



President's Corner

I hope your summer is off to an amazing start! I wanted to touch base with you all about our recent spring council meeting. A variety of items were reviewed and discussed. These included; further developing our philanthropic program with the ASPN Foundation providing guidance about naming gifts (thanks to everyone on the ASPNF for their hard work), budget review, refining committee chair appointments and obligations, expanding our corporate liason board and developing a foundation liason board for those stakeholders working in the kidney community- particularly rare diseases, continuing work on the updated strategic plan, and focusing specifically on our workforce issues.

For our workforce issues, we will be meeting at the ASN meeting in November to have a focused summit about a multipronged strategy. We have several approaches to this issue which will include working with the ABP to utilize the Alternative Pathway for Academic Faculty for certification eligibility (among others). We will conduct a membership survey to identify other strategies for possibly shortening training requirements, we are working on a loan repayment model (outside of the NIH loan repayment) that could be accessed by interested departments/centers. We are also working with our advocacy group and Erika Miller to develop specific language and hopefully legislation that will provide support for developing the Pediatric Nephrology workforce. There will be more details to come in the next month or two. Please feel free to provide any and all ideas to me or the ASPN directly.

As a reminder there are some upcoming meetings that impact on our membership (see below). For the the IPNA meeting, several trainee travel grants have been awarded. Looking forward to seeing many colleagues in Venice!

Please enjoy your summer and again - thanks for all you do in caring for our community, patients and families!

- ▶ [7th Annual ASPN Multidisciplinary Symposium](#)
September 12 - September 13
- ▶ [ASPN Board Review Course](#)
September 13 - September 15
- ▶ [18th Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association](#)
October 17 - October 21
- ▶ [American Society of Nephrology Kidney Week 2019](#)
November 5 - November 10

Sincerely,

Patrick Brophy, MD, MHCDS
President, ASPN
Patrick_Brophy@urmc.rochester.edu

ASPEN Corporate Liaison Board



Please send us (info@aspneph.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 Update

The ASPN Research Committee is pleased to announce that we will be holding a Mock Study Section at ASN Kidney Week the evening of November 6, 2019. To participate, we request at a minimum a Specific Aims page, but the more grant materials the better (drafts of Research Strategy, as well as Career Development Plan for K-awards, are encouraged). In order that we can identify appropriate content reviewers, please let the ASPN research committee co-chairs know of your interest in participating, your research topic/field, and any preliminary materials you may have by early September. Final grant materials for review should be submitted by the first week of October.

The research committee has also been hard at work developing a document that highlights collaborative studies and available biorepositories. The goal of this document, to be housed on the ASPN Research Committee webpage, is to provide a high yield guide for researchers looking to utilize already established datasets/biorepositories and/or participate in collaborative research. Be on the lookout for this comprehensive resource!

We also request that NIH biosketches and eRA Common's personal profiles be updated to include the words Pediatrics and Nephrology in the job titles. This will allow Program Officers to track the success of pediatric nephrologists and for Scientific Review Offices to assign expertise in pediatric nephrology to study sections for grant review.

We hope that everyone is having enjoyable summers and please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or if you would like to be involved with the ASPN Research Committee.

Scott Wenderfer (sewender@texaschildrens.org)

Tammy Brady (tbrady8@jhmi.edu)

Brad Dixon (bradley.dixon@childrenscolorado.org)

ASPN Research Committee Co-Chairs

Respectfully submitted by Amy Kogon, MD, MPH on behalf of the research committee

ASP NF News



American Society of Pediatric Nephrology FOUNDATION

Support the ASPNF

I believe the ASPN funding for resident and fellow travel to conferences is essential. It signals to prospective and new fellows like myself the importance our field puts on supporting trainees. Attending conferences played an important role in confirming and maintaining my interest in Pediatric Nephrology. As a fellow, I would not have been able to attend these conferences without the funding I received from the ASPN.

I encourage your continued support of the ASPN Foundation and the ASPN grant support so that other fellows, and prospective fellows, can benefit in a similar fashion. Your support also benefits our newest members and to help recruit our future members!

Alex Kula, MD
Pediatric Nephrology Fellow
Seattle Children's

Welcome New Members

Katherine Westreich, MD
Neha Pottanat, MD
Mohammed Farhan Ali, MBBS
Gia Oh, MD
Kathryn Blew, MD, referred by Annabelle Chua, MD
Lauren Galea, MSN
Chelsea Allen, MD, referred by Mark Joseph, MD
Kathleen Altemose, MD, MHS
Anisha Hegde, MD, referred by Dorey Glenn, MD
Jessica Edmondson, MSN, referred by Dan Feig, MD, PhD
Ira Davis, MD, MS
Hossam Eldeen Hassan, MD
Deepti Narla, MD

Mary Jane Gillum, BSN, MSN, referred by Dan Feig, MD, PhD
Faris Hashim, MD
Pavel Geier, MD, PhD
Sweety Srivastava, MD
Teri Miller, MSN, APRN-CPNP
Natalie Uy, MD
Wendy Reitmeyer, MSN, referred by Lieuiko Nguyen, MD
Ahmad Aldughiem, MD
Diane Liu, MD, referred by Frederick Kaskel, MD, PhD
Robert Woroniecki, MD
Allison Patierno, MS
Renga Samy, BS
Kayla Flood, MD

Congratulations to our newly graduated Nephrology fellows!

Your active ASPN membership will be in effect for the remainder of this calendar year, ending December 31, 2019. Do not forget to renew because you will receive a 50% discount on regular membership rates for the 2020 year, as well as 25% discount during the 2021 year.

To all of our members, please consider asking your fellow team members to make sure they maintain or join as an active membership of ASPN. Membership is our lifeblood, and helps to maintain ongoing support to promote improved care for children with kidney diseases through education, research, and advocacy.

Remember, ASPN is not just for physicians! Any person who has demonstrated a major and continuing interest in Pediatric Nephrology and holds an MS, MPH, PharmD, RN, RD, MSW degree, or other professional degree may join ASPN. Please see the [Membership Services](#) section of the ASPN website for more details!

ASPN Webinars

We are continuing the Nephrology Part II pathology and imaging webinar series, which allows members to have the opportunity to claim MOC 20 Part II points. Please note, claiming credit for the 2017 webinar series has closed and we will move forward with the 2018-2019 Academic Year webinar series. ASPN members will continue to have access to the content through the ASPN website.

If you are interested in claiming MOC 20 Part II credit in the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year series, you must complete 10 webinars and answer a total of 50 question/answers (5 per webinar) via REDCap. For this series, unlike the previous one, 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). The REDCap link will be available on the webinars as well as the ASPN website in the Members Only version of the Member Education Committee page. Please address any questions to Rebecca Ruebner, and Ben Laskin, emails: ruebne1@jhmi.edu and LaskinB@email.chop.edu.

ASPN Renal Imaging Webinar

Date: Monday, August 5, 3pm ET
Topic: TBD

The ASPN Member Education Committee invites all members to attend our monthly renal pathology interactive webinars/discussions. These will feature a new case each month with pathology presented by Dr. Patrick Walker of Nephropath and a content expert from the ASPN membership. The sessions will typically be the 1st Monday of each month at 3PM Eastern. Watch for an email from ASPN with call-in details.

John E. Lewy Foundation (JELF) Scholars

The JELF Advocacy Scholars Program

On May 1, JELF scholars along with 18 additional ASPN members met with Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill to advocate for patients, pediatric nephrology clinical practice and research. We specifically encouraged our members of Congress to consider cosponsoring the Living Donor Protection Act, to support increased funding for the NIH and for Children's Graduate Medical Education, and to support equitable reimbursement for pediatric ESRD care. We always enjoy Hill Day and the JELF scholars were pleased that many ASPN members could join for this exciting and important event. Please consider joining us for future Hill Day events!

While attending ASPN's annual meeting in April, JELF scholars also had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Susan Mendley, program director of the NIDDK's Division of Kidney, Urologic, and Hematologic Diseases. Dr. Mendley provided wonderful insight and advice regarding the NIH grant application process, and offered encouragement to JELF scholars embarking upon careers as physician scientists.

Drs. Patty Seo-Mayer, Zubin Modi, and Michelle Starr are completing their two-year JELF scholar experience! We look forward to their ongoing work as advocates for pediatric nephrology patients and for the field of pediatric nephrology as a whole.

- Dr. Seo-Mayer will continue in her practice with Pediatric Specialists of Virginia / Inova Fairfax Hospital, in addition to advocating for a strong pediatric nephrology workforce. She serves on ASPN's workforce, public policy, and member education committees.
- Dr. Modi, a clinician and health services researcher at the University of Michigan, studies population outcomes and health care delivery in pediatric chronic kidney disease. He works with the Institute for Health Policy and Innovation at the University of Michigan and serves on ASPN's public policy committee.
- After completing her fellowship with Seattle Children's in the near future, Dr. Starr will join faculty at Indiana University, practicing pediatric nephrology with Riley Children's. She will continue her research in neonatal kidney disease and acute kidney injury, and is an enthusiastic and dedicated member of the Neonatal Kidney Collaborative.

You can contribute to these programs at: <https://www.aspneph.org/aspn-foundation/donate/>. To learn more about the John E Lewy Fund, the Advocacy Scholars Program, or the Perlman Program for Perpetual Participation, contact David Hains (dhains@iu.edu) or visit: <http://aspneph.com/JohnELewyFoundation/JELFMain.asp>



Transplantation Update

OPTN/UNOS NEWS:

The Kidney Committee of UNOS/OPTN, in collaboration with representatives from the pediatric community, is in the process of a second phase of kidney-pancreas simulated allocation model (KPSAM) modeling in an effort to come to consensus regarding a new Kidney Allocation Policy proposal that will go out for Public Comment in August. As you may remember, the Kidney Committee sent out for public comment this past Spring, a "Concept Document" with some ideas for moving forward with the need to **completely eliminate of the use of DSA (donor service areas) and Regions in allocation policy** at the direction of HRSA in order to be compliant with The Final Rule <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/governance/about-the-optn/final-rule/>. The current modeling looks at various circle sizes (150/250/500 miles) and various proximity points within the hybrid model structure that was determined, through the public comment process, to be favored over concentric circles. The modeling will also include options that **MOVE THE PEDIATRIC DD CANDIDATES ABOVE THE 98-99% HIGHLY SENSITIZED** for local allocation right below the 100% sensitized candidates. Presently the children awaiting DD kidneys are AFTER the highly sensitized (98-100%). The UNOS Kidney Committee (with pediatric invited representation; Bartosh) is having a face to face meeting 6/25 to review the modeling results and to put together a proposal for the Fall Public Comment cycle. My initial review of the analysis shows children of all ages, with all options being considered, having increased transplant volume. It is unclear how much of the increased volume is related to the placement on the list just under the 100% sensitized patients or from the broader sharing of organs. Important to note is that all of the options being considered are projected to increase adult Kidney Pancreas transplants by 100-300 per year. This is of potential concern to those of our community who experience intense competition for low kidney donor profile index (KDPI) kidneys

with active Kidney Pancreas programs. This effect varies throughout the country. The timeframe for this project is: August-October 2019 policy proposal out for Public Comment; December 2019 to UNOS/OPTN Board of Directors for final approval. I will keep our community up to date on the developments. We will all need to voice our opinions and any concerns we might have during the Public Comment window. I welcome anyone's comments and opinions regarding these analysis and options. The analysis are currently available and open to the public at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/news/srtr-modeling-results-available-for-kidney-and-pancreas-distribution/>

Pediatric Transplant Program Requirements:

An implementation "toolkit" can be found at <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/resources/pediatric-transplant/>. Additionally, I am planning a Webinar for the end of June/beginning of July with potential to repeat later in July to review the timeline and process for completion of the Pediatric Program Application and answer questions. More details to follow.

4 year analysis of KAS: The 4 yr analysis that is not pediatric specific can be found at <http://www.lidsen.com/journals/transplantation/transplantation-03-01-041>. We are in the process of doing a pediatric specific "deeper dive" into the 4 yr pediatric kidney transplant outcomes under KAS. Will keep you posted.

SAVE THE DATE:

Next IPTA meeting 4/17-4/20 2021 in Prague!

ASPEN TIG (Transplant Interest Group) at ASN. Details forthcoming. Respectfully submitted, Sharon M. Bartosh, MD, smbartosh@wisc.edu

In Memorium - Eunice G. John, MD

Dear Colleagues,

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our colleague and friend, Dr. Eunice John. Dr. John retired as Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine after serving UIC residents and patients for 42 years.

Dr. John, who was chief of pediatric nephrology and medical director of pediatric transplant at UI Health, was a revered leader in kidney transplant innovations and outcomes. She was the first Chicago physician to start longterm peritoneal dialysis and to use the double lumen catheter of hemodialysis in children in the early 1980s. In 2002, Dr. John performed the first pediatric living-donor bowel transplant in partnership with Dr. Enrico Benedetti, the Warren H. Cole Chair of Surgery. The patient, who is now in his 20s, is the longest living recipient of this type of surgery.

Dr. John was a graduate of Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. She completed a residency at Tulane University and a fellowship in pediatric nephrology at the Yeshiva University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She was a member of the U.S. Army Reserve for 16 years.

She had an impressive record of scholarly activity, with more than 100 publications on her CV. She obtained such funding as CKiD and NIH grants, and she was sought after throughout the world as an invited speaker. But she would want the emphasis to be on the ways that she furthered her area of study by helping others to succeed. Dr. John created a lasting impact through her tireless work with patients and young physicians. She was deeply committed to community service, spearheading a wide range of programs for children and families both local and abroad. As a testament to her excellence, she received 15 teaching and mentoring awards, more than 15 service awards, and 5 patient care awards from UI Health.

Dr. John had a compassionate approach to all aspects of her profession, and she was a remarkably generous person. She was devoted to her family members, particularly her late sister (Iris P. Samuel) and her children (Smitha and Suneeth Samuel). Arrangements have been made with Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home at 6150 North Cicero Avenue in Chicago: funeral service on Saturday, June 8, at 11 am; and visitation on Friday, June 7, from 3 to 8 pm. Interment will be in the Bohemian National Cemetery. For the obituary and details, please visit the [Smith-Corcoran website](#). The Department of Pediatrics will have a memorial grand rounds in Dr. John's honor on September 20, 2019.

It was an incredible privilege to work alongside Dr. John. She will be forever remembered as an extraordinary clinician, educator, leader, and human being with unparalleled devotion and kindness.

Benjamin W. Van Voorhees, MD, MPH
Professor and Head, Department of Pediatrics



Announcements

SAVE THE DATE

ASPEN 2019 Board Review Course
September 13-15
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Columbus, OH
[Registration Now Open!](#)

ASPEN Marketplace

ASPEN Marketplace is the place to advertise employment opportunities in Pediatric Nephrology. To place an advertisement, go to <https://www.aspneph.org/employment-ads/>.

Congratulations!

The ASPEN would like to congratulate Elliot Perens (UC San Diego) on the funding of his K08 award titled "IDENTIFICATION OF GENETIC PATHWAYS THAT REGULATE KIDNEY CELL FATE: HAND2 INHIBITS INTERMEDIATE MESODERM DEVELOPMENT." Elliot is a participant in the ASPEN's longitudinal mentoring program and would like to acknowledge the help of his local and ASPEN mentors.

Quality Improvement Coaching Conference

Atrium Health's Levine Children's Hospital is currently accepting applications for our sixth annual **Quality Improvement Coaching Conference (LCH QuICC)** for fellows **October 14 – 16, 2019** in Charlotte, NC. This pediatric QI conference is an opportunity for intensive QI coaching to advance physician knowledge and skills in improvement science, with an emphasis on QI methodology and tools. Fellows will present their current QI projects, get expert critiques, and benefit from collaboration with both QI faculty and participants. The course group is limited to approximately 20 fellows to ensure one-on-one coaching and optimize the learning environment. More than one fellow from your institution may submit an application. The program encourages project submissions at all stages of development; QI novices and/or early projects are welcome to apply. If you are unsure whether your project fits the improvement science framework, please contact Sarah Mabus at sarah.mabus@atriumhealth.org. The project submissions deadline was May 30, 2019. Please contact sarah.mabus@atriumhealth.org with any questions. Invitations to participate will be extended in July. Those fellows selected for presentation will have transportation, lodging (shared rooms assigned), and most meal expenses provided by Atrium Health Levine Children's Service Line. There is no conference fee. To allow for maximal coaching and to accommodate as many fellows as possible, we require attendance for the entire conference. Arrangements cannot be made for family attendance. Please [click here](#) for the application.

ASPEN Longitudinal Mentorship Program Article Published

ASPEN Research Committee members have recently published an article in *Frontiers in Pediatrics*, [Developing a Research Mentorship Program: The American Society of Pediatric Nephrology's Experience.](#)

CALENDAR ART CONTEST



The 24th Annual American Kidney Fund Calendar Art Contest is here!

The American Kidney Fund is looking for 13 talented artists to be published in our 2020 Calendar distributed nationwide and we need your help to find them!

Who is eligible?

Children who are 18 and younger and who:

- Have kidney disease
- Are on dialysis or have received a kidney transplant
- Live in the United States

Put your imagination to work!

Let your creativity shine

All winners will receive a great prize and the cover artist will win a free trip to Washington, D.C. to be honored at the American Kidney Fund's annual gala, The Hope Affair, on October 2, 2019.

The opportunities are endless

Art is more than just drawings! Here are a few ideas of things you can create:

- Create a **drawing** or **painting**
- Write and perform a **song**
- Choreograph and perform a **dance**
- Make a short **film**
- Write a poem or short story

The art can be about kidneys, strength and empowerment, patriotic themes, season, things that make you happy, ways you stay healthy, or whatever else you would like!

Meet the 2019 Cover Artist!



De'Nahri M.

Age 7 | Jackson, Mississippi

"Kidneyman: Gives Us Magic Water to Save Our Kidneys"



Questions?

Call the American Kidney Fund at 240-292-7047 or email Lianna Purcell at lpurcell@kidneyfund.org

Visit www.kidneyfund.org/contest to download the application and learn more!

Special Thank You to:



Meeting & Lecture Announcements

ASPN Board Review Course
September 13-15, 2019
Register Now!



Nationwide Children's Hospital ~ Columbus, OH

**7th Annual
Multidisciplinary
Symposium
will be held in
Las Vegas, NV on
September 12-13, 2019**

Registration now Open!



Meeting & Lecture Announcements

Upcoming Meeting Dates*

Meeting	Place	Meeting Dates	Abstract deadline	Online registration opens	Early bird registration ends
IPNA 2019	Venice, Italy	Oct 17-21, 2019	May 31st, 2019	Open now	June 17, 2019
ASN Kidney Week 2019	Washington DC	Nov 5-10, 2019	April 3-May 30, 2019 (2:00 pm. EDT)	June 12, 10:00 am EDT	September 5, 11:59 p.m. EDT

*Please verify dates on the individual meeting websites as they are subject to change.



ESPN Congress 2020

ASPEN members are warmly invited to the ESPN Congress in 2020 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 16-20, with Keynote Speakers, Pierre Ronco and Arvind Bagga. ASPEN Speakers will be announced shortly.

-submitted by Priya Verghese (ASPEN Liaison to the ESPN)



program@ipna2019.org
www.ipna2019.org



Meeting & Lecture Announcements

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To join, visit www.renalmd.org.

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KIDney NOTES

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