

Research News

Newsletter of
The University of Kansas Medical Center
Department of Pediatrics



Update from the Research & Scholarship Committee

Ann McGrath Davis, Ph.D.
Behavioral Sciences

The Department of Pediatrics Research & Scholarship Committee meets regularly to promote research and scholarship within the department. As part of this mission, we have asked each division to meet with us to assess how we as a committee can better meet their needs. The first division to accept our invitation was Neonatology, and our discussion with Drs. Raghuvver and Clark was so fruitful, several new programs have been developed.

These programs are:

1. Research Mentoring – Because mentoring is such a key part of success in research and scholarship activities, and because mentors are often difficult to find, Drs. Belmont and Rapoff have volunteered to serve as mentors for anyone in the department who is interested. They can assist with concept development, grant writing, editorial review and submission procedures. Please contact them or the chair of the research committee for more information.
2. Document Editing/Review – The entire committee has volunteered to serve as reviewers for any protocol, proposal, article, talk, or other scholarly activity for anyone in the department. This may involve all members of the committee or a smaller subset. For more information or to receive these services contact the chair of the committee.
3. Grants File – Because examples are often helpful, the department has decided to compile examples of all funded grants that are submitted by pediatric faculty. This file will be kept by the chair of the committee and can be viewed by any interested party who is thinking of submitting a grant and wants to view a successful example.

In addition, the committee has recommended a candidate to the chair to serve in the Clinical Trials Coordinator position, **Dr. Jamie Young**. Dr. Young has her PhD in Occupational Therapy and has a great deal of grant writing and coordination experience. To assist Dr. Young with prioritizing clinical trials protocols, **Dr. Jo-Ann Harris** has been asked to form a Clinical Trials Subcommittee of the Research & Scholarship Committee. This subcommittee will review and prioritize all clinical trials that propose using Dr. Young as the coordinator.

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Division Highlights: The Mid-America Poison Control Center

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Each volume the Research News highlights a new division so we can all learn more about their research activities and interests. This volume the chosen division is the Mid-America Poison Control Center (MAPCC), the Poison Control Center for the State of Kansas located here at KUMed. Dr. Jennifer Lowry, Medical Director of MAPCC, is a pediatrician and faculty member in the KUMed Department of Pediatrics, and the only toxicologist in the State of Kansas. Also on the MAPCC team are 7 pharmacists and nurses who are trained as Specialists in Poison Information, and Carrie Evans, the Educator for MAPCC.

There are 60 poison control centers in the United States, and each state is covered by at least one poison control center. The only poison control center for the State of Kansas is MAPCC located here at KUMed in the Department of Pharmacy. Dr. Rick Couldry is Director of Pharmacy here at KUMed and is extremely supportive of MAPCC. The MAPCC is part of the American Association of Poison Control Centers, but is primarily funded by KU Hospital, but does receive some external grants. The center focuses on treating and tracking all poison exposure incidents, as well as providing education to health care professionals and the public. The toll-free number (1-800-222-1222) is staffed here at KUMed by a trained team of pharmacists and nurses 24 hours per day 365 days per year. The 60 centers communicate with each other regularly and are all coordinated in their care of the public and health care professionals. This national model works so well that the CDC has recommended other health care entities use it as a model for other care and tracking systems.

Because all poison exposure incidents are logged into a national database, research is consistently in progress at MAPCC. According to Dr. Lowry, anyone interested in utilizing the national database for research purposes may do so with their collaboration. With the increase awareness of terrorist threat, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness Program has contracted with the MAPCC to educate health professionals and the public on chemical exposures in Kansas and pesticide safety issues. This includes information on their website (www.kumed.com/poison) on the most commonly used and toxic chemicals, as well as a mini-symposium to be held later this summer. Dr. Lowry reports that they also frequently work with other divisions at the KDHE on research issues regarding epidemiology of poison exposures.

Currently, one of the exciting projects is the Mid-America Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (MAPEHSU). This grant was funded by the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to increase awareness and knowledge of pediatric environmental health. The MAPEHSU team includes Dr. H. William Barkman, Co-Director, Dr. Jennifer Lowry, Co-Director, Dr. Kathryn Veal, Pediatrician, Mary G. Walker, Project Coordinator and Educator and the MAPCC staff. The MAPEHSU staff can be contacted using the region toll-free number (1-800-421-9916). Their web address is: www2.kumc.edu/mapeshu.

As part of MAPEHSU, Dr. Kathryn Veal submitted a research project on the effect of schoolyard exposure to diesel school bus emissions on pediatric respiratory health to The Department of Pediatrics Research & Scholarship Committee and was one of only two funded proposals. Drs. Lowry and Veal are frequently invited to provide presentations regarding pediatric environmental health throughout the region. Finally, MAPEHSU also frequently applies for educational grants, and recently submitted a grant to host a Pediatric Environmental Health Conference for medical professionals on December 9, 2005 on the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, MO.

Current Pediatric Grants

Ahluwalia, J. (PI), & Kaur, H. (Co-Investigator)
08/01 - 06/05
"Helping African-American Light Smokers Quit"
NIH/ NCI - Total direct costs: \$1,604,016

Barnard, M (PI) "Writing Interventions for Teens
Whose Parents Have Cancer"
Turning Points – Total direct costs: \$5,000
07/01/04 - 09/30/05

Barkley, H.W., Lowry, J., Veal, K., Pierce, J.T.
02/01/04 – 01/31/07
"Development of the Region VII Pediatric
Environmental Health Specialty Unit at the University
Of Kansas Medical Center"
AOEC & ATSDR – Total costs: \$128,000/yr

Casey, J. (PI), Delrosario, G. (Co-PI)
"The Genetics and Neurendocrinology of Short Stature
International Study"
Eli Lilly and Company – Total Direct Costs \$26,026
02/21/02-12/31/05

Casey, J. (PI)
"Growth Hormone Study"
Genentech Inc. – Total Direct Costs \$11,800

Casey, J. (PI)
"Kabi International Growth Study"
Pharmacia Upjohn – Total Direct Costs \$5,100

Clark, P (PI)
"Sensoimotor Control of the Human Orofacial System"
NIH on Deafness and Other Communications
Total Direct Costs \$76,671

Cocjin, J (PI)
"Peds GI"
KU Children's Telethon – Total Direct Costs \$10,000

Davis, A.M. (PI)
"Enhancing Nutrition and Activity of Rural Children"
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease
Total Direct Costs \$566,721

Human Subjects Committee Information

Deadline**	Meeting
July 1	July 12
July 15	July 26
July 29	August 9
August 12	August 23
September 2	September 13
September 16	September 27
September 30	October 11

all deadlines are at **noon**

* **Office is G006 Sudler.***

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

For more information, go to

[http://www2.kumc.edu/researchcompliance/fo
rms/](http://www2.kumc.edu/researchcompliance/fo
rms/) or call 913-588-1240.

Davis, K. (PI)

"Connected Kansas Kids: Connecting Schools and Students with Special Health Needs"

Kan-Ed - Total direct costs: \$100,000

** see website at www.connectedkansaskids.com

Ellerbeck, K. (PI), Reese, M. (Co-Investigator) & Jacobson, J. (Co-Investigator)

"Sex Differences in Autism: Potential Role of Oxytocin Signaling" 02/01/05-02/01/07

Cure Autism Now (CAN) Foundation – Total direct costs: \$120,000

Huang TTK & Kaur, H. (Co-Investigator)

"Monitoring University Students Tackling Diabetes and Obesity (MUST DO)" 7/1/03 - 6/30/05

American Heart Association (Heartland Affiliate) - Total direct costs: \$100,000

Johnson, C. (PI), Richman, D.

"Leadership education in neurodevelopmental disabilities." 07/00 - 06/05

Maternal and Child Health Bureau - Total costs: \$2,675,000

Li, C & Kaur, H. (Co-Investigator)

1/1/04 - 12/31/05

"Influences of Fetal Environment & Growth in Childhood on the Onset of Overweight in Adolescence"

American Heart Association (Heartland Affiliate) – Total direct costs: \$143,000

Kanarek, J (PI)

"Cystic Fibrosis" 07/01/04-06/30/05

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – total Direct Costs \$49,727

Lindsley, C (PI)

"Juvenile RH North Short Long Island Jewish Health" 07/29/03-12/31/08

Total Direct Costs \$390

Lowry, J (PI)

"Poison Control Stabilization and Enhance" 08/31/04-08/30/05

Poison Control Center – Total Direct Costs \$288,591

Nelson, E. (PI) 04-05

"Teaching Tool for Cultural Competence, Aetna Foundation Regional Community Health"

TeleKidcare - Total direct costs: \$40,000.

Poston, C. (PI), Kaur, H. (PI on KU Subcontract) 06/03 - 05/08

"An Analysis of Environmental Risk Factors for Obesity"

NIH/ NIDDK - Total direct costs:

\$2,489,343

Annual Meeting - MWSPR

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Society for Pediatric Research will be held October 20–21 in St. Louis jointly with Washington University Department of Pediatrics. This meeting will offer a broad presentation of clinical and basic pediatric research, representing most academic institutions throughout the geographical Midwest. We trust that there will be topics of interest to everyone!

Abstract Deadline – July 18, 2005

See http://www.apspr.org/Regional_Societies/MWSPR/Meeting.htm for more information.

Olson, N (PI)
“Allergy Immunology Rheumatology
Pharmacia Cor – Total Direct Costs \$9,375 02/18/03-12/31/05

Olson, N (PI)
Clinical Trial
Abbott Labs – Total Direct Costs \$41,419 01/17/03-12/31/05

Rapoff, M. (PI), Belmont, J. & Knobler, S. (Co-Investigators)
"Headstrong Intervention for Recurrent Pediatric Headache"
R01, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke-Total Costs: \$563,090 07/04 – 06/07

Sahgal, N. (PI)
“Fetal Regulation of Placental Biology”
NICHD : K08 HD 42171 Total Direct Costs \$378,126 04/02 - 03/07

Shaw, P (PI)
“An Oral Health Program for Kansas”
United Methodist Health Ministry Fund – Total Direct Costs \$35,000 09/01/03-08/31/05

Staker, M. (PI)
“Literacy education to Parents of Young Children”
American Express Foundation – Total Costs: \$ 30,000

Staker, M. (Co-PI) & Carta, J. (Co-PI)
“Early Reading First”
Department of Education – Total Costs: \$ 2.8 Million

Recent Pediatric Publications

Al-Shaer, M.H., Raghuveer, G., Browning, R., Sinkey, C.A., Chenard, C., Stumbo, P. & Haynes, W.G. (2005). Effect of hyperhomocysteinemia induced by methionine administration on flow-mediated dilation of the brachial artery in healthy subjects. *The American Journal of Cardiology*, 95, 428-430.

Brion, L.C., Bell, E.F. & **Raghuveer, T.S.** (2005). Variability in the dose of intravenous vitamin e given to very low birth weight infants. *Journal of Perinatology*, 25, 139-142.

Hyman, P.E. & Danda, C.E. (2005). Orthostatic intolerance and the biopsychosocial model. *Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition*, 40, 000-000.

Hyman, P. & Cocjin, J. (2005). Colon motility during a panic attack. *Psychosomatic Medicine*, 67, 000-000.

Page-Goertz, S. (2005). Weight gain concerns in the breastfed infant. *Advance for Nurse Practitioners*.

GCRC Update

The GCRC is actively seeking applications from current and future researchers. **Also, please note that the GCRC will now accept clinical trials applications!** The next submission deadline for GCRC applications is **July 5, 2005**. The next meeting for review will be **July 27, 2005**. For more information, see the GCRC website at <http://www2.kumc.edu/researchinstitute/cra/gcrc.html>.