implementation date will be October 2022. Recommendations are to start looking ahead to make sure your EHR system will be ready for ICD-11. It isn't too early to start as we found out with ICD-10.

Public Affairs & Advocacy Report

Camille S. Bonta, NASPGHAN Washington Representative

NASPGHAN is back at it again, fighting to get high-powered magnet sets off the market. Early data indicators, coupled with anecdotal evidence, show that magnet ingestions are on the rise since they hit the market again following a court decision that voided the high-powered magnet safety standard that was put in place by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in 2015 and which effectively banned their sale in the United States.

NASPGHAN's position has been and continues to be that magnet sets that contain small high-powered magnets can't be made safer through warning labels and packaging that try to convey the dangers associated with these otherwise innocuous-looking products.

Earlier this year, **NASPGHAN** joined an ASTM International working group convened to establish standards for market and labeling of these magnet sets. ASTM, formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials, is a standards organization that develops and publishes voluntary consensus technical standards for a wide range of materials, products, systems, and services.

The working group is being convened by Zen Magnets founder Shihan Qu and co-led by former CPSC Republican Commissioner Nancy Nord. Even though other consumer protection advocacy groups, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, Kids in Danger and the Consumer Federation of America, are members of the working group, they will likely be out-numbered by manufacturers and their allies when proposed and insufficient warning standards come up for a vote this year.

NASPGHAN Public Affairs and Advocacy Committee Chair Bryan Rudolph, MD, is leading **NASPGHAN's** fight against the manufacturers and to protect children from these products. **NASPGHAN** members can help by sharing their story. Stories can be sent to Dr. Rudolph at (brudolph@montefiore.org) or to **NASPGHAN** policy consultant Camille Bonta at (cbonta@summithealthconsulting.com). **NASPGHAN** members are also reminded to report magnet ingestion cases to the CPSC at saferproducts.gov.

Take Action to Support Access to Pediatric Subspecialists

Congress is currently working to renew the Title VII Health Professions programs administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). These programs provide education and training opportunities in high-need disciplines and settings and provide financial aid to health professions students. One of the Title VII programs is the Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment Program (PSLRP). This program was originally authorized in 2010 but was never funded by Congress before its authorization lapsed in 2014.

Senators Jack Reed (D-RI) and Bill Cassidy (R-LA) have introduced the "Investment in Tomorrow's Pediatric Health Care Workforce Act" (S. 2443) to reauthorize the PSLRP. This bipartisan legislation is identical to a provision included in the Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness (EMPOWER) for Health Act (H.R. 2781), which the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed on a bipartisan basis in July.

These legislative efforts would authorize \$50 million annually for five years for the PSLRP and include important policy changes that will ensure the PSLRP targets subspecialists with the highest debt burden and areas with the greatest shortages.

The Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee is developing its own health care workforce proposal, and support for S. 2443 will be an important part of ensuring the PSLRP is included.

NASPGHAN needs its members to contact their senators and ask for their co-sponsorship of the "Investment in Tomorrow's Pediatric Health Care Workforce Act" (S. 2443).

Loan repayment for pediatric subspecialists would reduce the overall loan burden from training and has the potential to encourage more pediatric subspecialists to practice in under-served and rural communities, connecting more families with appropriate subspecialists.

You can help lawmakers understand the importance of this legislation. It only takes a few minutes to send an email directly to your senators from **NASPGHAN's** Action Center where a template letter is available for you to personalize.



An Advocacy Thank You

Thank you to the nearly 50 advocates who sent their members of Congress an email on improving coverage for medically necessary nutrition and access to pediatric subspecialists from the **NASPGHAN** advocacy booth at the **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting in Chicago. It's not too late to take action. Simply visit the [NASPGHAN Action Center](#).



2019 NASPGHAN /CPNP/ APGNN ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 17-19 ↔ SHERATON GRAND CHICAGO ↔ CHICAGO, IL

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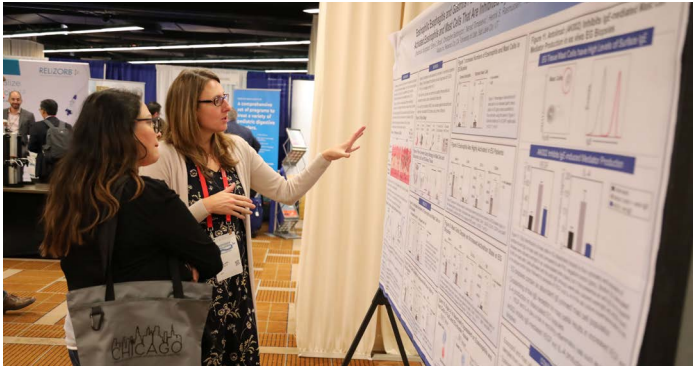
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NASPGHAN past presidents gathered together for lunch at the 2019 Annual Meeting. From left to right, Drs. Richard Colletti, Jay Perman, Kathleen Schwarz, Athos Bousvaros, Karen Murray, James Heubi, Mitchell Cohen, Jon Vanderhoof, B UK Li, Richard Grand, Philip Sherman and Carlo Di Lorenzo.

CHICAGO

2019 NASPGHAN /CPNP/ APGNN ANNUAL MEETING
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AWARDS CEREMONY

Friday, October 18, 2019



HARRY SHWACHMAN AWARD

Presented to: Anne Griffiths, MD, FRCPC

The Shwachman award is given by **NASPGHAN** to a person who has made major, lifelong scientific or educational contributions to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology or nutrition in North America. The award is designed to preferentially honor a member of **NASPGHAN** for his/her achievements in the field.



NASPGHAN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Presented to: Neal LeLeiko, MD, PhD

The **NASPGHAN** Distinguished Service Award is presented to an individual to recognize excellence and service to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition by achieving national and/or international recognition in their field.



AAP MURRAY DAVIDSON AWARD

Presented to: Susan Baker, MD, PhD, FAAP

The Murray Davidson Award recognizes an outstanding clinician, educator, and scientist who has made significant contributions to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition.



NASPGHAN MASTER EDUCATOR AWARD

Presented to: Alan M. Leichtner, MD, FAAP, MS-HPED

The **NASPGHAN** Master Educator Award for excellence recognizes individuals who have made a significant and sustained contribution to the field of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and/or nutrition through education scholarship on a national or international basis.

TWO SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARDS GIVEN OUT DURING THIS YEAR'S NASPGHAN ANNUAL MEETING



◀ Special Recognition Award for exceptional and outstanding contributions to pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition — Robert Dahms, Abbott Nutrition.

To recognize Margaret Stallings, the **NASPGHAN** Council renamed the Distinguished Service Award the Margaret Stallings Distinguished Service Award beginning with 2021. ▶



NASPGHAN FOUNDATION AWARDS



2019 Foundation Award winners, from left to right, Arvind Srinath, Hongtao Wang, Sohail Husain, Sharon Tam, Jodie Ouahed, Amanda Ricciuto, Janet Wojcicki, NASPGHAN President Karen Murray, Foundation President Barry Wershil, Zachary Sellers, Dominique Bailey, Joshua Wechsler, Sarah Orkin, Catherine Karls, and Jennifer Smith. Behind Ms. Karls from left to right, Amanda Lee and Karie Robinson.

- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/George Ferry Young Investigator Development Award**
THE ROLE OF TENASCIN-C IN PEDIATRIC EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS
Dominique Bailey, MD – Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY
- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/Nestlé Nutrition Research Young Investigator Development Award**
LINACLOTIDE AS A NOVEL THERAPY TO IMPROVE NUTRITIONAL INSUFFICIENCY IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS
Zachary Sellers, MD, PhD – Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation Mid-Level Career Development Award**
LEUKOCYTE TELOMERE LENGTH AS A PREDICTOR OF NASH AND NASH PROGRESSION
Janet Wojcicki, PhD – UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco, CA
- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/Takeda Pharmaceutical Products Inc. Research Innovation Award**
DECIPHERING MECHANISMS OF MAST CELL ACTIVATION AND BARRIER DYSFUNCTION IN EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS
Joshua Wechsler, MD – Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/QOL Research Award for the Study of Disorders Associated with Carbohydrate Malabsorption**
MECHANISMS OF CARBOHYDRATE MALABSORPTION IN MICROVILLUS INCLUSION DISEASE
Nadia Ameen, MD – Yale University, New Haven, CT
- ▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/APGNN Susan Moyer Nursing Research Award**
THE CLINICAL FEASIBILITY AND CORRELATION OF BENCH STEP TESTING-ESTIMATED MAXIMAL OXYGEN UPTAKE WITH MARKERS OF FATTY LIVER DISEASE IN ADOLESCENTS
Karie Robinson, MSN – Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, MO

▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/CPNP Nutrition Research Grant**

COMPARISON OF A NEW AND NOVEL NUTRITION SCREENING TOOL WITH A PREVIOUSLY VALIDATED TOOL TO DETERMINE NUTRITION RISK IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH SCOLIOSIS UNDERGOING ELECTIVE SPINE FUSION OR GROWTH MODULATION
Catherine Karls, MS, RD, CD, CNSC - Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

A SINGLE-CENTER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT-BASED INITIATIVE FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF IRON DEFICIENCY AND IRON DEFICIENCY ANEMIA IN CHILDREN

Jennifer Smith, MS, RDN, LD - Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH

▶ **Crohn's & Colitis Foundation/NASPGHAN IBD Young Investigator Award**

ROLE OF INTERFERON LAMBDA SIGNALING IN MUCOSAL HOMEOSTASIS AND INFANTILE-ONSET INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE
Jodie Ouahed, MD, MMSc, FRCPC, FAAP - Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA

▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation Innovations in Clinical Care Grant**

INTERACTIVE ELECTRONIC LEARNING MODULES FOR PEDIATRICIAN, TRAINEE, AND PATIENT EDUCATION IN GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS

Amanda Lee, MD - Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

STANDARDIZING GI BIOPSY PRACTICES IN PEDIATRIC ENDOSCOPY

Sharon Tam, MD - Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation/Abbott Nutrition Advanced Fellowship Training in Pediatric Nutrition**

FOOD INSECURITY AND NON-ALCOHOLIC LIVER DISEASE SEVERITY

Sarah Orkin, MD - Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

▶ **Gerard Odell Prize for Excellence in Liver Research**

MRCP SEVERITY PREDICTS DISEASE OUTCOMES IN PEDIATRIC PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS: A RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY STUDY

Amanda Ricciuto MD - Hospital for Sick Kids, Toronto, ON

▶ **Amin Tjota Prize for Excellence in Pancreatic Research**

THE DRUG COMPLICATION OF PANCREATIC INJURY WITH ASPARAGINASE IS RELATED TO PANCREATIC LEVELS OF THE ENDOGENOUS COUNTERACTING ENZYME ASPARAGINE SYNTHETASE AND INTRA-PANCREATIC NUTRIENT STRESS

Sohail Husain MD - Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

▶ **The Grand Watkins Prize**

NUCLEAR RECEPTOR LRH-1 IS A THERAPEUTIC TARGET FOR INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE (IBD)

Hongtao Wang MD, PhD - Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

▶ **NASPGHAN Foundation Teri Li Young Educator Award**

Arvind Srinath, MD, MS - UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA



ENTHUSIASM FOR HANDS-ON SESSIONS STRONG AT ANNUAL MEETING

More than 400 **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting attendees registered for the variety of hands-on sessions that are now offered at the Annual Meeting. In addition to the two Hands-On Endoscopy sessions, which have been offered at the Annual Meeting for some time, there is now the opportunity to register for a Hands-on Motility, two Hands-On Colonoscopy and two Train the Trainer Colonoscopy sessions. The Hands-On Endoscopy sessions this year featured clipping, coagulation, polypectomy, single balloon enteroscopy and Argon Plasma Coagulation. More than 200 pediatric gastroenterologists and fellows attended. Hands-On Colonoscopy sessions, which drew 57 registrants, were aimed to improve practicing endoscopists' colonoscopy skills and teachers' conscious awareness of endoscopic procedures. Hands-On Motility was full at 55 registrants.



The above Hands-On Endoscopy sessions were supported by an educational grant from Olympus America Inc.



The above Hands-On Colonoscopy sessions were supported by an educational grant from Pentax.

LASPGHAN SESSION IN NASPGHAN: 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Norberto Rodríguez-Báez and Dr. José Garza

Our story began with the creation of **NASPGHAN** in 1973 and the subsequent formation two years later, in 1975, of **LASPGHAN** in São Paulo, Brazil. Over the following years, both organizations continued to grow and carry out activities for the development of the field of pediatric gastroenterology in the Americas. At the beginning of this century, both **NASPGHAN** and **LASPGHAN** began to organize additional activities with the intention of increasing collaboration and integration between the two societies.

With the creation of research awards, some financial support was provided to our colleagues from Latin America giving them the opportunity to attend the annual **NASPGHAN** meetings and present their research and scientific projects. These awards not only recognize their great effort to advance medicine through research, but it has allowed us here in North America to learn about the research conducted by our colleagues in Latin America. The first prizes were offered to our colleagues in Mexico but they were expanded to all the countries participating in **LASPGHAN**. These presentations and grants have increased participation and collaboration between both societies.

On October 21, 2010, the first **LASPGHAN** session at the **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting was held in New Orleans, USA. It was chaired by Dr. Silvia Cruchet, **LASPGHAN** president, Dr. B UK Li, **NASPGHAN** President, Dr. Armando Madrazo, **NASPGHAN** Mexican Councilor, and Dr. Norberto Rodríguez-Báez, **NASPGHAN** International Committee Chair. This important historical step, implementing a specialized Spanish symposium of **LASPGHAN** within the activities of **NASPGHAN**, has guaranteed the participation of leading Latin American panelists who exemplify this specialty in the United States and Latin America. In 2019, we celebrated the 10th **LASPGHAN** Session at the **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting. During these 10 years, important active members of both organizations have participated in this session.

Thank you to the Executive Committee and leadership of both organizations for your commitment to this important activity and to the organizing committees of the session for the last 10 years. We look forward to many more years of collaboration. Gracias!



NASPGHAN ATTENDEES BRAVED CHICAGO WEATHER FOR 2019 5K

More than 80 attendees of the 2019 **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting braved a chilly Chicago morning to participate in the annual 5K. The race, which was the morning of the last day of the event, started outside the hotel where there was a quick race prep and warm-up. The race was along the scenic, but breezy Chicago River, turning to the harbor and circling back. Justin Wheeler, MD, from the University of Utah, came in first.



"GI JEOPARDY" 2019



For the eighth year, "GI Jeopardy" took place at the 2019 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting featuring an educational and entertaining "Battle of the Sexes". As always, Dr. Norberto Rodriguez-Baez, Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, served as the enthusiastic host of the game show.

"GI Jeopardy" featured a female faculty and fellow (Team XX) and a male faculty and fellow (Team XY) fielding answers in front of a live audience from a variety of topics focused on pediatric gastroenterology and pop culture. Like on the television game show, contestants have to quickly recognize the answers and respond with the appropriate questions. In the end, Team XX (Drs. Jennifer Strople and Monisha Shah) proved to be too much for Team XY (Drs. Michael Rosen and Samir Patel) who put forth a valiant effort.

The event was witnessed by over 200 audience members, including faculty, fellows and visitors, who enthusiastically cheered and jeered as the contestants sought to formulate their answers. "GI Jeopardy" continues to be a successful and innovative way to combine education and entertainment in our annual meeting. We look forward to next year's Annual Meeting in beautiful San Diego.



SOCIAL EVENT AT 2019 ANNUAL MEETING BROUGHT PROGRAM TO FUN CLOSE

Capping off a very busy week at the 2019 **NASPGHAN** Annual Meeting in the Sheraton-Chicago Ballroom in Chicago, the social event on Saturday night offered a little bit of everything—fun, food and dancing. Don't forget to mark your calendars for November 4-7, 2020 in San Diego, California for more of the same.



Classifieds

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[JOB BOARD](#)**

♦ Arizona—

Banner Health and the University of Arizona Health Sciences joined to form Banner University Medicine, a health system anchored in Phoenix and Tucson that makes the highest level of care accessible to Arizona residents. At the heart of this partnership is academic medicine—research, teaching, and patient care—across three academic medical centers.

The Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at the University of Arizona seeks a qualified candidate to join the group at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. The successful candidate will join an expanding division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and will support the clinical and educational missions of the College of Medicine and the Department of Pediatrics.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- ♦ Perform inpatient and outpatient clinical care for pediatric gastroenterology patients
- ♦ Teach and mentor medical students and residents

Minimum Qualifications:

- ♦ MD or DO degree
- ♦ Arizona medical license obtained by start date
- ♦ BE or BC in Pediatrics
- ♦ BE or BC in Pediatric Gastroenterology

Preferred Qualifications:

- ♦ Excellent clinical and teaching skills
- ♦ Experience / training in clinical research
- ♦ Fluency in Spanish
- ♦ Established expertise working with diverse patient populations

Tucson Features:

- ♦ Outdoor Adventures: golfing, hiking, biking, horseback riding, swimming and nearby skiing
- ♦ Heritage and culture: galleries, museums, theater and music
- ♦ Culinary: great selection of cuisine with vibrant, newly renovated downtown

Banner University Medical Center offers excellent compensation plus incentives, paid malpractice, paid CME plus allowance and outstanding benefits that provide security for you and your family.

Please submit your CV for immediate consideration, to: (doctors@bannerhealth.com)

For questions please call Tiffany Lewis,
Sourcing Strategist: 602-747-4578.

As an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer, Banner University Medical Group (BUMG) recognizes the power of a diverse community and encourages applications from individuals with varied experiences and backgrounds. BUMG is an EEO/AA - M/W/D/V Employer.

♦ California—

Ranked again as one of the nation's Best Children's Hospitals in Gastroenterology and GI Surgery by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2019-2020, Valley Children's Healthcare is rapidly expanding and seeking BE/BC pediatric gastroenterologists to join the team with one of the largest pediatric healthcare networks in the nation.

We're seeking specialists to join the team at Valley Children's new state-of-the-art specialty center in Bakersfield, less than two hours from Los Angeles and the main campus in Madera. The Eagle Oaks Medical Office building is a spectacular 52,000-square-foot medical center designed for children. This sophisticated, advanced facility opened in the fall of 2018 and brings even more of Valley Children's pediatric specialists closer to the families who need expert care. Last year, Valley Children's providers there saw more than 5,500 visits and expects the number of outpatient visits to grow to more than 42,000 within the next decade.

Led by Dr. Marvin Ament, one of the founders of pediatric gastroenterology in the United States, the practice provides the most comprehensive pediatric gastroenterology services in Central California. The expert team includes nurse practitioners, nurses, dietitians, child life specialists, social workers and psychologists who focus on treating the whole child in collaboration with the pediatric gastroenterologists and other pediatric specialists. This team approach enables Valley Children's to deliver the highest level of individualized care and treatment to diagnose – and solve – even the most difficult conditions. The practice sees about 14,000 outpatients a year at locations throughout California's beautiful and expansive Central Valley. In addition, Valley Children's Healthcare has a Stanford-affiliated Pediatric Residency program.

Valley Children's network spans one of the most scenic and geographically diverse areas of the United States. It's an outdoor lover's paradise! You'll be in the enviable position of having not one, but three National Parks in your backyard: Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia. You're within one to three hours of the stunning Pacific coast, the Napa and Sonoma wine regions and the majestic Sierra Nevada Mountains, plus the San Francisco, San Jose and Los Angeles metropolitan areas. Lake Tahoe is about a four-hour drive away. Whether you prefer the snow, the sun or the sand, it's all within your reach. And with so much varied geography, you'll also find hiking and biking trails, kayaking, fishing, local

wineries, farm stands and festivals, gourmet cuisine, and that's only the tip of the iceberg.

Additionally, you will find warm, welcoming affordable communities that provide a great place to live and work along with a strong financial compensation package, including relocation and signing bonus.

If you're passionate about making a difference and you're looking for a practice where you can put down roots and grow, please contact:

Glenda Church Smith, Principal
Pediatric Search Partners
Email: (glenda@pediatricsearchpartners.com)
Phone: 877-440-3832 or text 214-850-3094

♦ Iowa—

The Stead Family Department of Pediatrics seeks a gastroenterologist with expertise in gut motility at the rank of Associate (non-track), Assistant Professor, Associate Professor or Professor (tenure or non-tenure/clinical track). The individual selected will join the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Pancreatology and Nutrition to provide patient care, teaching, and consultative services primarily at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital, as well as at established outreach clinics across the State of Iowa. The Division has 9 other faculty engaged in clinical and basic science research, teaching and a full range of clinical activities, a well-established ACGME-accredited fellowship program, a strong collaboration with Pediatric Surgery, Pediatric Radiology, Pediatric Anesthesia and a variety of other ancillary services.

The University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine is one of the top biomedical research institutions in the nation and ranked 42nd overall and 19th among public medical schools for NIH funding in FY18. The U.S. News and World Report research ranking places the College 15th among public institutions for 2018, and the Stead Family Department of Pediatrics ranked 24th overall and 12th in NIH funding among all public pediatric departments nationwide in FY18. The ACGME-accredited pediatric residency program at the Children's Hospital trains 47 pediatric residents.

The Stead Family Department of Pediatrics comprises the medical and research staff of University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital, one of the nation's top-ranked pediatric care and research institutions. It is the only university-affiliated hospital in Iowa devoted solely to the care of infants, children, adolescents and young adults, and is Iowa's only accredited Level 1 Regional Resource Pediatric Trauma Center. In 2019-2020 University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital ranked in six pediatric specialties in the Best Children's Hospitals *U.S. News and World Report* and is the only hospital in Iowa to be nationally ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* for children's care. Inpatient care and

endoscopic procedures are provided at the brand new 189-bed State-of-the art Children's Hospital. A newly renovated outpatient clinic has opened in August 2017.

Many of our faculty are leaders in their fields and are members of prestigious national and international organizations, including the Society of Pediatric Research, the American Pediatric Society, the American Board of Pediatrics, and the Institute of Medicine, among others. Our department currently includes 164 faculty, 46 residents, 2 chief residents, and 29 specialty trainees. We welcome you to explore our [website](#) to learn more about what makes us special.

Job Requirements:

- ♦ Must hold an MD/DO degree, or equivalent
- ♦ Board certified or eligible in Pediatrics, or equivalent
- ♦ Board certified or eligible in gastroenterology, or equivalent

Desirable Qualifications:

- ♦ License or eligible for licensure in the State of Iowa
- ♦ Clinical experience in pediatric gastroenterology
- ♦ Completed specialized training in motility and/or is proficient in the performance of motility procedures
- ♦ Experience in patient-oriented research
- ♦ Teaching competence in pediatrics for medical students and residents
- ♦ Evidence of scholarly activity
- ♦ Strong oral and written communication and interpersonal skills

The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Interested individuals should [click here](#) to apply for the position and forward a copy of their curriculum vitae and Letter of Interest to:

Jeanie Cromer
Email: (jeanie-cromer@uiowa.edu)
Cmed-Pediatrics
General Hospital
220 Hawkins Drive
SW164-10 GH
Iowa City, IA 52242
Phone: 319-384-7204
Also, contact:
Aliye Uc, MD
Phone: 319-356-2950
Fax: 319-353-8967
Email: (aliye-uc@uiowa.edu)

♦ Louisiana—

We're seeking a board eligible/board certified pediatric gastroenterologist with training in neurogastroenterology and motility to join the rapidly growing division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at

Ochsner Hospital for Children in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The successful candidate will be proficient in the care of children with pediatric motility conditions, including performing and interpreting studies such as manometry, pH, and impedance. Experience in clinical program development and quality improvement are desirable, as is a track record of collaboration and clinical excellence.

Ochsner Hospital for Children serves patients across the Gulf South with clinics at the Jefferson Highway campus in New Orleans, as well as satellite clinics throughout Louisiana and Mississippi. The division presently leads or collaborates in specialty programs in pediatric advanced endoscopy, pancreatology, hepatology and liver transplantation, aerodigestive disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, pediatric feeding disorders and a colorectal clinic. Ochsner Hospital for Children has a 33 pediatric bed unit, along with a 14 bed PICU, 12 bed CVICU, and 54 Level IV NICU beds. Ochsner sponsors the combined Tulane-Ochsner pediatric residency program and teaches medical school students from Tulane as well as the University of Queensland.

[Ochsner Hospital for Children](#) has been ranked among the top 50 children's hospitals in the country for pediatric gastroenterology and gastrointestinal surgery specialties in the new 2018-19 *U.S. News and World Reports* Best Children's Hospitals rankings and the only children's hospital in Louisiana or Mississippi ever recognized by *US News & World Report* as a specialty top 50 hospital in pediatric heart care.

Ochsner for Children is a vertically integrated health system, with a pediatric primary care network, a dedicated pediatric emergency department, in-house pediatric intensivists and hospitalists, as well as a dedicated, full-time, pediatric transport team providing ground, rotary and fixed wing transports across the entire Gulf South. Ochsner Health System is Louisiana's largest non-profit, academic, multi-specialty, healthcare delivery system with 30 owned, managed and affiliated hospitals and 60+ health centers. Ochsner employs more than 1,100 physicians in over 90 medical specialties and subspecialties and performs over 600 clinical research studies.

New Orleans exudes a character all its own and offers a lifestyle that no other U.S. city can match. It's home to world-class music, dining and shopping. Professional football and basketball, gorgeous city parks, year-round festivals, prestigious academic centers and universities, and Southern hospitality await you. If you're craving the beach, the Gulf shores of Alabama are about two and a half hours away by car; and the white sands of Pensacola are just three hours away. It's easy to understand why residents take great pride in calling New Orleans their home. You'll fall in love the minute you set foot here, both personally and professionally. For complete details, please contact:

Glenda Church Smith, Principal
Pediatric Search Partners
Email: (glenda@pediatricsearchpartners.com)
Phone: 877-440-3832 or cell/text to 214-850-3094

♦ Massachusetts—

The Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH), an affiliate of Harvard Medical School, is actively recruiting a pediatric gastroenterologist and/or nutrition physician with specific interest in child nutrition. The successful recruit will have duties in both comprehensive pediatric gastroenterology and pediatric nutrition. The pediatric GI division at Boston Children's is one of the largest and best divisions in the country, and excels in training academic leaders. Within the division, the Center for Nutrition consists of seven physicians, more than 50 registered dietitians, plus nurses and pharmacists, all dedicated to the provision of safe and effective nutritional care to BCH in- and outpatients. Current strengths of the program include inpatient parenteral nutrition, intestinal failure, home parenteral nutrition, growth failure, and collaborations with multiple programs including surgery, cystic fibrosis, obesity and bariatric surgery.

We seek a BC/BE physician with experience in the provision and oversight of parenteral and specialized enteral nutrition, with a focus on inpatient parenteral nutrition. Preference will be given to those with formal clinical nutrition training. Broad expertise in the ambulatory management of patients with common gastrointestinal and nutritional disorders, endoscopic procedures, and inpatient care of GI patients is also desirable.

The division at Boston Children's Hospital is a very collegial environment. Faculty have a great opportunity to develop expertise in a focused clinical area and conduct innovative clinical research. We have a very strong basic science group in cell biology and immunology, and a strong track record in translational research collaborations and clinical trials. We are looking for highly motivated individuals who want to become respected national authorities in pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition.

Members of our division will also be available to discuss this great opportunity at **NASPGHAN**. If you are interested in meeting with our team, please reach out to Dr. Chris Duggan (Christopher.Duggan@childrens.harvard.edu) or Dr. Athos Bousvaros (Athos.Bousvaros@childrens.harvard.edu)

Interested individuals should forward a copy of their curriculum vitae and three letters of reference to: Christopher Duggan, MD, MPH
Director, Center for Nutrition
Division of Gastroenterology,
Hepatology and Nutrition

Boston Children's Hospital
333 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115
c/o (jennifer.crooker@childrens.harvard.edu)
Phone: 617-355-7612

Boston Children's Hospital is an equal opportunity employer.

♦ New York—

Applications are invited for a full-time faculty position in pediatric gastroenterology, in the Department of Pediatrics of Albany Medical College, and the Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center. We are seeking an outstanding pediatric gastroenterologist to join a comprehensive clinical program dedicated towards the diagnosis and care of children and adolescents who have gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, and/or nutritional disease. Board eligibility or certification in pediatric gastroenterology is required.

The division currently consists of 4 full-time physicians, 3 full-time nurses, and a part-time dietitian. We have the support of outstanding adult gastroenterologists, diagnostic and interventional radiologists, pathologists, and pediatric surgeons. We perform the majority of our procedures in an outpatient endoscopy unit within Albany Medical Center and have anesthesia support for all of our cases. We perform diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic procedures, esophageal pH (including BRAVO) and impedance studies, video capsule endoscopy, and anorectal and esophageal manometry studies. We are the major tertiary referral center for 25 counties, and provide comprehensive GI care for infants, children, and adolescents within our large catchment area. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to join a growing division, help countless numbers of patients, teach and mentor medical students and residents, and advance his or her career.

Albany Medical Center Hospital is a large academic Medical Center in Albany, New York, the state capital. It is a level I Trauma Center and the regional hub for all adult and pediatric specialties. The Bernard and Millie Duker Children's Hospital, which houses a 60 bed NICU, 19 bed PICU, and a new pediatric emergency department that opened in 2018, is the site of inpatient care rendered by the division. Albany Medical College is a private medical school, and a nondiscriminatory AA/EOE institution (minorities and women are encouraged to apply). The successful candidate will enjoy many opportunities for teaching house staff and medical students and will be eligible for a faculty appointment in Albany medical College, rank will be dependent on qualifications, and experience.

Located at the heart of New York's Capital Region, Albany is a culturally and environmentally diverse area that is home to nearly 1,000,000 residents. The 3

cities of the capital region—Albany, Schenectady, and Troy, and their suburbs offer a range of affordable, safe, and comfortable neighborhoods with quality schools and active community groups. Albany, the capital New York State, is home for the state University in Albany, the School of Public Health, Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Law School, and multiple private colleges, and offers a wide variety of culturally events. It is within easy driving distance to New York City, Boston, and Montréal, as well as the Adirondack Mountains, Lake Placid, Saratoga, and Lake George. It is a wonderful place to raise the family and enjoy activities related to all 4 seasons. To learn more about the Capital Region, please visit www.AMC.edu/greatplace.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to:
Valerie D'Aloia
Physician Recruiter
Email: (daloiav@amc.edu)
Phone: 518-262-1333

(Albany Medical College is a private institution and a non-discriminatory AA/EOE minorities and women are encouraged to apply).

♦ Ohio—

On behalf of Dr. Marlene Miller, Pediatrician-in-Chief for University Hospitals and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital (UH/RBC), Millican Solutions, LLC, a leader in academic pediatric search, has initiated a national search for a candidate to practice in the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology. The organizations are seeking a board certified/board eligible academic Pediatric Gastroenterologist with expertise in esophageal and gastrointestinal motility. This is a full time position including attending clinical responsibilities, participation in medical student, pediatric resident, and fellow education, pursuit of academic endeavors appropriate for promotion, and contributions to administrative responsibilities.

Opportunity Highlights:

- ♦ As part of the hospital and Department's strategic plan for clinical and academic growth, tremendous opportunity in collaboration with Division Chief, Dr. Tom Sferra, to develop and lead new clinical and research programs dedicated to patients across the spectrum of symptoms and diseases associated with gastrointestinal motility.
- ♦ The ideal candidate will be able to perform and interpret esophageal, anorectal, antroduodenal, and colonic motility studies.
- ♦ The Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology enjoys a strong foundation with 8 full-time Board Certified Pediatric Gastroenterologists, 2 Nurse Practitioners, 6 Registered Nurses, a Dietitian, Social Worker, and a Psychologist.

- ♦ The Division has an ACGME accredited Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program.
- ♦ Qualified MD/DO or MD/DO/PhD candidates must be Board Eligible/Board Certified in Pediatric Gastroenterology, and possess excellent interpersonal, procedural, and clinical skills.
- ♦ Eligibility for academic rank at the Assistant/Associate/Professor level.
- ♦ Recognized as the top ranked children's hospital in northern Ohio, UH/RBC is a 244-bed, Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center and principal referral center for Ohio and the region.

For more details about this opportunity, please contact:
Marcel Barbey
Vice President of MillicanSolutions, LLC
Phone: 682-223-5779
Email: (Marcel.Barbey@millicansolutions.com)

All interactions will remain confidential and no inquiries will be made without the consent of the applicant. University Hospitals is an EEO/AA Employer M/F/D/V.

Job Requirements:
MD/DO or MD/DO/PhD
To apply for this job, contact:
Mendy King
Phone: 682-223-5780
Email: (mendy.king@millicansolutions.com)

♦ Washington, DC—

Full-time temporary Pediatric GI opportunity with a leader in integrated healthcare delivery—Permanente Medicine!

Practice at the state-of-the art Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center with clinical and endoscopy suites and a robust EMR.

Coverage is needed for January and February 2020. Receive a competitive hourly rate plus occurrence based malpractice coverage.

Job Requirements:
Must have active DC license and be BE/BC in Pediatric Gastroenterology.

Contact:
Cooper J. Drangmeister
Email: cooper.j.drangmeister@kp.org
Phone: 301-816-6532

[Apply here.](#)