



# Digest

Internal Newsletter, November 2016

Pediatric Gastroenterology Special Interest Group, APA DIV54

## A Message from Our Co-Chairs

In our inaugural newsletter as Co-Chairs, we are excited to share updates and news from around the PG-SIG. As always, our members have been active in research, clinical practice, advocacy and policy making. We would like to take the opportunity to highlight changes in PG-SIG leadership and some of the contributions of this group in this newsletter.

We are ever appreciative of the hard work and dedication from Michele Herzer Maddux and Amanda Drews Deacy, who transitioned to Past Co-Chairs at SPPAC 2016. After multiple qualified candidates and the first -ever election, Christina Low Kapalu and Laura Slosky, both at Children's Mercy Kansas City, were elected as Co-Chairs Elect. We also welcomed Kari Baber, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, as Secretary. Welcome to our new Board members as well as all of our new PG-SIG members!

Since our annual meeting in April, PG-SIG members have been actively involved in national and international conferences and meetings. Our members are active and productive: participating in symposia, setting best practice guidelines and building networks to share information. We continue to look for ways to connect students, clinicians and researchers to advance pediatric psychology involvement in pediatric GI patient care. Please be in touch with ideas for the continued growth and development of this community!

Rob Dempster & Brandi Whitaker

## Breaking News: Pediatric Feeding Consortium

Many members of the PG SIG are active in the newly established Pediatric Feeding Consortium. This new organization is working to provide a professional home for pediatric feeding providers both across the United States and Internationally. This is a transdisciplinary society, including psychologists, speech and occupational therapists, dietitians, and medical professionals. Members of this group met in Cincinnati this past October to participate in both an organizational business meeting and an enriching dysphagia conference. Goals of this organization include working towards best practice guidelines, facilitating collaboration among professionals and parents, providing evidence based education on pediatric feeding challenges, participating in advocacy activities for this population, and facilitating both research and professional certification. Active committees have been formed and a number of exciting projects advancing the field of pediatric feeding are coming to fruition. Please don't hesitate to contact Laura Slosky or Rob Dempster for additional information. If you'd like to join the consortium's listserv full of great articles and resources surrounding feeding for free, email Sherri Cohen at COHENS@email.chop.edu.

### PG-SIG Leadership

#### Co-Chairs

Rob Dempster, PhD  
*Nationwide Children's Hospital*  
Brandi Whitaker, PhD  
*Arkansas Children's Hospital*

#### Co-Chairs Elect

Christina Low Kapalu, PhD  
*Children's Mercy Kansas City*  
Laura Slosky, PhD  
*Children's Mercy Kansas City*

#### Past Co-Chairs

Michele Herzer Maddux, PhD  
*Children's Mercy Kansas City*  
Amanda Drews Deacy, PhD  
*Children's Mercy Kansas City*

#### Secretary

Kari Baber, PhD  
*Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

#### At-Large Members

Rose Schroedl, PhD - Education  
*Nationwide Children's Hospital*  
Bonney Reed-Knight, PhD - Research  
*Children's Healthcare of Atlanta*  
Cindy Kim, PhD - Clinical  
*Children's Hospital of Orange County*

#### Student Representatives

Jill Plevinsky, MA - Clinical  
*Rosalind Franklin Univ. of Med./Sci.*  
Amanda Stone MS - Research  
*Vanderbilt University*

ImproveCareNow (ICN) is a quality improvement network of 92 IBD centers that has been bringing together patients, families, clinicians and researchers to improve IBD outcomes since 2007. ICN recognizes **Optimal Psychosocial Health** as one of the key drivers of IBD outcomes. At the most recent ICN conference in September, psychosocial health was a predominant theme, and members of the **ICN Psychosocial Professionals Group** played a large role:

- Michele Maddux (Children’s Mercy) was a consultant for a thought-provoking patient panel: “Starting the Conversation about Self-Management and Co-Directed Care: The Patient Perspective”.
- Michele Maddux and Jill Plevinsky (Rosalind Franklin University) participated in the “Transition of Care Breakout Panel Discussion: Provider Perspectives”.
- Laura Mackner (Nationwide Children’s) was part of a presentation: “Beyond Clinic Walls: Improving School and Community Partnerships to Support Children with IBD”.
- Laura Mackner presented a “deep dive” of the activities and accomplishments of the ICN Psychosocial Professionals Group.
- The Psychosocial Screening Task Force of the Psychosocial Professionals Group recommended that all adolescents with IBD should be screened for depression as part of the ICN clinical practice guidelines for pediatric IBD.
  - Task Force: Laura Mackner, Cheyenne Hughes-Reid (Nemours DuPont), Brandi Whitaker (Arkansas Children’s), Michele Maddux, Bonney Reed-Knight (Children’s Healthcare Atlanta), Suzanne Thompson (St. Louis Children’s)
  - Laura Mackner presented the recommendations, rationale and research supporting depression screening in IBD.
  - Brandi Whitaker provided information about depression screening in cystic fibrosis.
  - Cheyenne Hughes-Reid gave a presentation on depression screening in primary care.
- Members of the Psychosocial Screening Task Force also gave presentations on “Embedding Psychosocial Screening into the Clinic Workflow”.
  - Bonney Reed-Knight described psychosocial screening at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta-Emory and GI Care for Kids.
  - Michele Maddux described psychosocial screening at Children’s Mercy.
  - Laura Mackner described the Pediatric IBD Depression Screening Toolkit developed by the Psychosocial Screening Task Force to assist centers in starting to screen for depression.

If you work in an ICN Center and aren’t yet part of the ICN Psychosocial Professionals Group, please email Laura Mackner:

[Laura.Mackner@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:Laura.Mackner@nationwidechildrens.org).



## World Congress Update

In early October, approximately 20 psychologists from the United States and Canada convened at the World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition (WCPGHAN) in Montreal, Canada. These psychologists, the majority of whom are PG-SIG members, participated in a range of activities including invited multidisciplinary symposia with APGNN (the Association of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses), Meet the Professor Breakfasts, and discipline-specific presentations sponsored by NASPGHAN (the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition). The feedback from presenters’ home institutions and the host organization was uniformly positive. In preparation for future conferences, our current Past Co-Chairs, Amanda Deacy and Michele Maddux, have taken over efforts to integrate psychologists into the NASPGHAN medical conference in the same fashion as our physician colleagues. This is in direct contrast to being a separate entity, as is the case with the nurse practitioner (APGNN) and nutrition (CPNP) groups within NASPGHAN, and more accurately reflects our practice model. This proposed integration has been well received by James Heubi, NASPGHAN President. As evidence of this, Dr. Heubi has requested that Amanda and Michele attend the upcoming NASPGHAN planning meeting in Las Vegas, where content for the NASPGHAN conference (October 2017) will be determined.

## Student Spotlight

**Jennie David** is a 3rd-year clinical psychology doctoral student in Dr. Brian Daly's lab at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. Her research revolves around medical decision-making in pediatric transdiagnostic autoimmune conditions, including Inflammatory Bowel Disease, to best understand how to meaningfully engage pediatric patients and families in their care and the psychosocial impact of doing so. Jennie co-chaired the Patient Advisory Council for the ImproveCareNow Network (a research collaborative of over 90 pediatric IBD clinics); she has been invited to speak about the importance of participatory medicine and co-production in the ImproveCareNow Network at events such as PCORnet's Trustworthiness meeting. Jennie led the primary stakeholder development of a publicly available pediatric ostomy toolkit for children and adolescents with IBD to make ostomy mentorship an accessible experience to all patients. This project was presented at SPPAC in 2016 and is now expanding into a pilot study to further test and refine the toolkit. Her graduate thesis project is focused on understanding the medical decision-making process to begin biologic therapy for pediatric patients with IBD and JIA. She recently submitted a manuscript reviewing eating pathology and body image concerns in adolescents with diet-related chronic health conditions, and her dissertation project - a multi-site study - will focus on assessing such concerns in pediatric IBD. Jennie is also working with young children with faltering weight ("failure to thrive"), focusing on understanding barriers to adherence to and developing an adherence measure for this population.



## Recent Achievements in the PG-SIG

**Jennifer Schurman, PhD** has been selected by the SPP Board of Directors to serve as the Editor for Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology from 2018-2022. She was invited to co-facilitate a Meet the Professor breakfast on the topic of Pediatric Irritable Bowel Syndrome at World Congress.

**Miranda van Tilburg, PhD** has been elected to the council for the American Neurogastroenterology and Motility Society. She also was a member of the Rome IV workgroup, involved in revising the diagnostic criteria for pediatric functional GI disorders and responsible for development and validation of the pediatric Rome IV questionnaires. In June 2016, she gave a presentation on complementary and alternative medicine in functional bowel disorders at the NIH Functional Bowel Disorders Workshop: Future Research Directions in Pathophysiology, Diagnosis and Treatment. Her paper on scripted hypnosis protocols for treatment of functional bowel disorders received the Ernest R. Hilgard Award.

## Training and Continuing Education

### Looking for a psychology fellowship in pediatric GI?

Visit the PG-SIG webpage (<http://pgsig.weebly.com/>) and look under Resources: Training and Education for a list of fellowship programs.

### Hope you see you all in Portland...



Thursday-Saturday • March 30-April 1, 2017  
Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront  
1401 SW Naito Pkwy, Portland, Oregon

### ... and in Las Vegas, too!



2017 NASPGHAN Annual Meeting  
November 2-5, 2017  
Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas, NV

<http://www.naspgghan.org/content/3/en/Meetings>

Are there people, programs or topics you would like to see highlighted in future PG-SIG newsletters? Do you have ideas for a recurring feature? To contribute ideas or articles, please email Kari Baber ([baberk@email.chop.edu](mailto:baberk@email.chop.edu)).