



# Departmental News

Department of Pediatrics ~ LSUMC New Orleans



Robert Adam Noel, MD

**Robert A. Noel, MD**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics-Clinical, in the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology has been selected to receive the **AAP 2013 Outstanding Achievement Award** in the application of epidemiologic information to child health advocacy. Dr. Noel's work on neodymium magnet ingestions in children was recognized for his use of epidemiologic data to draw attention to problem, resulting in significant intervention.

Dr. Noel's observations led to an IRB nationally approved study which showed a drastic increase in cases of rare earth magnet ingestions in children and associated morbidity over the past three years. The findings of this survey prompted the Consumer Product Safety Commission to remove the neodymium magnet ball adult toys from the market in the US. Dr. Noel appeared on televised newscasts alerting the public at large to the dangers to tiny tummies presented by magnet ingestions. The Award will be presented to Dr. Noel during the 2013 AAP National Conference and Exhibition (NCE) in Orlando, Florida on October 27, 2013. Please see the NCE website at <http://www.aapexperience.org> and the October issue of *AAP News* for more information. Well done, Dr. Noel!

## PROMOTIONS!

Congratulations are in order for the following Pediatrics faculty who are being promoted as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

**Susan Berry, MD** promoted to Professor, Clinical

**Bonnie Desselle, MD** Professor, Clinical

**Robin English, MD** Professor, Clinical

**Ricardo Gomez, MD** Associate Professor, Clinical

**Jaime Morales-Arias, MD** Associate Professor, Clinical

**Ryan Pasternak, MD** Associate Professor, Clinical

**Maria Velez, MD** Professor, Clinical

## KUDOS KORNER

The LSUHSC Hematology/Oncology Division at Children's Hospital is now listed on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website as a federally designated Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC). **Jaime Morales-Arias, MD** is the Director of the HTC and **Maria Velez, MD** is the Associate Director.

The Hematology/Oncology Division has been further honored by affiliation with the American Thrombosis and Hemostasis Network (ATHN). As an affiliate, LSUHSC and Children's Hospital New Orleans will be part of a Network consisting of 137 hemophilia treatment centers for bleeding and clotting disorders throughout the community. **Jaime Morales-Arias, MD** is The Principal Investigator for this important affiliation with ATHN. The ATHN website can be found at <http://www.athn.org>.

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## GRANTS

**Michael S. Lan, PhD**, has received a 3-year ADA award from the American Diabetes Association (2013-2015). Dr. Lan's project, *INS-VNTR and AIRE regulate differential insulin expression in human thymic epithelial cells* has been approved for funding as a Basic Science Award.

A \$75,000 Hyundai Hope on Wheels Scholar Grant was awarded to Hematology/Oncology fellow **Matthew Fletcher, MD** for his research project entitled "The role of myeloid-derived suppressor cells in graft vs. host disease in pediatric hematopoietic stem cell transplantation".



## PRESENTATIONS

**Jennifer Mullinax, MD**, 3<sup>rd</sup>-year fellow in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, presented her research data at the national meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology held in Chicago, May 31st-June 4th, 2013. Dr. Mullinax's poster presentation was entitled "Association of Human Neurotropic JC Virus with Pediatric Gangliogliomas."

**Yves Lacassie, MD** attended the 2013 Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, ACMG/44th Annual March of Dimes Clinical Genetics Conference, Arizona, March 19-23, presenting "Diagnosis of Loey-Dietz Syndrome (LDS) in the Neonatal Period: Review and Report of a Newborn with Unusual Features and an Undiagnosed Mother".

Dr. Lacassie also traveled to Paris, France to participate in the annual Meeting of the European Society of Human Genetics, held June 8-11. **Lacassie, Y, Casci, I, Accousti, W.** "Unexpected exome sequencing result: De novo trichorhinophalangeal syndrome type I (TRPSI) mutation in an infant with congenital scoliosis, mild developmental delay, and history of consanguinity. A clinical diagnostic problem solved by this new technique."

A research poster presented by **Pinar Gumus Balikcioglu, MD**, former fellow in the Endocrinology Division (2008-2011), won a prestigious **Presidential Poster Competition Award** at the 95<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Endocrine Society in San Francisco, July 15-18, 2013. The work was entitled "Type 2 Diabetes (T2DM) Is Associated with Reduced Metabolic Inactivation of Cortisol in Obese African-American Children", **Pinar Gumus Balikcioglu, MD, Ricardo Gomez, MD, Sarah R. Stender, MD, Alfonso Vargas, MD**, Gill Rumsby, PhD, FRCPath, John W Honour, PHD and **Stuart A. Chalew, MD**.

A second presentation to the Endocrine Society was "A Comparison of 24-Hour Plasma and Urine Methods for Assessment of Cortisol Metabolome In Obese Children." **Pinar Gumus Balikcioglu, MD, Ricardo Gomez, MD, Sarah R. Stender, MD, Alfonso Vargas, MD**, Gill Rumsby, PhD, FRCPath, John W Honour, PHD and **Stuart A. Chalew, MD**.

*Two posters from the Endocrine Division were presented at the 73d annual meeting of the American Diabetes Association in Chicago, IL, June 21-25, 2013:*

"Familial Association of Skin Advanced Glycation Endproducts (AGEs) in Youth with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)," **Eileen Báez, MD, Shreepal Shah, MD, Dania Felipe, MD John Maynard, James Hempe, PhD, Stuart A. Chalew, MD**.

"Skin Advanced Glycation End products (AGEs) are Increased at Onset in Children with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)," **Shreepal Shah, MD, Eileen Báez, MD, Dania Felipe, MD, John Maynard, James Hempe, PhD, Suzanne Lefevre, MD, Stuart A. Chalew, MD**.

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## PUBLICATIONS

Dabell MP, Rosenfeld JA, Bader P, Escobar LF, El-Khechen D, Vallee SE, Dinulos MB, Curry C, Fisher J, Tervo R, Hannibal MC, Siefkas K, Wyatt PR, Hughes L, Smith R, Ellingwood S, **Lacassie Y**, Stroud T, Farrell SA, Sanchez-Lara PA, Randolph LM, Niyazov D, Stevens CA, Schoonveld C, Skidmore D, MacKay S, Miles JH, Moodley M, Huillet A, Neill NJ, Ellison J W, Ballif BC, Shaffer LG. Investigation of NRXN1 deletions: clinical and molecular characterization. Am J Med Genet A. 2013Apr;161(4):717-31.

**Gumus Balikcioglu P, Gómez R, Vargas A, Aradhya S, Messiaen, LM, Lacassie, Y.** 2013. Adrenal Hypoplasia Congenita with Phenotypic Features Suggestive of Neurofibromatosis Type 1 Among Three African-American Brothers. Am J Med Genet A (in press).

## AWARD-WINNING GRADS!

A number of awards were bestowed upon our graduating residents at the Hello/Good-bye party held on June 14<sup>th</sup>:

**Emily Harrison, MD**, received three awards:

- ♥ The Penny Scurto Award for Outstanding Pediatric Resident Voted by Faculty,
- ♥ The Gretchen Life Award for Pediatric Resident Voted by Graduating Residents,
- ♥ **and** the Outstanding Teaching Award as voted by third year medical students.

**Brooke Miner Dismukes, MD**, won the Pediatric Alumni Award

**Kate Brown, MD**, won the Outstanding Medicine - Pediatric Resident Award Voted by Faculty

**Jason Turner, MD**, won the Outstanding Fellowship Teaching Award Voted by Residents

**Monica Riojas, MD**, won Outstanding Faculty, Nicholas Gagliano Award.

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**Marcie Houser, MD** and **Emily Harrison, MD** will be Chief Residents for the coming year.



Graduating Pediatrics Residents June, 2013

*We'll miss  
you!  
Y'All come  
back and see  
us sometime,  
O. K.?*

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## NEW BABY

Congratulations to Kelly and Tim Allerton on the birth of their second son, Finn Patrick Allerton, born May 17, 2013. Young Finn measured 19.75" and weighed in at 7 lbs, 1 oz.



Finn Patrick with big brother, Harry

# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

