To the TCH Department of Anesthesiology, TCH Community, and our Alumni and Friends:

With this inaugural Newsletter we hope to keep you updated on all of the exciting activities and accomplishments of the Department of Anesthesiology. With over 60 Pediatric Anesthesiologists, 20 CRNAs, 7 Fellows, and many more research and administrative staff, trainees, and TCH Hospital Advanced Practice Nursing colleagues performing over 38,000 anesthetics annually, the growth of the Department has been nothing short of amazing over my 10 years as Chief.

I would like to thank Mr. Mark Wallace, TCH President and CEO, Physician-in-Chief Dr. Mark Kline, Surgeon-in-Chief Dr. Charles Fraser, and Obstetrician-Gynecologist-in-Chief Dr. Michael Belfort for their support resulting in the elevation of the status of the Chief of Anesthesiology, to Anesthesiologist-in-Chief, along with In-Chief status for our hospital based colleagues in Pathology and Radiology. This new status is recognition of the crucial role Anesthesiology serves in the many areas of the hospital, both including and outside of the Pain Management, Critical Care, West Campus, and the future Woodlands Campus and CareFirst initiatives. It is also recognition of the academic and leadership accomplishments, and the crucial role Anesthesiology serves in the strategic planning of TCH. These include Dr. Nancy Glass current role as President of the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia, Dr. Emad Mossad as Vice President of the Congenital Cardiac Anesthesia Society, and Dr. Steve Stayer as the President of the TCH Medical Staff. The 3 major textbooks edited by our Department makes us unique among all Departments of Pediatric Anesthesiology in the U.S. Indeed the future is bright and I invite you to enjoy reading about the many activities and accomplishments of the Department of Anesthesiology.

Dean Andropoulos
PATIENT SATISFACTION POINT OF CARE SURVEY PILOT, STEPHEN STAYER, M.D.

Starting in August, our department has the honor of piloting a new patient satisfaction point-of-care survey. This pilot project is supported by Press Ganey and Patient and Family Services under the director of Sarah Maytum. An internal team comprised of Dr. Thomas Shaw, Dr. Imelda Tjia, Dr. Steve Stayer, Katie Hengstenberg, and Sara Sommers have developed a list of questions that directly relate to the patient's anesthesia experience. The Department of Patient and Family Services has provided iPads for families to use to complete the surveys. We are looking forward to gathering data to evaluate and improve the patient experience in each of our anesthetic locations!

A WORD FROM THE BCM ANESTHESIOLOGY CHAIR, MAYA SURESH, M.D.

Greetings! It is an honor to serve as Chairman of this illustrious and newly expanded department. It is an honor and pleasure to announce that the Section of Pediatric Anesthesiology will now be in the Department of Anesthesiology with the faculty having primary appointments in the Department of Anesthesiology. It is also a pleasure to announce that Dr. Dean Andropoulos will be the Vice Chair of Clinical Affairs. He was selected to serve in this position because of his proven record of strong leadership at Texas Children's Hospital, his national recognition in the field of Pediatric Anesthesiology and, above all, he is a visionary and will help advance the future anesthesia-related clinical activities at the McNair Campus. As we conclude another successful academic year and reflect back, I must state that I am very proud of our graduating Class of 2014. Each individual is unique, sincere, mature, and talented and has a bright future. I wish all of the graduates the very best in their future careers. Congratulations to everyone! Keep up the excellent work!
A number of very exciting actions are occurring within the Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology! Because of all of your accomplishments and the commitment to excellence, Dr. Mark Wallace recently announced the title change of our Department Head; Dean B. Andropoulos, M.D., will now serve as Anesthesiologist-in-Chief this change more appropriately reflects the scope of his responsibilities as well as the significance of Anesthesiology’s services, which is integral to the success of Texas Children’s.

Our department TCH and Baylor web pages are currently being updated and expanded. This renovation will allow patients and their families to get more information about anesthesia and what to expect, as well as, allow more traffic to our webpage. Thank you to all the physicians and staff who participated in taking photos for the websites and who have taken BCM Physician portraits. If you would like to participate in our updates to our webpage, we are calling for Blog Contributions; Having more blogs pointing to our website will also help us in Google rankings; topics to consider writing a blog post on are mission trips, anesthesia research and anesthesia safety. Please contact Sara Sommers or Karlisha Neal with your blog submissions.

We would like to take this time to extend a warm welcome to all of our new staff members. This is very exciting time of growth and development in the Department. Thank you all for your participation and cooperation in all department upcoming events.
Patients with neuromuscular scoliosis undergoing spine surgery are some of the most complex patients to manage in the perioperative period. Many of these patients suffer from Duchenne’s muscular dystrophy, Cerebral Palsy, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, just to name a few. These conditions are often associated with cardiomyopathies, pulmonary hypertension, seizure disorders, and malnutrition all of which can lead to increased morbidity and mortality. In order to optimize our patient outcomes, Texas Children’s Hospital has developed a multidisciplinary team to better care for this group of patients. Services involved include Neurosurgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Anesthesiology, Pulmonary medicine, Critical Care Medicine, Nutrition, Blood Bank/Transfusion Medicine, Neurology, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, and Nursing.

The Department of Pediatric Anesthesiology, led by Dr. Dean Andropoulos, is hoping that the formation of this multidisciplinary team will serve as a pilot to the formation of our own Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH). What happens all too often in the perioperative period is that patient care becomes variable. Patients can end up seeing lapses in care, duplication of tests and often times increases in morbidity if not mortality. The PSH addresses these issues by creating a model that is a patient-centered, physician led multidisciplinary coordinated care effort with the goals of improving patient health/outcomes, improved operational efficiencies, reduced resource utilization, and reduced costs. It will guide the patient through the entire surgical experience from decision for the need of surgery to discharge from the medical facility.

We believe that Anesthesiology will be at the forefront and lead this PSH model. Anesthesiologists are well suited to lead this effort as we have a global understanding of surgical knowledge, already care for patients in the perioperative period, work well across multiple specialties and are among the leaders in patient safety. The department of Anesthesiology at Texas Children’s Hospital is excited to take on this challenge and looks forward to improving the lives of the children we care for.

A CALL FOR ARTICLES!

Know of something that would be great content for the next quarterly newsletter? Let us know! You can email Karlisha Neal at ksneal@texaschildrens.org with your information.
Megan Koudelka, CRNA, recently graduated from University of Pennsylvania from the Master of Science of Nurse Anesthesia Program. She previously obtained her BSN degree from UT Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing. Megan also holds a B.S. Degree in Biomedical Sciences from Texas A&M University.

Laura Oates, CRNA received her MSN degree from the UT Health Science Center Houston in May 2014

Jennifer Esplana, CRNA completed her Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Anesthesia program in May 2014 from University of Texas Health Science Center where she also obtained her BS in Nursing in 2009.

Jamie Wingate, MD obtained her MD degree from The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio; completed Anesthesia Residency at John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD and recently finished Pedi CV Anesthesia Fellowship here in June 2014

Kenneth Wayman, MD obtained his MD degree from Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska; completed Anesthesia Residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda, CA, and recently finished Pedi Anesthesia Fellowship here in June 2013

Also, new to the Department....

Melanie McKissack, MD who completed her Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellowship here at Texas Children’s Hospital in June 2013 and Residency in Anesthesiology at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas in 2012. She obtained her Medical Degree in June 2008 from the University of Oklahoma, in Norman Oklahoma.

Titilopemi “Titi” Aina, MD, received her Medical Degree in May 2009, from University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Master of Public Health Degree also in May 2009, from University of Connecticut, Farmington, Connecticut. Dr. Aina completed her Anesthesia Residency program at University of Florida, Gainesville, FL in June 2013 and continued her training with a Pediatric Anesthesiology fellowship at Harvard University, Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, ending in July 2014.

Laura Ryan, MD, received her Medical Degree in June 2009, from University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas. Dr. Ryan completed an Anesthesiology and Pain Management Residency Program at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas in 2013. She continued her training with a Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellowship at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas in July 2014.
Toyin Olutoye, MD

The SPA Executive Committee selected and endorsed the decision to name Toyin Olutoye, MD as the new Chair of the Research Committee. There were other strong candidates for the position, but Toyin’s consistent attendance at meetings, her attention to details and deadlines, her mentoring experience, and her own academic productivity convinced the Committee that she was the best candidate for the job!

OTHER RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations! Imelda Tjia for her role as the lead author on the major review article in Anesthesia & Analgesia describing the Wake Up Safe organization of the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia

Erin A. Gottlieb, MD

Dr. Gottlieb is the recipient of the Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Faculty Excellence Award in the category of Enduring Educational Materials. Erin has written book chapters, review articles, and CME modules. Her book chapters appear in Miller’s Basics of Anesthesia, Anesthesia and Uncommon Diseases, Anesthesia for Congenital Heart Disease, and others.
Cardiac Kids Foundation

The Mission of the Cardiac Kids Foundation (CKF) of Florida is to provide assistance to families, and their children with heart disease. While helping many children and families, CKF also aims to create and support a sustainable center for the treatment of congenital cardiac disease in Kingston, Jamaica.

During the 2014 Mission, 11 cardiac surgeries and 9 cardiac catheterizations were performed.

The surgeries this year included 2 ventricular septal defect repairs, tetralogy of Fallot repair, Coarctation of the aorta repair, relief of right and left outflow tract obstruction, repair of obstructed totally anomalous pulmonary venous return, repair of truncus arteriosus, mitral valve repair, 2 atrioventricular canal repairs, and an aortic arch with mitral valve repair. The cardiac catheterization procedures included 3 patent ductus arteriosus closures, 2 pulmonary valvotomies and 4 diagnostic cardiac catheterizations.

This is accomplished by working alongside and teaching native Jamaican health care professionals. Currently, the local cardiac surgeon, Dr. Sherard Little, after working with CKF, has successfully performed multiple cardiac operations solo. For the more complex cases, our CKF surgeons assist and teach him. This mission included a dramatic increase in difficulty of the cases compared to previous years. This suggests that our previous effort in training local health care professionals has resulted in their ability to perform basic cases alone. Additionally many cardiologists and intensive care unit nurses have received training from American health care providers as well. The local staff has made enormous progress in learning to care for children with heart disease.

In addition we fund medical research, education, and charitable health care for children with heart disease through local charitable initiatives and lifesaving mission trips. Support is provided in the form of financial help and assistance to those families who cannot afford prescription medications post-surgery as well as travel related expenses for the related families of hospitalized children.

Our yearly Jamaican Mission Trip headed up by Dr. Jeffrey Jacobs and his team is currently responsible for saving the countless lives through his efforts. The Larry King Cardiac Foundation had been a huge supporter of these annual trips and we had appreciated this support.

Since our first trip to Jamaica in 2006, we have now operated on 95 children with cardiovascular disease in Jamaica.

Our slogan is:

10 lives per year times 20 years = 200 lives!!

Partnership, Teamwork, and Sustainability = Thousands of Lives!!

“Mission trips are not for the faint of heart or those not willing to adjust on the fly. There is a lot of “MacGyver” medicine… It is a tremendous opportunity for everyone involved and incredibly gratifying on a personal level to participate in these trips and I strongly encourage others to try and do the same”-Dr. David Vener
Wake up Safe (WUS) is certified by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality as a Patient Safety Organization. In order to improve processes of care and outcomes for newborns, infants, and children in the perioperative environment, WUS has developed an event registry. A reporting algorithm is used to identify which events to report. Included events are those that pose a threat to life, disability or harm to the patient, or significant escalation of care. Using the Healthcare Performance Improvement root cause analysis methodology together with the Improvement Model, WUS learns from the shared experience of the group in order to reduce the occurrence of serious adverse events and improve care in Pediatric Anesthesia.

Texas Children’s was one of the first hospitals to join and help establish Wake Up Safe in 2009. Today this PSO has captured 1705 events in over 1 million anesthetics. Safety Statement Alerts have been released regarding hyperkalemia, preventing wrong side procedures, and most recently decreasing the risks of intravenous medication errors. Dr. Steve Stayer, Dr. Imelda Tjia, and Dr. Toni Felberg have served as our delegates to WUS. Dr. Tjia was recently praised as the lead author on a major review article in Anesthesia & Analgesia, *Wake Up Safe and Root Cause Analysis: Quality Improvement in Pediatric Anesthesia.*

Currently the group’s focus is decreasing intravenous medication errors. Anesthesia is in a unique position to order, prepare, and also deliver medications to the pediatric patient. Therefore, medication errors are primarily within the control of the anesthesiologist. A key driver diagram was developed to guide this improvement initiative shown below. Our department began this improvement initiative in 2010 with the goal to eliminate IV medication errors. The first step was the standardization of labeling syringes and vials. We continue to make adjustments and are currently working on an additional PDSA cycle with the trial of a double check of high alert medications.

While only 0.009% of patients experienced an event resulting in harm in 2013, Wake Up Safe will continue working towards zero harm to children through collecting and analyzing events, making improvements, education, and elevating the culture of quality and safety among its participating institutions.
The department continues to lead a robust quality and safety culture. Several communication based initiatives are underway. The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare reports, “An estimated 80 percent of serious medical errors involve miscommunication between caregivers when patients are transferred or handed-off.” Michelle Dalton together with Imelda Tjia have spear headed the standardization of the PACU handoff using the newly distributed PACU memory aid. If you haven’t picked up your laminated badge copy, look for it in your mailbox! The OR-NICU Handoff team has been formed and looks forward to their first planning meeting July 25th. Project TAPE, the improvement initiative to decrease unplanned extubations during the handoff to PICU, led by Julia Chen continues to celebrate its success with zero unplanned extubations since 9/6/2013. That’s over 300 days!

Our department continues to partner with TCH to transform hospital culture to reduce harm. TCH has helped to lead the Children’s Hospitals’ Solutions for Patient Safety which includes 80 children’s hospitals who are committed to a 40% harm reduction in hospital-acquired conditions (HACs), a 20% reduction in readmissions and a 25% reduction in serious safety events (SSEs). Our department serves on the SSI, CLABSI, and Adverse Drug Events (ADE) HAC teams.

The long awaited survey from the Joint Commission concluding at the end of May was a great success. We thank the department for their commitment and attention to medication security and administration practices, data and outcomes, infection control practices and fire safety. This being the first survey as EPIC users, the JC had a few documentation recommendations. Kim Nguyen has worked tirelessly with our EPIC team to implement the “immediate pre-op assessment”, the “post anesthesia evaluation,” and the “Inpatient Follow-up Visit”. These changes will better reflect the safe practice and high quality of care provided by the department. Look for details via email from Kim Nguyen.
INTRODUCTIONS: 2014-2015 ANESTHESIOLOGY FELLOWS

Tricia Vecchoine, MD, MPH, recently completed an Anesthesiology Residency at Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York after an Internship in Internal Medicine at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. She received her BA, cum laude, in Chemistry and Psychology from the University of Rochester. She entered medical school at State University of New York-Downstate Medical School, receiving her MD and graduated with an MPH in Urban and Immigrant Health.

Dheeraj Goswami, MD recently completed a combined Anesthesiology Residency and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Fellowship at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland. Prior to his combined fellowship, he completed a Pediatric Residency at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. Dheeraj completed his undergraduate degree receiving a BS in Biology from Mary Washington College and MD degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Eric Vu, MD, recently completed an Anesthesiology Residency with Baylor College of Medicine following his medical school training at the University of Texas Medical Branch for his MD degree. Eric obtained a B.S. in Bioengineering at Rice University, magna cum laude with focus on cellular and molecular engineering.

Monte Chin, MD, MA, recently completed an Anesthesiology Residency from Baylor College of Medicine having completed 2 years of General Surgery in New York. He completed his undergraduate degree in Biology and received a MA degree from Hunter College New York and a finance degree from Baruch College in New York and receiving his MD degree at St. George’s University, Grenada, in the West Indies.

Faiz Nasser, MD recently completed an Anesthesiology Residency at University of Oklahoma and an Internship in General Surgery and a Urology Residency at University of Arizona. Faiz completed his undergraduate degree with a B.S. in Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior from the University of California; he entered medical school obtaining his MD degree at the University of Toledo being a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha.

Queenie Wilkins, MD recently completed her Anesthesiology Residency from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Queenie obtained her undergraduate degree with a B.S. in Biology from the University of Texas at Tyler and receiving her MD degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.
Congratulations
Graduating Class of 2014
2014 Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellow Graduates

Michael Baik, MD
Nathaniel Greene, MD
Andrea Goodrich, MD
Ashraf Resheidat, MD
Sheila Rajashekara, MD
Kenneth Wayman, MD
Jamie Wingate, MD

Future Plans of 2014 Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellow Graduates:

Michael Baik
Assistant Professor Department of Anesthesiology at NYU Langone Medical Center

Nathaniel Greene
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics at Duke Children’s University

Andrea Goodrich
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics at Duke Children's University

Ashraf Resheidat
Texas Children’s Hospital Cardiovascular Fellowship

Sheila Rajashekara
Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine Fellowship at Stanford Hospital & Clinic

Kenneth Wayman
Assistant Professor Department of Anesthesiology at Texas Children’s Hospital

Jamie Wingate
Assistant Professor Department of Anesthesiology at Texas Children’s Hospital
By The Numbers: Texas Children’s Pediatric Anesthesiology

Texas Children’s Pediatric Anesthesiology department’s mission is to provide children with the best possible experience during their visit. Our department has cutting-edge medical technology and state-of-the-art equipment to ensure each child receives the best quality care. Our robust Anesthesiology team and staff of 60 board-certified pediatric anesthesiologists have been specially trained to understand the specific and unique needs of children and their parents. It is no secret that all of our efforts are directed at caring for children.