



Roshan George, MD
Editor, KIDneyNotes

From the Editor's Desk

A new year is both a time for retrospection and new resolve. A turning point of sorts, which rests on our own decisions and actions. What better time than now, to examine our thoughts and our daily interactions. In this beautiful perspectives piece which profoundly touches our hearts and minds, and spurs us to action, Dr. Marva Moxey-Mims helps us reflect on these momentous times, and gives us hope for a way forward.

As always, please send in your thoughts and ideas for this section, or your own "perspectives" piece.

As I put together this final editorial note, I cannot help but marvel at the magnitude of everything I have learned from all of you. My deepest gratitude for allowing me the honor of serving as the editor of Kidney Notes as well as for all your support and unwavering encouragement through the years.

I bid adieu to this role, but you will see me serving ASPN in other capacities, so please do continue to keep in touch. I am delighted to pass the baton to our fantastic new editorial team. Congratulations and welcome!

Take care all,
Roshan

Roshan George, MD
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Introducing the ASPN Kidney Notes Editorial Board

Introducing the ASPN Kidney Notes Editorial Board

Chief Editor: Dr. Radha Gajjar

Associate Editor: Dr. Sudha Mannemuddhu

Section Editor: Dr. Raja Dandamudi



Dr. Radha Gajjar (Chief Editor)

I am an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at Weill Cornell Komansky Children's Hospital in New York City. My primary interest is in CKD and transplant, as well as medical education. I have two energetic, spirited children, aged 1 and 3, who currently take up every moment that I'm not working or sleeping. We spend our free time at the playground with friends, or exploring other kid friendly activities in the city. I'm excited about this opportunity to serve the ASPN and Pediatric Nephrology community and look forward to hearing from you all over the next two years.

Dr. S. Sudha Mannemuddhu (Associate Editor)

My name is S. Sudha Mannemuddhu. I am a pediatric nephrologist at East Tennessee Children's Hospital and Clinical Asst. professor at The University of Tennessee at Knoxville. I like nephrology as a whole but am a huge fan of fluids, electrolytes, and acid-base balance, and the transition of care. My newfound love is TMA. I love Medical Education and FOAMed (Free Open Access Medical Education). I enjoy teaching patients, families and developing kid-friendly infographics. I enjoy painting, 'Powerpointing' (yes, it's a verb in my world), and cooking. I look forward to serving on the KIDney notes editorial committee.



Dr. Raja Dandamudi (Section Editor)

My name is Raja Dandamudi and I am currently working as Assistant Professor in Pediatrics at St. Louis Children's Hospital/Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. I received medical degree from the NTR University of Health sciences/Siddhartha Medical College, Pediatrics degree from the University of the West Indies and Nephrology fellowship from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. I am passionate about patient care and clinical research in kidney transplant and I enjoy road trips and spending time with family.

□



Marva Moxey-Mims, MD, FASN

*Professor of Pediatrics
The George Washington University
School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Chief, Division of Nephrology
Children's National Hospital*

Tackling Bias – The Power of One

As we start 2022, it is difficult not to reflect on the past 2 years, rather than just the past year. Specifically, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our previously normal daily routines. That disrupted, seemingly slow motion, and isolated time certainly allowed for people to focus on injustices documented on social media that then spread to traditional media. The fallout from the murder of George Floyd was emblematic of a new type of social movement with diverse support. The widespread calls for social change through protests and marches were certainly effective in raising the public consciousness about institutional bias. Unfortunately, we in medicine are not immune to such bias and also needed to hear the clarion call. While participation in large-scale social movements is laudable and necessary in order to realize political and institutional change, there are things we can and should do individually. I borrowed the phrase “The Power of One” above from an award given monthly at Children’s National Hospital to recognize individuals who perform their job at the highest level. It made me think about what we can each do beyond marching in support of anti-hate groups, letter writing to political representatives, participating in White Coats for Black lives, etc. And I thought about our interactions with our patients and their families on a daily basis. What do we see when someone different from us sits in the examination or consultation room? What do we focus on? Their skin color? Their obesity? Their clothing? Their educational level? And based on that focus, do we convey disdain, or perhaps more subtle forms of judgement without consideration of how our body language or words might make them feel uncomfortable? Do we think, or even say to others, “**These / those** people...(fill in the blank)”.

Not to sound like a nerd, but what came to mind was the movie, Avatar (2009). The Na’vi use the greeting “I see you” to mean so much more than we do. They mean that they truly see a person, not just physically, but understand them as a whole. Could we try to truly “see / understand” our patients and contextualize their need within their life experience? Even if we can’t directly relate, can we still show empathy, or at the very least, could we refrain from judgement? Can we look internally, and recognize our personal biases and make a conscious effort to overcome them? Just think of the ripple effect if we each can do this with even a fraction of our patients. The goodwill that patients will feel when they know that we are trying to “see” them is immeasurable. Maybe even adherence would improve! So that’s my resolution for 2022 – to try and truly “see” my patients, and make sure that they feel “seen”. I hope that some of you will join me.

***“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel.”*** Maya Angelou

***If you want to make the world a better place
Take a look at yourself and then make a change*** Michael Jackson, Man in The Mirror

ASPEN Corporate Liaison Board



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Please send us (info@asneph.org) announcements and photos of pediatric nephrologists receiving awards, giving important lectures and news of other accomplishments so we can share them in *KidneyNotes*.



Committee Updates

Research Committee

The goals of the Research Committee have long focused on supporting and fostering a robust research environment amongst our members and the larger pediatric nephrology community. In 2021, Research Committee leadership launched three new subcommittees that focus on key areas of support for the greater ASPN research community: **Education**, **Mentorship**, and **Community Outreach (CORE)**.

In this edition of Kidney Notes, we want to highlight the CORE subcommittee's efforts. Our primary goal is to provide a greater awareness and accessibility to research within our field, with a particular focus on highlighting trainee and junior faculty accomplishments. In addition to recognizing exciting research advances, there are also opportunities to foster intra-community collaboration and encourage trainee engagement and recruitment into pediatric nephrology research.

Since the summer of 2021, CORE has been working hard to increase awareness of pediatric nephrology research through multiple social media initiatives. Our launch event promoted pediatric nephrology related research at ASN's Kidney Week 2021. Working closely with the Communication Committee, we promoted relevant Kidney Week programming on the social media platforms Twitter and Instagram through the social media tag #ASNKids21. We facilitated "live-tweeting" of relevant sessions and highlighted trainee research through the tag #TweetMeThroughYourPoster. Our initiative was a huge success, providing crucial exposure for ASPN and engaging many researchers and clinicians in both pediatric and adult nephrology, as well as the broader research community. As an example, over the first three days of ASN, #ASNKids21 received 4 million impressions with over 250 participants on Twitter.

Building off the successes and lessons learned from the Kidney Week #ASNKids21 campaign, we are launching several new initiatives in the spring of 2022, which will highlight the amazing work that our research colleagues are doing through regular social media posts. We are particularly interested in getting to know the people behind the research and learning about what drives them. We are also continuing to work with other ASPN committees in shared areas of interest as a resource to foster collaborations within (and beyond) ASPN to promote pediatric nephrology related research.

We would love to work with you! If you are interested in getting involved in these exciting initiatives, please feel free to email us at ResearchCommChair@aspneph.org. Please follow ASPN Research on Twitter (@ASPNResearch) for updates on Research Committee initiatives and exciting research updates!

PS-Interested in being more involved in social media, but not sure where to start? Check out last month's KidneyNotes (link: <https://bit.ly/3ffm9aR> - pp. 5-7) for an excellent primer and tutorial on getting started.

ASPN Research Committee- Collaboration and Outreach Subcommittee (CORE)

Mission Statement:

Support the ASPN Research Committee by promoting research efforts and facilitating collaboration to benefit the pediatric nephrology community

Goals:

1. Promote and highlight the research efforts of the greater pediatric nephrology community.
2. Serve as a resource for ASPN members to advance research collaborations in the pediatric nephrology community.
3. Promote awareness and access to research resources for ASPN members, trainees, and the pediatric nephrology community.
4. Liaise with other ASPN Committees and external organizations to facilitate collaboration with the Research Committee.
5. Enhance social and traditional media platform utilization to achieve the Sub-Committee's goals.

ASPN Research Committee-CORE Upcoming Initiatives:

Planned Rollout

Twice-monthly social media post highlighting & promoting ASPN member research output & accomplishments

1st quarter 2022

Twice-monthly social media post highlighting and promoting the broader pediatric nephrology community's research output and accomplishments

1st quarter 2022

Every-other-month 15-min live social media chat to spotlight an ASPN member's research summary of their work and Q&A session (similar in concept to Hypertension's High Impact Author #HYPHIP live Twitter chats)

1st half 2022

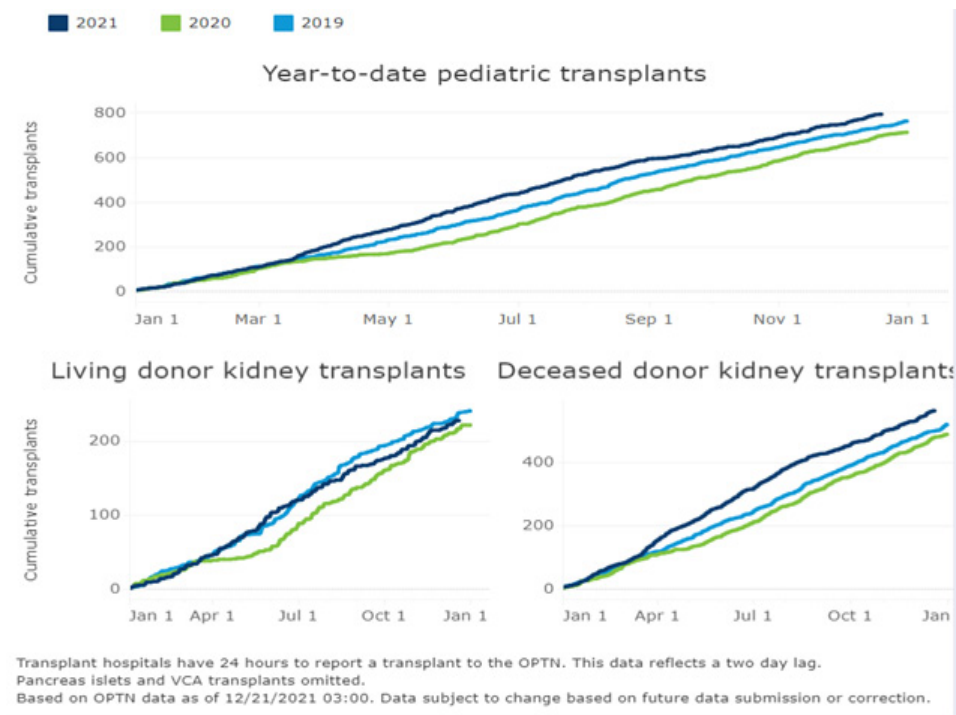
Reported by Scott Wenderfer, on behalf of the ASPN Research Committee

Committee Updates

Transplantation Update

OPTN/UNOS NEWS:

Children continue to benefit from new kidney allocation policy to remove DSA and Regions that went into effect on March 14, 2021. As seen below, children have seen clear and sustained benefit from broader sharing and living donation rates are back to the level of that seen in 2019 pre COVID! The only exception is the Mid Atlantic region which has not seen an increase in pediatric kidney transplant rates. Living donation rates remain lower than they were a decade ago.



You can visit this site <https://unos.org/covid/> and see how children in your Region are doing under the new circle-based allocation.

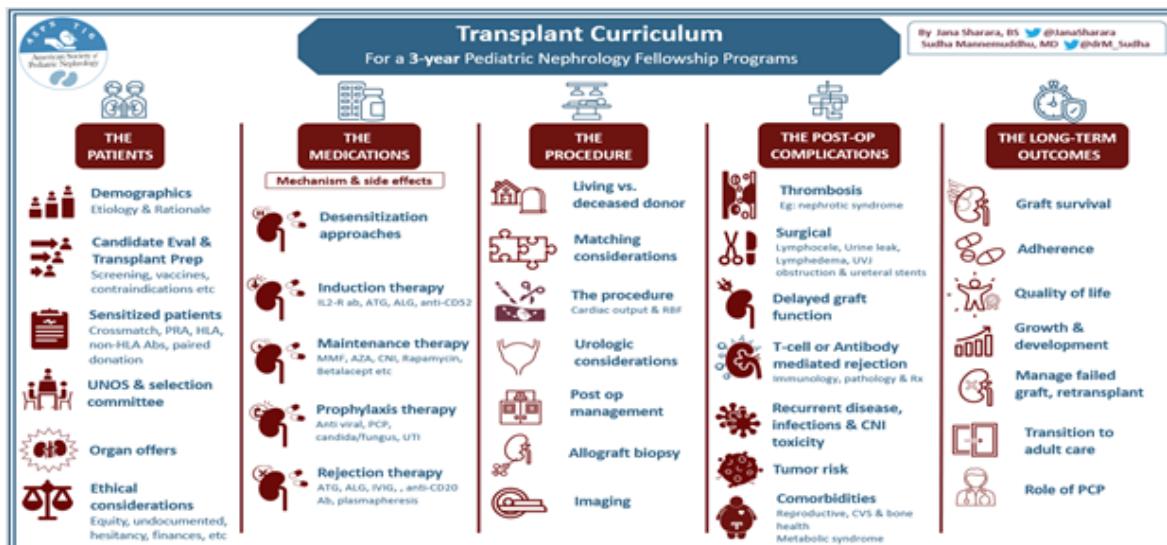
UNOS/OPTN Allocation Policy: At the December, 2021 UNOS BOD meeting the first of its kind CONTINUOUS DISTRIBUTION allocation policy for lung allocation was approved. This has relevance for pediatric nephrologists since how children are treated in this new system will provide a framework for the future **Continuous Distribution of Kidneys and Pancreata** policy. This points-based allocation framework assigns a **composite allocation score (CAS)** to each candidate and that score will determine the order that organs are offered. The candidate's CAS will consider a combination of donor and candidate characteristics including medical urgency, post-transplant survival, candidate biology, patient access, and placement efficiency. In the newly approved lung continuous distribution model, children are given weighting which is predicted (by modelling) to increase pediatric transplant rates and children will maintain pediatric priority after turning 18 if they were listed prior to 18 yrs similar to the current system. Work continues with pediatric input on **Continuous Distribution of Kidneys and Pancreata**. Please consider making your thoughts known in these areas or any other areas you think should be incorporated into the composite allocation score for children. Current pediatric nephrology representation on the OPTN Pediatric Committee is Rachel Engen rengen@wisc.edu and John Barcia jb5gp@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu. Please feel free to reach out to them with your thoughts and opinions.

American Society of Transplantation NEWS: The pdfs below are the most recent AST guidance regarding monoclonal preexposure prophylaxis and vaccines (for provider and transplant patients). Remember check institutional policies with your peds ID and transplant ID partners.

- [AST Statement on Use of Monoclonal Antibody for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis](#)
- [AST COVID-19 Vaccination Guidance](#)
- [AST COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ Sheet \(updated 11/14/2021\)](#)

ASPN TIG (Transplant Interest Group). The TIG has 3 goals; **Education, Advocacy** and **Mentorship** in the area of Pediatric Kidney Transplantation. If you are interested in joining the TIG, please reach out to smbartosh@wisc.edu and we will add you to the membership! We are currently finalizing our pediatric nephrology transplant training curriculum. Soon the full curriculum with resource documents will be available on the ASPN website for members but this is a preview!

Committee Updates



Respectfully submitted,
Sharon M Bartosh, MD
December, 2021

ASPN Foundation Update



The **ASPN Foundation** sends best wishes for the new year and our thanks for the generosity of matching the \$10,000 gift from the Samuels Family Foundation.

F. Bruder Stapleton, MD

Eileen Brewer, MD

Frederick Kaskel, MD, PhD



JELF Scholars Update

The John E Lewy Fund Advocacy Scholars (JELF) virtual training continues. In November, we had the opportunity to welcome several physicians as guest speakers (Drs. Yau, Khurana, and Tuchman) who are nephrologists that have joined the workforce at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). They provided insight as to the diverse objectives of the FDA and areas of potential partnership (e.g., collaborating in “label enabling trials”) and advocacy (e.g., encouraging pharmaceutical companies to disclose their rationale for drug pricing). They urged ongoing conversations with ASPN.

On November 9th and 10th, JELF scholars and ASPN members participated in **ASPN’s Advocacy Hill Day**. We had 19 members participate in 31 meetings! Our “asks” centered on funding research, funding the pediatric subspecialty loan repayment program, and advancing policies to increase access to telehealth services and ensure adequate reimbursement for pediatric nephrology services.

Finally, I wanted to share a few personal thoughts about my inclusion as the first non-nephrologist accepted into the JELF Advocacy Scholars Program. Personally, I am honored and even more captivated by my nephrology colleagues, who continually prove to be open-minded and staunch patient-advocates. My hope is that by including psychologists (and other allied health professionals) in this important training, we can continue to expand our advocacy efforts in recognition of the biopsychosocial medical model, both in etiology and treatment of kidney conditions. My belief is that by increasing comprehensive clinical care and advocacy we will provide greater support and observe improved outcomes for our shared patient population. I am honored to lend my perspective to this important work as we advocate for pediatric kidney health together.

Submitted by Anne Dawson, Ph.D. on behalf of the current JELF Scholars

ASPN Foundation Update

JELF Advocacy Scholars Program



Purpose: To develop a pipeline for leaders in pediatric nephrology with specific expertise in governmental and regulatory processes affecting children's health care and advocacy for pediatric nephrology, and to educate leaders in the conduct and application of advocacy. To achieve this mission, we currently offer a two-year immersive experience for leadership and advocacy skills development.

Eligibility: The successful applicant will be an ASPN member in good standing, with a commitment to and interest in public policy and advocacy related to children with kidney disease. All applicants will be considered, with priority given to those within ten years of completion of fellowship training. It is expected that awardees will be selected from a diverse group of institutions, geographic locations, and backgrounds.

If selected, applicants must agree to participate in all elements of the Scholars Program, as described below, serve in future public policy and advocacy efforts on behalf of the ASPN as an active member of the relevant ASPN Committees, and present a summary of his/her experiences in the program at the ASPN Annual Meeting in the second year of the experience.

Whereas applications from non-US residents are welcome, it is important to recognize that the advocacy skills to be developed during this program are specific to the healthcare system, governmental agencies and representatives in the United States, and may not be entirely relevant to systems in other countries. In addition, financial support for non-US awardees will be at the same level as provided to awardees within the US.

Frequency/Number of Awards: Up to two Advocacy Scholar awards will be available each year. Each award will support participation by the recipient to attend two national conferences for skills training and a hands-on, closely mentored experience with senior leaders of the Society and ASPN's Washington representative.

The Advocacy Scholars program will include:

- Program start: July 1, 2022
- Program end: June 30, 2024
- Participation in the 3-day *American Academy of Pediatrics Legislative Conference, April 2022*
<http://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/federal-advocacy/Pages/LegislativeConference.aspx>
The Conference includes visits with members of Congress and their staff, and provides experience in the legislative process through hands-on work sessions and interaction with peers, politicians and the press. At the conclusion of this Conference, participants will understand the federal and state legislative process; sharpen skills and techniques to successfully impact Congress and state legislatures, and develop strategies to effectively engage the media.
- Participation in ASPN and/or ASN Kidney Community Capitol Hill Day in *fall 2022 and 2023*
- Participation in ASPN NIH visit to meet with various funding agencies that pertain to the ASPN (Fall 2022 and 2023)
- Participation in ASPN's Public Policy Committee
- Mentored experience with our Washington representative and "senior" members of the Society with expertise in the area to:
 - Discuss ASPN's advocacy and Capitol Hill efforts
 - Recognize important regulatory, payment, and quality issues that apply to children with ESRD who are either on dialysis or have received a transplant
 - Prepare for and attend a Hill Day, NIH visit, CMS meeting, etc. depending on the Scholars' interests
- Various curricular activities to be carried out in the home environment with expectations of monthly calls/assignments.
- Participate in reporting our experience and manuscript authorship.
"Training the Next Generation of Pediatric Nephrology Advocates: The John E. Lewy Foundation Advocacy Scholars Program." Schnaper HW, Schubert K, Perlman SA, Clark SL, Hains DS, Roach JL, Skversky AL, Spencer JD, Springel T, Swartz SJ, Norwood VF, Satlin LM. J Pediatr. 2015 Feb;166(2):218-9.e1. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2014.10.032.

How to apply

Applicants must submit a completed application that includes:

- Application form
- 2-page personal statement that addresses the following:
 - How did you become interested in advocacy/policy/government affairs?
 - Please comment specifically on previous committee work or advocacy efforts on behalf of the ASPN, if applicable.
 - Describe all previous advocacy experiences.
 - Describe any graduate level coursework referable to the focus of this program
 - What skills and knowledge do you hope to obtain as a result of this opportunity?
 - How will this experience enhance your professional development and career?
 - Have you completed a similar formal skills training program in the past? If so, please describe.

ASPN Foundation Update

- CV
- Letter of support from your Division Chief or Fellowship Director that addresses the following:
 - Interest and promise of the applicant in terms of leadership potential.
 - Commitment to provide the applicant, if successful, protected time to participate in the program and requisite post-program ASPN activities
 - Commitment from the Scholar's home institution to provide financial support for the applicant's participation in the program, in the amount of \$1250.00 each year for two years.
 - **Please note:** pro-rated financial support will be invoiced when the program resumes in-person activities
- Following an initial screening of the application, selected applicants will be expected to participate in a 10-15 minute phone interview with the review committee.

Submit your completed application package by email to:

Connie Mackay

American Society of Pediatric Nephrology

6728 Old McLean Village Drive

McLean, VA 22101

703-718-6012

connie@aspneph.org

Application Deadline: **March 1, 2022**

Awards Selection Announced: **April 2022**

A Pediatric Chair's Perspective

In 2012, Dr. S. Shurin wrote that "The future of the world's children hinges on our ability to implement public policy and health practices built on a strong evidence base. The prospects for improving human health have never been as robust as they are now. Advances in genomics, fundamental biology, and new diagnostic and therapeutic tools have created unprecedented opportunities for pediatric investigators to elucidate disease mechanisms and develop new therapies. Yet, multiple economic, political, and demographic trends are threatening to derail these opportunities in unprecedented ways" (Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2012;166(6):503-505).

What can we do? We must enable and facilitate the success of pediatricians committed to careers as advocates for public policy and change related to child health. The JELF Scholars Program is ideally positioned to develop a pipeline for the next generation of leaders in pediatrics with specific expertise in governmental processes affecting children's health care and advocacy. Given its success rate since its inception, there is no question that sharing in support for trainees to participate in the JELF program is a wise investment in the future that benefits the trainee, department, institution, and national community of child health providers.

--Lisa Satlin, MD

My experience as a JELF fellow has been extremely valuable. I have been able to learn about ASPN's role in public policy and advocate for important issues that impact our patients at a national level. It has also been a great way to meet other pediatric nephrologists and fellows from around the country, and I have benefited from their knowledge and mentorship. Our most recent Capitol Hill visit allowed us to partner with the ASN and other organizations and we were able to form meaningful relationships with other kidney advocates in our region.

--Anne Kouri, MD

ASPN History Project

ASPN History Project

The ASPN History Project team has been busy over the past year. Accomplishments to date:

1. Digitalized all records of ASPN material from inception in 1968 for Archives at UVA Library. Originals stored & waiting on next phase of categorizing materials for online access. We encourage receipt of documents, first edition books & memorabilia for archival storage.
2. Interviewing of members ongoing now with Zoom recordings and over 75 completed in person interviews on website. Anyone can be interviewed or may interview other candidates
3. This past June, Aaron Friedman and Robert Chevalier organized a webinar with the current Pediatric Chairs who are Nephrologists and were interviewed by a panel of former Pediatric Chairs on the impact of the pandemic on leadership, training, research & our specialty.
4. We have begun digitalizing all awards presentations, ASPN Founder's and AAP Barnett Awards and named Lectures (Adrian Spitzer and H. William Schnaper), as well as any other important presentations.

Plans to Inspire Us:

- Ideas are welcome for the History of **Women in Pediatric Nephrology** & the **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee** initiatives (Keia Sanderson, Nicole Hayde).
- **Mentor Stories:** share brief memoirs about a mentor who had a significant effect on your career as a pediatric nephrologist led by Kevin Lemley.
- **Memorable Clinical Cases:** share interesting, challenging, & rewarding experiences led by Doug Silverstein.
- Information will appear on **History Project Website** and all are welcome to join our working group.

Thank you

Robert Chevalier, Barbara Fivush, Aaron Friedman, Larry Greenbaum, Julie Ingelfinger, Rick Kaskel, Kevin Lemley, Vicky Norwood, Doug Silverstein, Jillian Warejko and Connie Mackay



Request from the ASPN History Project Committee

Members of the ASPN History Project wish to solicit contributions from ASPN members relating to two types of memoirs to be archived in the History Project. Members are invited to contribute to either or both of these.

1. We welcome you to share with us a brief memoir (1 or 2 pages) about a mentor you have had who had a significant effect on your career as a pediatric nephrologist. The mentor does not necessarily need to be a nephrologist. This may have been the first mentor who steered you toward pediatric nephrology or a later mentor who materially guided you in your nephrology career or changed your direction in a surprising way. We hope to compile such stories at ASPN and that they will act as an inspiration for current pediatric nephrologists to more effectively mentor their trainees and junior colleagues who come within their 'spheres of nephrology influence'. You are certainly welcome to contribute a memoir on more than one memorable mentor.
2. We welcome you to provide to us a written recollection of 1-2 (1-2 pages) clinical cases that were memorable and had a profound impact on your career. These may be cases that were very interesting, challenging, or rewarding, or that touched you personally. Our aim is to share these with our colleagues, especially fellows and young faculty, to highlight the impact we have on our patients and how those experiences contribute to our professional and personal growth.

Please note that the ASPN History Project team will review the text to comply with the format.

Please also note that we are still conducting interviews of pioneers in Pediatric Nephrology.

The members of the History Project team are glad to assist you in conducting interviews or writing about mentors or clinical cases. We are developing a tool kit to be placed on our website as a guide for all of these projects.

Please contact Connie Mackay, connie@aspneph.org with any questions.

ASPN Foundation Update

Thank you to our generous 2021 Donors!

Sandra Amaral
Meredith Atkinson
Sharon Bartosh
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Alexandra Bicki
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Frank Boineau
Eileen Brewer
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Sarah Shea
Douglas Silverstein
Jodi Smith
Irving Smokler
Michael Somers
Bruder F. Stapleton
Deborah Stein
Benjamin Steinman
Louise Strauss
Diane Tenenbaum
Rudolph Valentini
Priya Verghese
Chia-shi Wang
Bradley Warady
Adam Weinstein
Lynne Weiss
Joseph Wiczorek
Jennifer Willis
Robert Woroniecki

ASPEN Webinars

MOC credit is still available for prior imaging webinars using [this link](#) . For this series you will be required to remit payment of \$50 (credit card or cash) to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (to cover the cost of managing the MOC points). [Click here for payment instructions](#). Unfortunately, we will no longer be adding more MOC questions as part of the webinars, but you can still claim credit for the sessions held through December 2021. Up to 20 Part II MOC points can be earned through participation in the webinars! You can either participate live or watch online. Then, answer 5 questions on the REDCAP Database. 20 MOC points can be earned if you answer a total of 50 questions from 10 webinars.

ASPEN Webinar

Radiology

Date: Monday, February 7, 3-4pm ET

Topic: TBD

Pathology

Date: Monday, March 7, 3-4pm ET

Topic: Recurrent Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS) post-transplant

The ASPEN webinars are thriving in the zoom meetings with an average of 50+ participants per session and will continue to be offered every first Monday of the month at 3pm ET.

MOC credit is still available for prior webinars using [this link](#) . For this series you will be required to remit payment of \$50 (credit card or cash) to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (to cover the cost of managing the MOC points). [Click here for payment instructions](#). Unfortunately, we will no longer be adding more MOC questions as part of the webinars, but you can still access the ones available until December 2021 to claim MOC credit. Up to 20 Part II MOC points can be earned through participation in the webinars! You can either participate live or watch online. Then, answer 5 questions on the REDCAP Database. 20 MOC points can be earned if you answer a total of 50 questions from 10 webinars.

GREAT CARE FOR LITTLE KIDNEYS. EVERYWHERE.



Optimal care for all
children with kidney
disease.

Share our vision.

You are an important part
of our global pediatric community.

Renew your IPNA membership.



In Memoriam

Ellis Avner, MD

It is with great sadness we share that Ellis Avner passed away on December 25th at the age of 73 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, surrounded by his family. The pediatric nephrology community is well-aware of his many accomplishments in medicine, including multiple honors, academic positions as Department Chairman, successful grants, numerous peer-reviewed publications and offices in national and international professional organizations. Of his many contributions to the ASPN, he was instrumental in directing its leadership transition into the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Scientific Meeting. His NIH-supported scientific team made seminal contributions to the understanding of basic molecular and genetic etiologies in experimental and clinical polycystic kidney disease. He was the proud recipient of the ASPN's Founders Award, the AAP Barnett Award and a Lifetime Achievement Award from IPNA. All of his many accomplishments are well detailed in his obituary which can be found at <https://www.goodmanbensman.com/obituaries/ckxounkk313141281km1gnq5z5e9>.



It is harder to glean from these tributes the numerous contributions Ellis made in so many other ways. His pursuit of excellence in training the next generation of investigators facilitated the careers of 34 fellows and numerous residents and medical students. They are deeply grateful to him for the personal interest he took in their careers and accomplishments. He was always available to them and gave them valuable advice. It is a tribute to Ellis that so many have gone on to clinical, research and leadership roles in pediatric nephrology.

Also hard to glean from the written tributes was his complete care for and devotion to his patients. He was first and foremost a practicing physician and his patients loved him for that. As a colleague I could always ask Ellis for patient-care advice and knew I would get the most learned and practical advice possible.

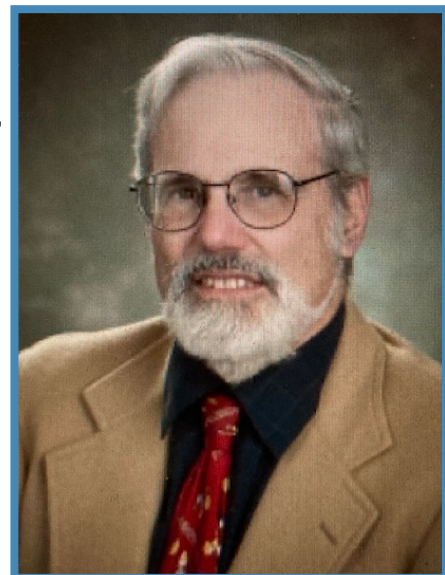
Ellis made the world a better place. I was humbly honored to be his friend and colleague. He was deeply religious, a caring friend and devoted to his family. Our heart-felt condolences go to Jane and the family. May he rest in peace.

Sandra Watkins, MD, Emerita Professor, University of Washington



Bruce A. Kaiser, MD

It is with great sadness we announce that Bruce A. Kaiser died after a brief illness on December 3, 2021 in Medford NJ, his hometown of 38 years. Bruce is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Carol, 2 sons, Michael and Stephen and their families. Born in Philadelphia in 1946, Bruce received his early education and training in the Temple University system. He received his undergraduate degree from Temple in 1968, his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in 1972 and completed his pediatric residency at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, then the teaching hospital for Temple, in 1975. Subsequently, Bruce pursued training in Pediatric Nephrology at the University of California, San Francisco under the mentorship of Malcolm Holliday and Donald Potter. Bruce remained in California for another 2 years to complete a research fellowship at Stanford University. In 1980 post fellowship, Bruce joined the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at Michael Reese Medical Center in Chicago. After 2 years he relocated back to the Philadelphia area and joined the Division of Nephrology at St Christopher's in 1982 under the leadership of Alan Gruskin and Jorge Baluarte. In 1996 Bruce left St. Christopher's and practiced general pediatrics in Medford and Manahawkin NJ until 1999. In 2000 Bruce left NJ to resume the practice of nephrology as a member of the pediatric faculty of the University of Vermont School of Medicine. In 2002 he returned to the greater Philadelphia area taking a position as a Nephrology attending in the Department of Pediatrics at Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington. Bruce remained at duPont until his retirement in 2014.



Bruce will be remembered for his care and devotion to his patients and his superb teaching skills. He influenced many trainees to pursue Nephrology training either at St. Christopher's or elsewhere. In his interactions with fellows, he was both nurturing and demanding. As a result, his approval was highly valued. Bruce was also tireless and willing to do whatever was necessary to provide the best care. In this time of paper records, visiting the lab to get results fresh off the machines was routine for Bruce. When confronted with difficult patient situations he could synthesize the available research on a topic and present a practical and evidence-based approach for the patient at hand. He demonstrated excellence in patient care.

In Memoriam

that we could only hope to emulate. Importantly, Bruce was also instrumental in guiding fellows through their research experience. Bruce always had the success of the fellow foremost in his mind. Fellows who trained under Bruce included: Sharon Bartosh, Lavjay Butani, Vidar Edvardsson, Joseph Flynn, Coral Hanevold, Stephen Lawless, Manuel Mochon, Bruce Morgenstern, Ramcel Quien, Eduardo Perelstein, Sharon Perlman, Seth Schulman, and Sandy Sitai.

In addition, Bruce was actively engaged in clinical research throughout his career. Early work focused on acid-base balance during hemodialysis, followed by seminal work with Marty Polinsky and Jorge Baluarte on impaired neurodevelopment in children with chronic kidney disease. However, the major focus of his research was on various aspects of pediatric kidney transplantation, including retransplantation after graft loss, growth after transplant, posttransplant viral infections, and the pharmacokinetics of calcineurin inhibitors. Despite the significance of his many scholarly contributions, Bruce was modest and did not seek recognition.

Bruce was a warm and caring person, gifted educator, and role model. He should be remembered as a consummate clinician. We remember him always walking the extra mile for his patients. He touched many lives and will be sorely missed.



Adrian Spitzer, MD




Adrian Spitzer, MD, Past-President of the ASPN passed away Monday December 27th, 2021 at his home in West Palm, Florida, just 22 days after his wife of over 70 years, Carol Spitzer, also passed. They had been childhood friends in Rumania before WWII and were married there during the Allied bombings.

Adrian is best known for his seminal work in the field of Developmental Nephrology and his vision to create a global international forum for investigators in the field culminating in the First International Workshop of Developmental Nephrology (IWDN) "The Kidney During Development: Morphology and Function," in honor of Henry L. Barnett, in New York City, 1980. In 2007 the IWDN was designated the official satellite meeting of the IPNA Congress and remains a prestigious scientific conference to highlight advances in the field. Adrian's scientific impact can best be appreciated by his many seminal publications characterizing the central role of developmental renal physiology in our understanding of sodium and phosphate homeostasis in health and disease. His research utilized methodologies such as micropuncture, cell culture, and molecular biology techniques. This consummate basic investigator also distinguished himself with his leadership in the International Study of Kidney Disease and the International Study of Vesicoureteral Reflux in Children. As the Director of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and its NIH T32 Training Grant for over 35 years, he guided the career training of many trainees, some of whom became outstanding leading investigators in Pediatric Nephrology.



In 2021 the Adrian Spitzer Honorary Lecture was started and the family has requested that contributions be made to the ASPN Foundation in his memory to support the lecture.

Announcements





Pediatric Nephrology Journal Club
#IPNAJC partnering with
#NephJC

Save the date

Jan 25, 2022: 0900PM EST/ 0800PM CST/ 0600PM PST
Jan 26, 2022: 0900PM GMT/ 1000PM CET
Jan 26, 2022: 0900PM IST/ 1030AM EST/ 1130AM CST

**HOST: IPNA Communications & SoMe Committee
&
#NephJC**



Dear PedNeph nephrons,

#IPNAJC is a quarterly pediatric nephrology journal club on Twitter from IPNA social media and communications committee. We have hosted two journal clubs thus far.

In this new year, we are collaborating with NephJC and will be discussing 2 articles related to nephrotic syndrome on Jan 25 & 26, 2022 on Twitter.

Evaluation of Daily Low-Dose Prednisolone During Upper Respiratory Tract Infection to Prevent Relapse in Children with Relapsing Steroid-Sensitive Nephrotic Syndrome. The PREDNOS 2 Randomized Clinical Trial

Low-dose versus conventional-dose prednisolone for nephrotic syndrome relapses: a randomized controlled non-inferiority trial

There will be a summary of the article that will be posted on the website a few days prior to the JC. Infographics will be on Twitter as well as on the website.

New to Twitter? here is a link for a <2 min video tutorial on 'how to participate in @IPNAJC' or any twitter-based JC.
<https://twitter.com/ipnajt/status/1451893569107775496?s=20>

For updates, follow @ipnajt and sign up for the newsletter on the website.

Access old chats on Twitter at-
<https://twitter.com/i/events/1417999136171900931?s=20>
<https://twitter.com/ipnajt/status/1456650495867691012?s=20>

- IPNA Communications & SoMe Committee

Announcements



AAP SECTION ON NEPHROLOGY

Mission: To improve the health and well-being of infants, children, and adolescents with disorders of the kidneys and urinary tract and hypertension by:

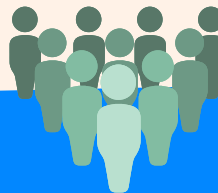
- A) Providing educational information and opportunities for the pediatric medical community, patients and families;
- B) Promoting pediatric nephrology as a career among medical students and pediatric residents;
- C) Providing expert recommendations for Academy programs, policy, and other public materials; and,
- D) Advocating for those who provide and require pediatric nephrology care.

Vision: To be the primary source for the Academy, and a respected source for the pediatric community, and families for the educational needs and the advocacy and clinical issues related to the care of children with diseases of the kidney and urinary tract and with hypertension.

MEMBERSHIP

- **Board Certified/ Eligible Pediatric Nephrologists:** 183
- **Pediatric Nephrology Fellows in Training:** 75
- **Residents:** 43
- **Medical Students:** 46

Total number of SONp Members: **347**



ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Nominations Committee
- Executive Committee
- Henry L. Barnett Award Committee
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Work Group
- Newsletter Articles
- Parent Articles (HealthyChildren.org)
- Faculty for AAP National Conference
- Liaison to External Organizations
- PREP Nephrology



ACHIEVEMENTS

- EQIPP Course to Improve Identification & Management of Hypertension
- Blood Pressure and Fluid Management Practice Guidelines
- Pediatric Nephrology Choosing Wisely List
- Work Force Surveys - 2013 & 2022
- Pediatric Nephrology Subspecialty 101 Webinar



EDUCATION

- Sessions at the AAP National Conference
- PCO Webinars:
 - Hypertension
 - Hematuria
 - Acute Kidney Injury
- AAP Mentorship Program



BECOME A MEMBER

As noted above, there are many opportunities to advance your career goals, from improving leadership and advocacy skills to networking with your colleagues. View this introductory message from the Chair for further information. If you would like to join the AAP and SONp now, you may do so online or by calling

AAP Customer Services at
(866)843-2271

The additional membership of SONp is only \$25 and has significant added value!

Meeting & Lecture Announcements



American Society of Pediatric Nephrology (ASPN) Schedule at a Glance

Friday, April 22	Saturday, April 23	Sunday, April 24	Monday, April 25
<p>7:00 am–2:00 pm ASPN Program Committee Meeting/ Council Meeting</p> <p>2:30 PM – 4:00 PM Workshop: Fueling our patients for success: Optimizing nutritional support for kids with kidney disease</p> <p>4:30 pm–6:00 pm PAS Opening General Session (Includes presentation of the Joseph St. Geme Leadership Award)</p> <p>6:15 pm–8:45 pm* PAS Poster Session I Nephrology Posters Included/ Original Science Abstracts Platform Presentations Nephrology III (6:15-7:45pm): Clinical Science</p>	<p>7:00 am – 8:00 am ASPN Resident/Student Mentorship Breakfast</p> <p>8:00 am–9:30 am The H. William Schnaper Lectureship: Updates in Nephrotic syndrome</p> <p>10:00 am–11:30 am Train to become a JEDI Master: Justice Equity Diversity & Inclusion in pediatric nephrology</p> <p>11:30 am–1:00 pm ASPN Awards Luncheon</p> <p>1:00 pm–2:30 pm Potpourri of Hot Topics in Kidney Transplant</p> <p>3:30 pm – 6:00* PAS Poster Session II Nephrology Posters Included/ Original Science Abstract Platform IV: Neo Nephrology (3:30-5pm)</p> <p>6:30 pm-8:00 pm ASPN Fellows Job Search and Speed Mentoring Event</p>	<p>7:00 am – 8:00 am ASPN Small Group Division Breakfast</p> <p>8:00 am – 9:30 am The Adrian Spitzer Lectureship Novel mechanistic and therapeutic discoveries in rare diseases</p> <p>10:00 am–11:30 pm Workshop: The time is now for Neonatal Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy: A Case Based Workshop on Neonatal Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy</p> <p>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm CPC Fellow's Luncheon: Battle of the Brains</p> <p>1:00 pm–2:30 pm IgA Nephropathy and IgA Vasculitis / HSP: New Terminology and Pathophysiology, Old Treatments?</p> <p>2:30-3:30 pm ASPN Business Meeting</p> <p>3:30 pm – 6:00 Possible PAS Poster Session III Nephrology Posters Included/ Original Science Abstracts Platform Presentations Nephrology II (3:30-5pm): Basic Science</p> <p>7:00 pm–9:00 pm ASPN Member Reception</p>	<p>8:00 am–9:30 pm FGF23: The path you traveled and the Places You'll Go!</p> <p>10:00 am–11:30 am Workshop Urine the Know: Living through a pandemic - Lessons learned from COVID19</p> <p>1:00 pm – 2:30 pm TMI about TMA & complement dysregulation: clarifying updates for diagnosis and treatment</p> <p>3:30 pm – 6:00 Original Science Abstracts Platform Presentations Nephrology I: Hypertension (3:30 -5pm)</p>

KEY
Green = Scholarly Sessions
Pink = Original Science
Blue = Workshop
Yellow = Ancillary Events
Gray = Poster Sessions

* Required author attendance time

(rev 01.06.22)

Meeting & Lecture Announcements



Children's
of Alabama

UAB MEDICINE

BRADLEY LECTURE CENTER

4th Floor, Children's Harbor
Children's of Alabama
1600 7th Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35233

1.5 day course (Mondays and Tuesdays)
for physicians and nurses

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Acute Kidney Injury and Fluid Overload in Small Children
- End Stage Renal Disease in Neonates
- Principles of Neonatal Kidney Support Therapy
- Neonatal Kidney Support – The Neonatologist's Perspective
- Neonatal Kidney Support – The Parent's Perspective
- Educating Your Team
- Caring for Your Program
- Nutrition and Medications While Providing Kidney Support
- Team-Based Simulations

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Children's of Alabama is accredited by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Save the Date!

Face-to-face courses in Birmingham AL with limited number of participants will offer unique opportunities for hands-on demonstrations and instruction.

October 4-5, 2021

January 10-11, 2022

May 23-24, 2022

Questions? Programmatic/content: contact daskenazi@peds.uab.edu or kara.short@childrensal.org; direct registration questions to dpass@peds.uab.edu



www.ipna2022.org
www.theipna.org

See you in
Calgary!

IPNA Members
benefit from a
discount rate.

Calgary, Canada, 7-11 September 2022
Calgary TELUS Convention Centre

Meeting & Lecture Announcements

“Pediatric Faculty and Leadership Recruitment and Retention: The Good, Bad and Ugly”

Join us for a webinar series hosted by CareerPhysician and the Child Health Advisory Council. This series is intended to create a dynamic conversation among chiefs, chairs, and executive leaders on their roles in establishing and maintaining thriving faculty talent cultures and how these efforts are impacted by recruitment and retention endeavors.

Session 1: Creating a Candidate - Focused Recruitment Visit

February 9th at 4:00 EST [Register Here](#)

Moderator: F. Bruder Stapleton, MD, Chair, Child Health Advisory Council, Professor of Pediatrics and Chair Emeritus at the University of Washington School of Medicine

Panelists:

Valerie Opipari, MD, Professor and Chair Emerita of Pediatrics at the University of Michigan School of Medicine and C.S. Mott's Children's Hospital

Craig Hillemeier, MD, Emeritus CEO, Penn State Health; Emeritus Dean and Professor of Pediatrics at Penn State University

Bob Sawin, MD, Pediatric Surgeon, Emeritus Professor and Surgeon in Chief at Seattle Children's Hospital and the University of Washington

Chris Gleason, MD, Professor Emerita of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine

Wesley D. Millican, MBA, CEO and Physician Talent Officer, CareerPhysician, LLC

Our panel will present two vignettes and a series of questions and insights to help attendees reflect on their organization's recruitment and retention practices and opportunities for ongoing improvement.

Learning Objectives:

1. Addressing the candidate's important personal requirements.
2. Creating a professional image for the department through recruitment.
3. Ensuring a recruitment visit is well-organized and inviting.

CareerPhysician is the national leader in executive search and leadership development. Over the last 22 years, failures to recruit the quality faculty necessary to sustain and build programs has been a key reason for separation. Current and future leaders must understand the significance of excellence in the recruitment process.

We encourage you to join the discussion of common recruitment pitfalls and opportunities in the face of resource-constrained, highly matrixed cultures. We are confident the dialog will improve the outcomes of your recruitment and retention initiatives.

The **Child Health Advisory Council** is a diverse group of academic executives (deans, department chairs, division chiefs and children's health system executives) and represents extensive pediatric leadership experience and wisdom. Council members share in a commitment to positively impact the breadth and depth of leadership in pediatrics. Their partnership with CareerPhysician and its child health clients nationally has yielded the gold standard in pediatric leadership recruitment and development.

CareerPhysician is the national leader in academic pediatric executive search and leadership development with 20 years of success in supporting the faculty leadership needs of child health organizations. No one understands the culture and the challenges of pediatric leadership development better. The firm is proud to be recognized as the gold standard in academic pediatric recruitment and leadership development and is committed to the continued development of current and future physician leaders.

Meeting & Lecture Announcements

Fellows can
join RPA for
FREE!



When you become a member, you will have access to a special section on our website giving you access to useful and valuable resources and tools:

- Employment Center
- Practice Management resources
- Legislation, Regulation and Compliance information
- Patient Care resources and education



To join, visit www.renalmd.org.

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ASPEN is managed by Degnon Associates, an accredited professional association management company.

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KIDney NOTES

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology