



KIDney NOTES

ASPEN Committee Meetings

All ASPN members are invited to attend the ASPN committee meetings that take place at the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel. Below are the specific times and locations for each committee meeting:

Clinical Affairs, Saturday, 5/14, noon -1:00 pm, Room MR3

Public Policy, Monday, 5/16/, 7:00-8:00 am, Room MR2

Research, Sat., 5/14, 7:00-8:00 am, Room MR8

Training & Certification, Sunday, 5/15, 7:00-8:00 am, Room MR1

Workforce, Sunday, 5/15, 7:00-8:00 am, Room MR10

The full daily schedule for the ASPN meeting is on page two of this issue.

President's Corner

Dear Colleagues

We are in the final stretch of preparations for the annual meeting at the PAS in Washington, DC. We look forward to seeing all of you at the scientific sessions and the social gatherings. Remember to attend the evening social event on Saturday, May 14 from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. in the Washington Room/Terrace at the Hotel Washington, and the Awards Luncheon on Monday, May 16, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Renaissance Hotel's Ballroom East. Further details on these two events can be found on page three.



While in DC we hope you will be able to join us for our Capitol Hill Day (see article on page 4).

I also want to remind you about a very important conference that is jointly sponsored by the AST, IPTA, ISHLT, CST, UNOS, TTS and DHHS. The consensus conference, "Transition to Adult Care for Adolescent Transplant Recipients" will be exploring the issues involved in transitioning our chronically ill patients to adult care. It will take place June 13-14, 2005 at the Sofitel Chicago O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois. Limited information is available at this time but more details will be posted soon on the AST website (<http://www.a-s-t.org/meeting/meeting.htm>). We hope many of you will be able to attend and support this activity. Of note, there is a symposium on this topic at our own annual meeting, co-sponsored by the ASPN and several of our sister societies.

See you in Washington, DC!

Sandy

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ASPN Annual Meeting
 May 14–17, 2005
 Washington Convention Center and
 Renaissance Washington DC Hotel

Saturday, May 14	Sunday, May 15	Monday, May 16	Tuesday, May 17
<p>8:00am – 9:45am ASPN Workshop • Chronic Kidney Disease</p> <p>10:00am – 12:00pm IPHA/ASPN/PAS Topic Symposium • Development of Hypertension in the Newborn: Translating Theory into Practical Application</p> <p>1:00pm – 3:00pm ASPN Symposium I • Urolithiasis and Mineral Metabolism</p> <p>3:15pm – 5:15pm PAS/ASPN Original Science Abstracts • Nephrology/Hypertension Platform Session</p> <p>5:15pm – 7:15pm PAS/ASPN Posters I Exhibits and PAS Opening Reception • Nephrology</p>	<p>7:00am – 8:00am Meet the Professor Breakfast • Balancing Life as a Pediatric Nephrologist: F. Bruder Stapleton (for trainees and junior faculty)</p> <p>8:00am – 10:00am ASPN Symposium II • Glomerulonephritis in 2005</p> <p>10:15am – 11:45am APS Presidential Plenary and Awards</p> <p>11:45am – 1:45pm PAS/ASPN Posters II and Exhibits • Nephrology</p> <p>2:00pm – 4:00pm PAS/ASPN/IPHA/LWPES Joint Topic Symposium • Consequences of Metabolic Syndrome in Children: Hypertension, Diabetes and Renal Disease</p> <p>4:15pm – 6:15pm PAS/ASPN Original Science Abstracts • Nephrology Platform Session</p>	<p>8:00am – 10:00am ASPN Symposium III • Acute Renal Failure: Today and Tomorrow from the Bench to the Bedside</p> <p>10:15am – 12:15pm SPR Presidential Plenary and Awards</p> <p>12:30pm – 3:00pm ASPN Presidential Address and Awards Luncheon</p> <p>3:30pm – 5:30pm ASPN/AST Symposium IV • The Next Steps in Pediatric Renal Transplantation</p>	<p>8:00am – 10:00am PAS/ASPN/LWPES Hot Topic • Transitioning Complex Pediatric Patients to Adult Care</p> <p>10:15am – 11:45am PAS State of the Art Plenary • Children's Health and the Federal Government: Research and Public Health Policy – Elias A Zerhouni, NIH – Richard H. Carmona, Surgeon General of the United States</p> <p>1:45pm – 3:45pm PAS Hot Topic • New Therapeutic Strategies for Classical Pediatric Diseases</p>

The ASPN wishes to acknowledge the generosity of the following corporate and session sponsors. Their unrestricted educational grants have significantly benefited the Society and its efforts.

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ASPEN 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

May 14-17 2005

Washington Convention Center and Renaissance Washington Hotel, Washington, D.C.

► **REGISTER ON-LINE** For additional meeting information and to register, visit the PAS web site at: www.pas-meeting.org.

► **ASPEN Headquarters Hotel**—Renaissance Washington Hotel **Be sure to indicate when you register and make your reservation that you are an ASPEN member. This will automatically place you in our headquarters hotel - Renaissance Washington D.C.**

► **ASPEN Membership Reception/Dinner** will be Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. at the **Washington Room/Terrace in the Hotel Washington**. There will be a shuttle service leaving from the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel starting at 7:30 p.m. that will run continuously until 10:00 p.m.

► **ASPEN Annual Business Meeting, Presidential Address and Awards Luncheon** will be Monday, May 16, 2004 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the **Renaissance Washington DC Hotel, Renaissance Ballroom East**. *Please plan to attend this meeting. The ASPEN Founder's Award will be presented and a Washington Update will be provided by the ASPEN Washington Representative. All ASPEN members should attend and resident trainees are cordially invited.*

New this year at the annual meeting is the ASPEN Resource Center, a booth located in the Washington Convention Center, Exhibit Hall D, Booth 463. We encourage you to stop by and meet Robyn Mann, the ASPEN Office Coordinator, as well as Council members who will be at the booth for brief periods of time to answer questions. On hand at the booth will be the ESRD Fact Sheet as well as other informational materials related to ASPEN activities. The Resource Center hours are as follows:

Saturday, May 14	4:00pm – 7:30pm
Sunday, May 15	11:00am – 3:00pm
Monday, May 16	3:00pm – 6:45pm

Fellow and Resident Luncheon

pFeNA (pediatric Fellows in Nephrology Association) and the ASPEN cordially invite all pediatric nephrology fellows and pediatric residents interested in nephrology for a luncheon at noon on Saturday, May 14, 2005 at a Spanish tapas restaurant named La Tasca (www.latascausa.com). It is located at 722 7th street NW. The purpose of this luncheon is to promote camaraderie, form collegial relationships and assist/inform residents who will potentially join our field. The group will also select two officers for the upcoming year.



ASPN Members Urged to Visit Lawmakers

At a time when Congress is under heavy pressure to shrink medical research funding and squeeze payments to physicians, it is important that lawmakers hear, first-hand, from pediatric nephrologists. If you plan to attend this year's Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, please take advantage of the opportunity to schedule a face-to-face visit with your elected officials or their health legislative aide.

To help facilitate these face visits, advocacy packets and meeting materials will be available at the ASPN booth during the Annual Meeting. On Tuesday, May 17 at 7am in Meeting Room 12-13, of the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel, ASPN's Washington representatives Jennifer Shevchek and Dom Ruscio will hold a 30-40 minute briefing session entitled, *Lobbying 101: Learn how to lobby members of Congress on ASPN's Legislative Priorities*. This session will provide you with the tools you need to advocate on the issues of greatest concern to our profession: (1) the need for a strong and sustained investment in medical research; (2) the importance of providing fair and equitable reimbursement for treating pediatric ESRD patients; and (3) ensuring that transplanted ESRD children retain health insurance coverage as they transition to adult care.

How do you schedule a meeting with a congressional office? If you know who your representative or senators are, call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202.224.3121, and ask to be connected to your elected official's office. If asked, the purpose of your meeting is to discuss the need for adequate research funding and physician reimbursements.

If you do not know who your representative or senators are log on to www.house.gov/writerep for House representatives and www.senate.gov for senators. Those sites will provide you with the names and contact information you need to schedule your meetings.

Once you have scheduled a meeting, please email Jennifer Shevchek, ASPN's Washington Representative, at jshvchek@dc-crd.com to let her know.

Please take advantage of this important opportunity.

Membership Research Interests Database

The new ASPN Research Survey-Database is now online. This Survey-Database builds on the "Table of Membership Research Interests" that the ASPN assembled ~1 1/2 yrs ago - it can now be easily updated, browsed, and searched by all members. This should facilitate identifying colleagues with similar research interests, potential abstract/manuscript reviewers, etc. However, we ask all members to restrict the use of the database expressly for their own purposes.

To maximize the utility of the website, we ask each of you to:

1. Log in. The survey site URL is (<http://www.aspneph.com/interests.html>). The "user name" and the "password" are the same as for entry into the members-only portions of the ASPN web site but need to be entered separately here.
2. Complete the form with your entries. An automatic notification will be sent to the ASPN office each time an entry is made.
3. Browse the site....try to "search" for some info and become familiar with the options.

Should you have any questions, please contact the aspn office at: aspn@northwestern.edu <<mailto:aspn@northwestern.edu>> . While we plan to monitor the content of this database, ASPN is not responsible for inaccuracies or for changes that are incorrectly applied.

Use of the information contained in this electronic database for commercial or solicitation purposes is expressly prohibited.

Please also visit the "Funding Opportunities" links on the ASPN Research website.

Pediatric Nephrology Database of Clinical Trials and Multi-Center Studies

A major thrust of the new NIH Roadmap is to support translational studies and better understand the clinical relevance of different treatment options. This mission is likely to be accomplished only through broad participation in multicenter collaborative studies. Accordingly, the ASPN would like to post a list of currently active clinical trials and multicenter studies relevant to the care of children with renal disease. The goal is to advise membership of the availability of these trials/studies and stimulate enrollment of our patients. The list would be updated quarterly. ASPN members interested in "advertising" their clinical trials/multi-center studies on the ASPN website are asked to **submit to the ASPN office** (address information on last page of this newsletter) the following information:

1. **TITLE OF STUDY**
2. **SITE**
3. **PI**
4. **CONTACT INFO:** coordinator name, snail and e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, web site
5. **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STUDY** - 1 paragraph such as the following: The Mayo Clinic Hyperoxaluria Center is a clinical care and research center staffed by physician scientists devoted to the study of the hyperoxalurias, with an emphasis on inherited Primary Hyperoxaluria. The center facilitates collaborative research to better understand this disorder. The center will compile statistics on outcomes of patients and the NIDDK will house an international patient registry to collect and analyze data on pediatric and adult patients with inherited forms of calcium stone disease, including Primary Hyperoxaluria and Dent's disease.
6. **INCLUSION/EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR ENROLLMENT**

The "Membership Research Interests Survey" and the "Pediatric Nephrology Database of Clinical Trials and Multi-Center Studies" forms will both be available at the ASPN Resource Center in the Washington Convention Center, Exhibit Hall D, Booth 463.

WASHINGTON UPDATE

Domenic Ruscio and Jennifer Shevchek, ASPN Washington Representatives

MMA - End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Composite Payment Rate System Changes

Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services posted on their *Medlearn Matters* page the latest information regarding changes to the ESRD Composite Payment Rate System. To view this informational paper, please visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/matters/mmarticles/2005/SE0511.pdf>

In addition, there are other educational materials posted at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/providers/esrd.asp>, which include a most frequently asked questions document, training materials, and a fact sheet on the ESRD Composite Payment Rate System.

For providers, CMS will also hold a Q & A conference call on the revised ESRD Composite Rate System, Thursday, May 19, 2005 from 1:00PM – 3:00PM ET

The dial-in number is 1-800-455-0787, and the password is ESRD. The leader's name is Ann Palmer.

109th Congress Health Care Agenda Update

Medicare Physician Payments; Pay for Performance. - Capitol Hill continues to buzz with talk over yet another acronym "P4P," or Pay for Performance. Congress hopes to reform Medicare physician reimbursement to reflect linking reimbursement to quality outcomes. With the temporary two-year fix provided in the 2003 Medicare Modernization Act set to expire on January 1, 2006, Medicare physicians are looking at roughly five percent cuts each year from 2006 through 2012, unless Congress takes action.

On March 15, Ways and Means health Subcommittee Chairwoman Nancy L. Johnson signaled at a House hearing the Committee's readiness to reform payments to physicians by removing the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) system and replacing it with a system that rewards doctors who perform well on specific measures of quality.

Last year, the Medicare Payment Advisory Committee (MedPAC) urged quality-based payment for managed care plans, dialysis facilities and dialysis doctors. In response, ASPN is about to issue a position paper on the issue of "linking reimbursement to quality care." In essence, the document will conclude that linking reimbursement to quality care for pediatric patients is a worthy goal, but that it will require a concerted effort to identify appropriate and reliable quality measure outcomes and processes. (ASPN will distribute the document as soon as it is published).

Congress has hinted at the possibility of a one-year fix of physician payment while a more permanent reform is designed. However, most lawmakers would prefer to see a pay for performance system started sooner rather than later. According to Congressional estimates, a one-year physician fix to erase the projected 4.3% payment cut to physicians in 2006, and replace it with a 1.5 percent increase would cost \$11 billion if continued over five years.

Both the House and Senate will continue to discuss the issue of pay for performance in an effort to translate what is now only a concept into a specific legislative proposal. ASPN has made this issue a top priority in its legislative agenda.

Kidney Care Quality and Improvement Act of 2005

With strong support from the Kidney Care Partners (KCP), a coalition comprised of dialysis facilities, industry, and ESRD patient and physician groups, lawmakers have re-introduced the Kidney Care and Quality Improvement Act (S. 635;H.R. 1298). The measure, among other things, establishes an annual update framework for the Medicare ESRD composite rate; requires a General Accountability Office study and report on the impact of the Medicare G codes; and raises home dialysis reimbursement to the 4 level G code.

The bill was introduced in the House by Representatives Dave Camp (R-Michigan-4) and Jim McDermott (D-Washington-7); the Senate version was introduced by Senators Rick Santorum (R-Pennsylvania) and Kent Conrad (D-North Dakota).

CMS Publishes Proposed Conditions for Coverage and Participation

As follow-up to the last issue of KIDney Notes, the ASPN public policy committee is still in the process of developing a formal comment letter on CMS's proposed Conditions of Participation (CoPs) and Conditions for Coverage (CfCs) for Organ Procurement Organizations, End Stage Renal Facilities, and Transplant Centers. These documents can be found by scrolling down to the section entitled Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a050204c.html. To send your comments electronically, please visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/ecomments/default.asp>.

ASPN members are urged to send comments on the proposed rules to ASPN's Washington representative, Jennifer Shevchek, at jshevchek@dc-crd.com, so that they can be incorporated into ASPN's formal comment letter.

RPA Files Lawsuit on Rules Governing Medical Directors' Compensation

The ASPN public policy committee has received several inquiries concerning decreased payment for pediatric dialysis facility directors. In response, the Society wants to bring its membership's attention to a lawsuit filed recently by the Renal Physicians Association, charging that a provision in the recent Stark II Interim Final rule will negatively impact the ability of dialysis facilities to provide quality health care to patients with end-stage renal disease. The suit was filed against the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

**RPA Files Lawsuit (continued)**

The lawsuit charges that dialysis facilities will have difficulty recruiting individuals with the training and experience necessary to be effective medical directors, thus adversely impacting the quality of dialysis patient care. Specifically, the safe-harbor provision included in the final rule inappropriately applies hourly wage rate methodologies to a medical executive-level function with a broad scope of responsibilities. The safe harbor outlines two methodologies used to determine medical director compensation. One methodology utilizes the average hourly rate for emergency room physicians and the other uti-

izes six specific physician salary surveys.

ASPN supports RPA in their pursuit of fair and equitable reimbursement for practicing dialysis medical facility directors. Of particular concern to the Society is the potential impact the Stark rule could have on the quality of treatment for pediatric ESRD patients. ASPN asks its members to share any personal stories regarding the impact of this policy on their practice as a medical director, and/or whether this new policy has had an adverse impact on the dialysis facility's ability to provide quality care. Please email your stories to Jennifer Shevchek at jshvchek@dc-crd.com.

RPA - The Advocate for Excellence in Nephrology Practice

This is the second in a continuing series of articles about our sister organizations. The RPA was organized in 1973 and is a national medical specialty association comprised of health care providers in nephrology. Their purpose is to represent nephrologists, practice managers, advanced practice nurses and physicians assistants in their pursuit and delivery of quality renal health care. The RPA currently has many ongoing activities of interest to the ASPN membership, including NCAP, the Nephrology Coverage Advisory panel, which assists with issues that arise at the local medical carriers (Eileen Brewer represents the ASPN on this panel), toolkits for practitioners, and interactions with CMS around issues of quality care and payment, to name a few. The RPA has been instrumental in the past in helping the pediatric community develop pediatric-specific billing codes and protecting our professional fees. The ASPN is well-represented at the RPA with committee membership including Sandra Watkins on the Board of Directors and the Clinical practice

Committee, Steve Alexander and Rick Kaskel on the Government Affairs Committee, Jordan Symons on the Health Care Payment Committee, and Barbara Fivush on the Quality, Safety and Accountability Committee. For more information about the RPA visit their website at www.renalmd.org.

Fellow Survey Preliminary Data Presentation

The Workforce Committee and the Training/Certification Committee collaborated on a survey of pediatric nephrology fellows with the hope of gathering information regarding why they entered this field, and how we might improve upon the process of applying for and getting accepted into a training program. Fellows who have not already completed their surveys should do so now. Preliminary data will be presented at the ASPN Annual Business Meeting Luncheon on Monday, May 16

Clinical Guidelines

A compilation of clinical guidelines for the care of children with CKD has been completed and is now posted on the ASPN web site at www.aspneph.com/guidelines.html so that all members can access this information.

New Fistula First Website

The Forum of ESRD Networks is pleased to announce a new educational website for the National Vascular Access Improvement Initiative – FISTULA FIRST at www.fistulafirst.org. This collaborative project strives to achieve or exceed the K/DOQI recommendations for A-V fistulas in hemodialysis patients. Having a successful vascular access is a major contributor to patient well-being; conversely, access problems are seen as a major cause of illness and disability for those on hemodialysis. The new website provides information on tools and resources as well as contact information for each of the ESRD Network organizations who partner with providers to improve care.

Marketplace

The Division of Pediatric Nephrology in the Department of Pediatrics at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, NC is seeking a third full-time pediatric nephrologist. The candidate should have interest and/or experience in dialysis and transplantation. The Division offers a full range of nephrology services, including support for neonatal, pediatric cardiac and critical care, dialysis and solid organ transplantation programs with emphasis on clinical care and teaching. The Pediatric faculty are actively involved in teaching and training of residents and medical students and have an academic affiliation with UNC School of Medicine. Faculty are actively involved in the teaching and training of 23 pediatric residents, off service residents and medical students. CMC is a tertiary care academic teaching hospital and serves a region of 80 counties in North and South Carolina. Levine Children's Hospital is currently under construction and when it opens in early 2007, it will be a 234 bed facility offering comprehensive state of the art care for infants, children and adolescents (www.levinechildrenshospital.org). The position offers competitive compensation and faculty benefits. Charlotte is located in the Southern Piedmont region of North Carolina, close to the Blue Ridge Mountains and to the beaches of North and South Carolina. Charlotte offers a lovely climate with "small town" comfort yet "big city" activities including professional sports scene, arts and sciences, restaurants and shopping. Interested candidates may submit their CV and inquiries to Susan F. Massengill, MD, Director of Pediatric Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics, CMC, PO Box 32861, Charlotte, NC 28232 or e-mail at susan.massengill@carolinashealthcare.org.

**Marketplace—Continued**

The University of Virginia Children's Hospital seeks an experienced BC/BE academic pediatric nephrologist to join a faculty of four active clinical investigators with an active fellowship training program. Clinical nephrology skills should include the care of infants, children, and adolescents with congenital and acquired renal disease, hypertension, end stage renal disease, and renal transplants. In addition, a successful track-record as a basic science investigator with interests in developmental nephrology is desired. Active teaching of student, residents, and fellows is also a requirement of the position. Position is open until filled. Rank and title will be Assistant or Associate Professor, commensurate with qualifications, experience, and other achievements. The University of Virginia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Interested applicants should forward CV with references to: Victoria F. Norwood, MD; Department of Pediatrics, University of Virginia Health System, P.O. Box 800903, Charlottesville, Virginia 22908; or Email: vfn6t@virginia.edu

Department of Pediatrics at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center in Tucson, AZ, has **two positions** available in the Division of Pediatric Nephrology, including position of **Section Chief**. Positions open at the Assistant or Associate or Professor level (open rank). Responsibilities include patient care, program development, medical student and resident education. Section Chief position will include administrative duties. Candidates must be BC/BE in Pediatrics and Pediatric Nephrology, hold an MD or DO degree. Research interest is desirable and is available at the Steele Children's Research Center, which is one of eight **centers of excellence** at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. Internationally known scientists and physicians work together in this state of the art facility to research causes and develop cures for childhood illnesses and diseases. Physicians who work for the Children's Research Center and the UA Department of Pediatrics play a unique role in the community. In addition to the University of Arizona, these positions are also in part affiliated with University Physicians Healthcare. Excellent benefit and retirement package is offered as well as incentive opportunities. Located only an hour from the Mexican border and eight hours from the California coast, Tucson offers almost year round outdoor activities. For required electronic application, please see www.hr.arizona.edu, referencing Job # 31307. The University of Arizona is an EEO/AA - M/W/D/V Employer.

Emory University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Atlanta, Georgia Division Director position Division of Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine is seeking a Division Director. Division provides clinical services at Emory Children's Center and at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston on the campus of Emory University. The pediatric ESRD program at Children's at Egleston is amongst the largest in the country, currently serving over 40 dialysis patients and performing over 20 transplants per year. Outstanding collaborative research opportunities are available within the University in various areas of nephrology, physiology, and transplant immunology. Children's Healthcare of Atlanta offers outstanding pediatric facilities and support, while Emory University provides beautiful campus surroundings and one of the nation's fastest research growth trajectories. Space, resources, and institutional commitment are available for substantial academic growth of the Division and for initiation of a fellowship program. Atlanta, Georgia is a diverse, cosmopolitan, culturally rich city of over 4 million people, with seasonal climate suitable for nearly year-round outdoor activities. A major transportation hub, the city has long maintained a steady growth in both population and diversity. Interested individuals should send a letter and CV to Dr. Barbara Stoll, Chair, Dept. of Pediatrics, c/o Pam Coltrane, Dept. of Pediatrics, 2015 Uppergate Dr., Atlanta, Ga., 30322 or via email at: pcoltra@emory.edu; or contact Dr. Barry Warshaw at 404-727-5750 or via email at: barry_warshaw@oz.ped.emory.edu. Emory University is an EEO/AA employer.

Pediatric Nephrologists—Southern California Opportunities—Our world-famous weather and natural attractions make Southern California an ideal place for those who love adventure and the outdoors. At Kaiser Permanente, we believe in promoting a healthier lifestyle for both our patients and our physicians. By managing your administrative needs and providing a balanced schedule and comprehensive network of support, we ensure you can make the most of your time, whether you're at work or at play. o practice and play in a climate that's professionally and personally rewarding, please send your CV to: Kaiser Permanente, Professional Recruitment, 393 East Walnut Street, Pasadena, CA 91188-8013. Phone: (800) 541-7946. Email: David.L.Lin@kp.org. We are an AAP/EEO employer. <http://physiciancareers.kp.org>

Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma, WA, is recruiting a full-time clinical pediatric nephrologist to make a two physician team caring for a full range of pediatric nephrology patients, including prenatal/neonatal to young adults, ESRD and post-transplant patients. Current affiliations with Children's Hospital in Seattle as well as two adult facilities provide creative options that allow for the provision of end stage renal care to the kids in our referral area. Our growing tertiary care community-based hospital is an exciting place to work, and our patients appreciate our outreach clinics as well. Regionally unique Lifestyle's Clinic with exercise specialist for hypertension/obesity patients is thriving under the care of our nurse practitioner. Family practice and pediatric residents and University of WA medical students provide wonderful teaching opportunities. There is 24-hr hospitalist and PICU/NICU/ER attending level coverage at the hospital. Interest in clinical research welcomed. Quality of life and natural setting in the Puget Sound area are wonderful. For more information, please contact Niki Becker, M.D., at (253) 403-5298.

Open Rank Pediatric Nephrology - the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and Children's Hospital have an immediate opening for additional pediatric nephrologist(s). Currently, the Pediatric Nephrology Division consists of a single faculty member with plans to grow to three or four, with the goal of building an academically and clinically strong division. The

**Marketplace—Continued**

University of Kentucky (continued)—division has a well-established referral pattern and a history of a comprehensive clinical program including transplantation. UK Children's Hospital is a 100-bed hospital within the University Hospital. There are 53 full-time and 16 part-time faculty members covering all specialties; serving metropolitan Lexington, central and eastern Kentucky and the surrounding Bluegrass Region. Lexington offers country environment, Midwest lifestyle, northeastern cultural amenities, and southern cost of living, good public schools, a wide range of leisure activities and four seasons. To learn more, contact J. Timothy Bricker, M.D. Chair of Pediatrics, University of Kentucky, 740 S. Limestone Street, Lexington KY 40536-0284 or e-mail CV to tim.bricker@uky.edu

Associate Professor, Pediatric Nephrology Department of Pediatrics University of Minnesota Medical School—The Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota Medical School seeks a faculty member at the rank of Associate Professor for the Division of Nephrology. This division, which now includes ten faculty members, has a long tradition of excellence in research, patient care, and academic training, with strong relations in adult nephrology, transplant surgery and the basic sciences. The selected candidate will establish and carry out an independent research program (clinical or basic), and will be involved in direct patient care and the training/teaching of medical students, pediatric house officers and renal fellows. Essential qualifications include an M.D. degree and board certification or eligibility in Pediatrics and Pediatric Nephrology. Candidates should have demonstrated evidence of accomplishment in research through peer-reviewed publications and success in achieving independent grant support. Additionally, candidates should have strong patient care and teaching qualifications, and will need licensure in the State of Minnesota by the start date. This appointment is at the tenure-track Associate Professor level, but qualified Assistant Professors may be eligible. Applications will be reviewed beginning December 1, 2004, and will be accepted until the position is filled. The anticipated start date is September, 2005. Applicants should send a letter of interest and Curriculum Vitae to: Michael Mauer, M.D.; Chair, Search Committee; c/o Julie Legg; University of Minnesota; Mayo Mail Code 391, 420 Delaware Street SE; Minneapolis, MN 55455. The University of Minnesota is an Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer.

The Division of Pediatric Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine seeks candidates for appointment as full-time faculty member at Assistant or Associate level in either the Clinician-Educator Line (CEL) or the Medical Center Line (MCL) of the Professoriate. Predominant criteria for appointment are major commitments to clinical care and clinical teaching, with appropriate scholarly contributions in the field. Appointment to the MCL requires commitment to original clinical research, whereas CEL appointment does not. Candidates should be board eligible (excluding publication requirement) or certified by the Sub-Board of Pediatric Nephrology of the American Board of Pediatrics by the date of their availability. Formal training in clinical research and evidence of prior accomplishment in clinical investigation are desirable but not required. The successful candidate will spend 75% time in clinical care and teaching with the remainder of his/her time devoted to clinical research and other scholarly activities. Teaching is a high priority, as evidenced by the fact that the members of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology collectively received the 2003 Stanford Pediatric Housestaff Teaching Award. Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH) at Stanford is a 220-bed free-standing children's hospital located on the Stanford University campus within a medical center complex that includes Stanford Hospital and Clinics and Stanford Medical School. Stanford University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Interested candidates should send curriculum vitae and a brief letter outlining their interests to: Steven R. Alexander, MD; Professor and Chief, Pediatric Nephrology; Department of Pediatrics, Room G 306; Stanford University Medical Center; 300 Pasteur Drive; Stanford, CA; 94305-5208. Submission by electronic mail to: sralex@stanford.edu is encouraged.

The Department of Pediatrics at the University of California, Davis, is seeking a full-time academic Pediatric Nephrologist. The UC Davis Children's Hospital provides a full complement of services throughout Northern California. The recruited candidate will join two full-time Pediatric Nephrologists in providing care in an expanding clinical and academic program. This position is open rank (commensurate with credentials) in the Regular, Clinical Pediatrics or Salaried Clinical Series. Proven excellence in clinical care and teaching is required. Opportunities for research are available depending on the series, experience and qualification of the candidate. Several intramural research awards (with guaranteed protected time) are available to junior faculty to apply for. Minimum qualifications include an M.D. degree, BC/BE in Pediatrics and Pediatric Nephrology and eligibility for licensure in the State of California. Applicants should have the ability to work cooperatively and collegially within the diverse environment of UC Davis. Interested candidates should submit their CV and letter of inquiry to Lavjay Butani, MD, Chief of Pediatric Nephrology, Department of Pediatrics, 2516 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95817 or e-mail him at lavjay.butani@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu. Sacramento is an easily accessible, friendly, family-oriented, moderate sized city in beautiful northern California. It is in very close proximity to Lake Tahoe and the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the California coast, Napa Valley and San Francisco. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Pediatric Nephrology – Children's Hospital in a major northeast metropolitan city seeks an additional pediatric nephrologist. Academic/faculty appointment position. Senior and/or junior appointments available. Clinical and teaching responsibilities with option for research. Premiere historical city with fabulous museums, theatre, opera, professional sports teams, and more. Wonderful family oriented suburbs and active nightlife available. **Contact Todd Dillon 800-883-7345; fax 402-289-0545; e-mail tdillon@cejkasearch.com. ID#24830Z2. For more opportunities, visit www.cejkasearch.com.**

**Marketplace—Continued**

The Division of Pediatric Nephrology, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital / Case Western Reserve University, is seeking a faculty member to join a division of 3 pediatric nephrologists. Applicants interested in a physician scientist (basic or clinical science) or physician educator career are invited to apply. Applicants interested in part-time employment are also encouraged to apply. Faculty rank is commensurate with experience. Interested applicants should submit their CV and 3 letters of recommendation to: Ira D. Davis, MD, Chief, Division of Pediatric Nephrology; Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital; 11100 Euclid Avenue; Cleveland, Ohio, 44106; 216-844-1389 (phone); idd@po.cwru.edu In employment, as in education, Case Western Reserve University is committed to Equal Opportunity and World Class Diversity

Meeting Announcements**NIDDK CELLULAR NICHES WORKSHOP, MAY 16-17, 2005****MARRIOTT BETHESDA NORTH HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, BETHESDA, MD**

This workshop focuses on the cellular microenvironment and the role that a cell's niche plays in regulating cell behavior and function. The four sessions of the workshop include:

Definition of Cellular Niches—Speakers: Linheng Li, Stowers Institution for Medical Research; Kateri Moore, Princeton University; Harvey Lodish, Whitehead Institute, MIT; Jeff Gordon, Washington University

Disease Pathogenesis and Changes in the Niche—Speakers: Qais Al-awqati, Columbia University; Lyn Wilson, New York University; Ormond MacDougald, University of Michigan

Development of Cellular Niches during Organogenesis—Speakers: Ken Zaret, Fox Chase Institute; Tom Schultheiss, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Maureen Gannon, Vanderbilt University

Developing a Therapeutic Niche—Speakers: Christopher Chen, University of Pennsylvania; Linda Griffith, Whitehead Institute, MIT; Marcus Grompe, Oregon Health Science Center; Peter Quesenberry, Roger Williams Hospital

In addition, Allan Spradling of the Carnegie Institution will give a keynote address, and short talks from selected abstracts will add to each session.

We believe this will be an informative workshop and hope that it will foster new ideas and interactions. Please visit this website below for further information and to register: <http://cellularniche.niddk.nih.gov>

FASEB SUMMER RESEARCH CONFERENCE —CALCIUM OXALATE IN BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

Dates: July 16-21, 2005 in Tucson, Arizona

Mary Alice Webb, Purdue Univ.

Vincent R. Franceschi, Washington State Univ.

Craig Langman, Northwestern Univ

This FASEB Summer research conference will focus on the medical and other scientific sides of oxalate, including of course, Oxalosis and Primary Hyperoxaluria, Kidney Stones, and a host of wonderful science from around the world. It is very valuable for trainees. encourage their attendance and poster presentations.

For additional information, please visit our website: <http://src.faseb.org>

FASEB SUMMER RESEARCH CONFERENCE —NEW INSIGHTS IN POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASES: MOLECULAR PATHWAYS, PATHOGENIC MECHANISMS, AND TRANSLATIONAL APPLICATIONS

Dates: August 6-11, 2005 in Saxtons River, Vermont

Conference Topics: The Functional Role of Cystoproteins in Epithelial Differentiation • Epithelial Polarity, Transport, and Cell Signaling: The Role of Cystoproteins • Cilia/Centrosomal Dysfunction and PKD Pathogenesis • PKD Pathways: Lessons from Comparative Genomics • PKD as a Complex Trait • Other Cystic Diseases and Convergent Pathways • PKD: Extra-Renal Disease • Biomarkers for Disease Progression • Innovative Targeting in PKD Therapeutics

For additional information, please visit our website: <http://src.faseb.org>

**4th International Conference on Pediatric Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (PCRRT)
Feb. 24 – 25, 2006, Zurich, Switzerland**

This conference brings together in one forum caregivers of children who require extracorporeal therapies including CRRT and plasmapheresis. The course will discuss basics, use of PCRRT in sepsis, acute renal failure, multiorgan dysfunction syndrome and non-ARF indications. Research in drug clearance, nutrition, liver support and outcome will be presented. There will be a call for abstracts that will be published in Pediatric Nephrology.

Sponsors for the program are University of Zurich, University of Alabama School of Medicine, DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids, Michigan; and PCRRT Foundation. Physician and Nursing credit will be available.

For preliminary information go to www.pcrtr.com and click on 2006 program or contact timothy.bunchman@spectrum-health.org or cmalone@pclnet.net



Other Announcements

2005 CERTIFYING EXAMINATION IN PEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY

Examination Date: November 29, 2005.

Registration for first-time applicants: February 1, 2005, through May 2, 2005.

Registration for re-registrants: March 14, 2005, through June 16, 2005.

The final month of each registration requires payment of a late fee.

Applicants must complete applications online during the registration periods for new applicants. The requirements for online applications are found on the ABP Web site: www.abp.org. Additional information including eligibility requirements is found on the ABP Web site. Each application will be considered individually and must be acceptable to the ABP.

AMERICAN BOARD OF PEDIATRICS

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CHAPEL HILL, NC 27514-1513

Telephone: 919-929-0461; Facsimile: 919-918-7114 or 919-929-9255

Web site: www.abp.org

KUFA Raffle

The Kidney and Urology Foundation of America (KUFA), raises funds via an Annual Dream Car Raffle that go towards supporting Clinical and Basic Fellowships, Grant-In-Aids, and Investigator Research Awards, a Patient Emergency Grant Program, and a Pediatric Enrichment Program which offers stipends to assist college-bound patients as well as offering entertainment and cultural opportunities to patients nationwide. For more information on KUFA programs or to learn how to support this effort, log on to www.kidneyurology.org.

KUFA Scholarships

Kidney and Urology Foundation of America (KUFA) announces the of scholarships to support the academic goals for college-bound dialysis patients. Funds can support tuition or other educational needs. More information regarding this program can be obtained from KUFA at www.kidneyurology.org or (212) 629-9770.

KIDney NOTES

Bi-monthly Membership Newsletter of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology

Sandra L. Watkins, M.D., President
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Please contact committee chair(s) with suggestions or concerns:

Clinical Affairs: Barbara Fivush, Joseph Flynn, Steven Wassner

Public Policy: Eileen Brewer, John Foreman, Rick Kaskel

(Washington Representatives: Dominic Ruscio and Jennifer Shevchek)

Research: Vicky Norwood, Lisa Satlin

Training/Certification: Bruce Morgenstern, Kathy Jabs

Workforce: Uri Alon, Elaine Kamil

The newsletter is ONLY available through a broadcast e-mail message that will be sent to the membership and on the ASPN web site (www.aspneph.com).