

# Research News

*Newsletter of*  
**The University of Kansas Medical Center**  
**Department of Pediatrics**

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## **NIH Tips for New Researchers**

(<http://www.nigms.nih.gov/Research/Application/Tips.htm> Accessed 10.1.07)

### **First Steps**

1. Find out about the institutional support that is available to you (such as a startup package).
2. Broaden your vision beyond that which you had as a student.
3. Seek mentoring.
4. Instead of feedback, try "feed forward." (This approach, put forth by Dr. Keith Yamamoto of the University of California, San Francisco, involves asking three senior colleagues to act as your "grant committee" and discussing your ideas for the application with them before starting the writing process. Next, write one page of three to five specific aims and discuss these with the committee before beginning to write the body of the application. Thus, by the time you tackle the bulk of the writing, the organization and content of your proposal have received fairly detailed scrutiny and critical consideration.)

### **Start Work**

5. Have a good idea!
6. Establish your independence as an investigator.
7. Generate preliminary data.
8. Enlist collaborators and include letters that clearly spell out the collaborations in your proposal.
9. Look at successful proposals of colleagues in your field.
10. Contact NIH by Web and by phone to reach people who want to help you.

### **Start Writing**

11. Prepare your proposal early--well before the deadline. Do not rush!
12. Make your first proposal your best proposal. Convey your confidence and enthusiasm for the project.
13. Do your homework and know the literature and issues, questions, and controversies in your area.
14. Place your work in perspective. Cite others. If there are two camps, make sure you cite both sides.
15. Make your priorities clear. Provide a timeline.
16. Be focused.
17. Discuss potential problems and pitfalls. Describe alternate strategies.
18. Carefully consider your funding needs. Start with personnel--you will need to explain fully the role of each person on the grant. Review the NIH modular grant rules, which specify that you must request

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funds in \$25,000 modules and which do not permit increments for inflation in the "out-years." In order to arrive at an appropriate bottom-line figure, you will have to treat the budget as a 4- or 5-year budget; you should get expert assistance in this preparation. Although you will not have to detail budgetary needs, keep in mind that the reviewers will judge your competence, in part, by how well your funding request matches the scope of the project.

19. Use a clear and concise writing style.
20. Proofread! Have zero tolerance for typographical errors, misspellings, or sloppy formatting.
21. Critique your own proposal.
22. Have others read your final draft, as well.

#### **After Review**

23. Remember that reviewers and the NIH program directors who influence funding decisions usually try to give new investigators a break.
24. If you are not funded the first time around, revise your application carefully. Consult your program director for advice.
25. If you are funded, be sure to talk with your program director at least once a year to discuss your progress.

### **Human Subjects offers FREE consultation service**

The Human Research Protection Program is pleased to offer **Consultation Appointments**, to assist investigators, coordinators, residents, and students with pre-review and other questions about HSC submissions. Half-hour appointments will be offered during the following times:

Mondays: 11am - 1pm.

Wednesdays: 11am - 1pm.

Fridays: 2pm - 3pm.

(Other times as requested)

You may use the 30-minute time slot for any of the following:

- Help in evaluating the feasibility of a project and possible regulatory implications
- Pre-review of your draft HSC application, protocol and consent form
- Assistance with answering provisos
- General questions about HSC and other regulatory requirements

These consultation services previously have been offered on an informal basis. We've consistently seen that they are helpful in early identification of issues that could delay HSC review and in generally streamlining the review path. We encourage investigators and study coordinators to take advantage of this special service, in addition to our regular office hours of 8am - 4:30pm.

To schedule an appointment, please contact Karen Blackwell at 588-0942 or [kblackwe@kumc.edu](mailto:kblackwe@kumc.edu)

### **An Email regarding the KUMC Human Subjects Committee**

To KUMC Researchers:

KUMC is developing a **second** Human Subjects Committee to meet the needs of our growing research program and fulfill accreditation requirements. The current HSC meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. The additional HSC will meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

Proposals will be assigned for committee review based upon the research topic. At this time, adult oncology and interventional cardiology will be assigned to 2nd and 4th weeks. As new members are recruited, both committees will be available for all studies. When you submit a study, we will let you know the date of your review.

We are very appreciative of your colleagues who share significant time and expertise as HSC members to make this endeavor possible. This second HSC is one component of a strategy to significantly enhance services to researchers. Many enhancements are planned, and we will be updating you over the next few months.

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## Current Pediatric Grants/Contracts Fiscal Year 2007

Barkley, H.W., Lowry, J., Veal, K. 2007-2010  
“Development of the Region VII PEHSU at KUMC.”  
AOEC, Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry – Total direct costs: \$128,000 annually

**Barnard, M (PI)** 07/01/04-8/31/07  
“Writing Interventions for Teens whose Parents Have Cancer”  
Turning Points – Total direct costs: \$5,000

**Davis, A.M. (PI)** 4/15/05-04/14/10  
“Enhancing Nutrition and Activity of Rural Children”  
NIH/NIDDK - Total direct costs: \$566,721

**Davis, A.M., (Co-Investigator)** 12/31/06-12/31/09  
“Effectiveness of a Treatment of Pediatric Obesity”  
DHHS - Total costs: \$737,466

**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](http://www.connectedkansaskids.com)

**Ellerbeck, Kathryn (PI)** 12/31/07-  
“Sex Differences in Autism: Potential Role of Oxytocin Signaling”  
Cure Autism Now Foundation - Total direct cost: \$27,612

**Hetu, C (PI), Hyman, P (Co-PI), Harris, (Co-PI)** 7/1/07-6/30/08

“Effect of Rooibos Tea on Infant Colic”

Children’s Miracle Network - \$9,300

**Johnson, C. (PI)**

7/1/06-6/30/08

“Pediatric Consultation, PKU, Seizure, Rheumatology/Cardiology Outreach”

KDHE - Total direct costs: \$125,362

**Johnson, C. (PI)**

7/01/07 – 6/30/08

“Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs – Clinic Support”

KDHE - Total direct costs: \$147,247

**Johnson, Chet (PI)**

7/01/07 – 6/30/08

“Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs – Outreach Services”

KDHE - -Total direct costs: \$142,502

**Lowry, J. (PI)**

9/1/2005-8/31/07

“Poison Control Stabilization and Enhance”

Poison Control Center – Total direct costs: \$161,566

**Lowry, J. (PI)**

8/31/06-8/31/07

“Mid America Poison Control Center – Support of Center”

KDHE - Total direct costs: \$134,000

**Lindsley, C. (PI)**

7/29/03-12/31/08

“Juvenile RH North Short Long Island Jewish Health”

Total direct costs: \$390

**Nelson, E. (PI)**

2006-2008

“Teaching Tool for Cultural Competence, Aetna Foundation Regional Community Health”

TeleKidcare - Total direct costs: \$40,000

**Okonkwo, K. (PI)**

7/1/07-6/30/08

“Cerebral Microvascular Acclimatization to Chronic Systemic Hypoxia: The Role of Nitric Oxide Synthase (iNOS) Upregulation”

Children’s Miracle Network - \$5,350

**Peacock, G & Nelson, E. (Co-Investigators)**

7/1/06-6/30/08

Implementing the American Academy of Pediatrics Attention-Deficity/Hyperactivity Disorder Diagnostic Guidelines in a School-based Telemedicine Clinic.

Children’s Miracle Network-\$9,980

**Rapoff, M (PI) & Wasson, MC (Co-PI)**

7/1/06-6/30/08

“A minimal contact cognitive-behavioral intervention for pediatric functional gastrointestinal disorders: A pilot study of Gutstrong.”

Children’s Miracle Network - \$9,963

**Raghuveer, T. (PI)**

9/1/02-1/31/08

“Do Dietary components influence the severity of oxygen-induced vascular pathology in newborn rat retina”

KUMC School of Medicine Bridging Grant - \$10,000

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Reese, R.M. (PI)</b><br>“Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities”<br>HRSA - Total direct costs: \$ 523,571   | 7/01/07 – 6/30/08   |
| <b>Reese, R.M. (PI)</b><br>“Combining Technologies to Maximize Outcomes: Online and Telemedicine Training Program for Parents of Children with Autism.”<br>U.S. Dept of Education – Total direct costs: \$125,009 | 9/01/97-8/31/08     |
| <b>Reese, R.M. (Co-Investigator)</b><br>“Administration on Developmental Disabilities”<br>Department of Health and Human Services - Total direct costs: \$116,914   | 7/01/07 – 6/30/08   |
| <b>Reese, R.M. (PI)</b><br>“Kansas Institute for Positive Behavioral Support”<br>University of Kansas Center for Research. Total direct costs: \$8,430  | 11/01/06 – 10/31/07 |
| <b>Scheinman, Jon (PI)</b><br>“Effect of Pyridoxamine in Oxalate excretion in Stone Diseases and Hyperoxaluria”<br>NIH - Medical City Dallas Hospital. Total direct costs: \$286,130                              | 9/1/06-8/31/08      |
| <b>Scotten, M. (Co-Investigator)</b><br>“Cystic Fibrosis”<br>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – Total direct costs: \$49,070  | 7/1/05-6/30/08      |
| <b>Shaw, P (PI)</b><br>“An Oral Health Program for Kansas”<br>United Methodist Health Ministry Fund – Total direct costs: \$27,968  | 9/1/05-8/31/07      |
| <b>Staker, M. (PI)</b><br>“Project HOPE”<br>KDHE - \$98,034   | 7/07 – 6/08         |
| <b>Staker, M. (PI)</b><br>“Healthy Start”<br>Maternal Child Health Coalition - \$175,000  | 6/07 – 5/08         |
| <b>Staker, M. (PI)</b><br>“Centralized Intake and Referral System<br>DHHS/HRSA/MCHB/Healthy Tomorrows - \$250,000   | 3/04 – 2/09         |
| <b>Staker, M. (Co-PI) &amp; Carta, J. (Co-PI)</b><br>“Early Reading First”<br>Department of Education – \$2.8 Million   | 9/04 – 8/07         |
| <b>Staker, M. (Co-PI) &amp; Abbott, M. (Co-PI)</b><br>“Early Reading First”<br>Department of Education – \$3.4 Million  | 9/07 – 8/10         |

**Staker, M. (PI)** 9/07 – 9/08

“Early Childhood Professional Development Program”  
Mid-America Regional Council/Department of Education – \$120,000

**Staker, M. (PI)** 7/07 - 6/08

“Healthy Families”  
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS - \$141,522

**Staker, M. (PI)** 9/06 - 6/08

“Crossroads to Early Language and Literacy”  
Sub-contract from USD 500 - \$15,546

**Staker, M. (PI)** 1/07 - 12/07

“Early Childhood Comprehensive Planning”  
Kansas Children’s Cabinet - \$10,000

**Staker, M. (PI)** 2007-2011

“SPARC Family Literacy Leadership Team Training”  
Sponsored by the National Head Start Family Literacy Center – travel reimbursement

**Tancabelic, J (PI)** 7/1/07-6/30/08

“Evaluating the Presence of Vitamin D receptor, Caspase 3 and Ki67 (MIB-1) in Human Osteocarcoma”  
Children’s Miracle Network - \$5000.

## **Current Pediatric Clinical Trials**

**Casey, J. (PI), Delrosario, G. (Co-PI)**

“The Genetics and Neurendocrinology of Short Stature International Study”  
Eli Lilly and Company –

**Casey, J. (PI)**

“Growth Hormone Study”  
Genentech Inc.

**Casey, J. (PI)**

“Kabi International Growth Study”  
Pharmacia Upjohn

**Casey, J. (PI)**

“Natural History Study Development of Type I Diabetes”  
NIH-TrialNet

**Harris, J (PI)**

“A Phase III, Randomized, Multinational Study, Double-Blinded for the Immunogenicity and Consistency Evaluation of 3 Hib-MenCy\_TT Vaccine Lots in Healthy Infants 2, 4, 6, and 12 to 15 Months of Age”  
GlaxoSmithKline

**Harris, J (PI)**

“Open Randomized, Multicenter Study of the Safety, Tolerability and Immunogenicity of VAQTA given concomitantly with PedvaxHIB and Infanrix in Healthy Children 15 months of age”

Merck

**Hyman, P. (PI)**

Safety, Efficacy, and Pharmacokinetics of Lubiprostone in Pediatric Patients with Constipation”

Sucampo

**Hyman, P. (PI), Harris, J. and Hetu, C. (Co-PI)**

Effect of Rooibos Tea on Infant Colic

Children’s Miracle Network

**Lowry, Jennifer (PI)**

“Surveillance of the RADARS 7 by Poison Control Centers”

Denver Health and Hospital Authority

**Olson, N (PI)**

“Allergy Immunology Rheumatology”

Pharmacia Corp

**Scheinman, Jon (PI)**

“Focal Glomerulosclerosis Trial”

St. Joseph Hospital Medical Center

**Trueworthy, Robert (PI)**

“Children’s Oncology Group”

National Childhood Cancer Foundation Total

## **Most Recent Pediatric Publications**

DelRosario, G. (2007). Balancing act: Optimize care for children with hearing and vestibular deficits. *Advance for Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists*. August 6, 2007.

Page-Goertz, S. (2007). Breakthrough breastfeeding strategies: Practical advice for time-pressed NPs. *Advance for Nurse Practitioners*. 15(8): 45-53.

Rapoff, M.A., & Lindsley, C.B. (2007, May 18). Improving adherence to medical regimens for juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. *Pediatric Rheumatology*, 5:10 Retrieved May 31, 2007, from <http://www.ped-rheum.com/content/5/1/10>.

Shastri, N. (2007). Picture of the month: Holt Oram Syndrome. *Archives of Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine*, 161(7), 711.

Shastri, N & Espinosa, C. (2007). Photoclinic: Epidermal inclusion cysts. *Consultant for Pediatricians*.

## **Odds & Ends**

- Kathy Davis successfully defended her dissertation this quarter and received her Ph.D. Congratulations Dr. Davis!
- Kathy Davis was chosen to be the U.S. delegate to the 2007 International Bone and Joint Decade conference. Delegates are selected from around the world to attend the conference in Queensland, Australia, to be held October 10 – 14, 2007. Kathy will be representing educational and palliative care interests of children and adolescents with diagnoses that affect musculoskeletal health. In addition, Kathy will be on the planning committee for the 2009 International Bone and Joint Decade meeting, to be held in Washington, D.C.
- Connected Kansas Kids (CKK) is offering a new program for high school students throughout the state of Kansas who are interested in careers in health care. *Connecting Kansas Kids with E-Mentors* is a program which will pair juniors and seniors in advanced science courses with mentors from KU Medical Center. KUMC mentors will include faculty, nurses, allied health professionals and students in medicine, nursing and allied health. Please contact Kathy Davis if you are interested in the opportunity to be a mentor, via e-mail, to a prospective future colleague!
- *Live from the Operating Room* is a new project under construction by Connected Kansas Kids (CKK). The goal is to offer high school students, enrolled in advanced science courses, the opportunity to view live broadcasts of surgeries via interactive televideo. Students will have the opportunity to interact with the surgeon, anesthesiologist, nurse circulator, scrub nurse and other operating room staff. This “virtual job shadowing” will offer students who are interested in careers in health care the opportunity to gain valuable information about various careers.
- Dr. Veal was just renamed to America’s Top Pediatricians for 2007. Congratulations Dr. Veal!
- Congratulations to Drs. Jo-Ann Harris and Jamie Young who have received a Clinical Trial from Merck and Company. The study is "An Open, Randomized, Multicenter Study of the Safety, Tolerability and Immunogenicity of VAQTA Given Concomitantly with PedvaxHIB and Infanrix in Healthy Children 15 months of Age."