

RESEARCH AND DISCOVERY

IN THE EMORY DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS AND EMORY-CHILDREN'S CENTER

Pediatric Biospecimen Repository Task Force Established



Children's Research Department is moving forward with plans to introduce a specimen repository that can serve the wide variety of needs across our pediatric research

enterprise. We see this as a very important initiative that will have significant short- and long-term benefits to our investigators, our ongoing projects, and our ability to attract additional extramural funding. Allison Wellons, Manager of Egleston Research, is serving as Project Lead for this effort. The immediate goal is to define specific storage units, physical space, LIMS system, specimen types, SOP's, staff and operating budget for 2011. They intend to begin specimen storage in 2011 on a limited basis and increase specimen types in subsequent years.

The project team working on these issues includes:

Paul Spearman, MD, CRO
Kris Rogers, Director of Research
Allison Wellons, Manager Egleston Research
Diana Worthington-White, Children's Research Lab
Stacy Heilman, Cores Director
Jackie Smith, Manager Hem/Onc Research
Barbara Kilbourne, Research Center Program Coordinator
Terry Cameron, Research Center Program Coordinator
Lela Wulf, Children's Director Finance

If you have a strong interest in this effort and would like to be involved, please contact Allison Wellons at Allison.wellons@choa.org.

[Click here for Information and Application for Membership to one of the Children's Research Centers](#)



Call for Membership in the Children's Research Centers!

The first few months in the lives of the Children's Research Centers has been focused on getting them off the ground - including establishing Steering Committees and Advisory Boards, starting faculty recruitment activity, awarding pilot projects and developing collaborative research, and starting seminar series.

We now invite faculty at Emory, Georgia Tech, and Morehouse School of Medicine to apply for membership to the Children's Research Centers of interest to them. [Access the membership information and application here.](#)

There are several benefits to membership in a Children's Research Center. These include:

- Access to all Center shared resources and equipment, at subsidized rates. This same benefit is available to all Emory Department of Pediatrics (DOP) and Children's Medical Staff faculty.
- Access to pilot project grants. Substantial resources will be available in these grants, and will be seen as a mechanism for leveraging pilot projects into full externally funded projects.
- Administrative support for program project, equipment, and other major research grant submissions.
- Numerous opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration for grant submissions and publications, and critical inter- and intra-programmatic activities.

We currently have 8 Research Centers and are in the process of developing additional ones to hopefully

come online in 2011. As a reminder, the current Centers include:

- **AFLAC Cancer Center** (Bill Woods, Director)
- **Center for Cystic Fibrosis Research** (Nael McCarty, Director)
- **Center for Developmental Lung Biology** (Lou Ann Brown, Director)
- **Center for Endothelial Cell Biology** (Solomon Ofori-Acquah, Director)
- **Center for Immunology & Vaccines** (Paul Spearman, Bali Pulendran, Co-Directors)
- **Center for Pediatric Cardiovascular Biology** (Ron Joyner, Director)
- **Center for Pediatric Healthcare Innovation** (Barbara Boyan, Director)
- **Center for Transplant Immunology and Immune Therapies** (Allan Kirk, Leslie Kean Co-Directors)

Centers in development include:

- **Center for Outcomes Research and Public Health** (currently meeting as an interest group)
- **Center for Clinical & Translational Research** (recruiting for leader)
- **Neurosciences Center** (recruiting for leader)
- **Center for Autism Research** (recruiting for leader)
- **Center for Drug Discovery** (Raymond Schinazi, Director)

Research growth in DOP will be aligned with these centers. It is the hope that all researchers in DOP are able to affiliate themselves with one or more centers. If you have any questions about a Center, please contact the Center Director or Paul Spearman.

How Green Can We Be? Sustainability Initiatives in the ECC Building



While we may be participants on our own in recycling and saving energy,

we haven't yet focused as a group on sustainability. Emory University as a whole has made big steps towards reducing its carbon footprint and the amount of waste that goes to landfills through recycling programs, composting and energy saving initiatives. There are many buildings on campus making big changes and we'd like to be a part of that change, too. **Amelia Randall**, former DOP research specialist and now a member of the DOP Finance and Research Administration team, has been named as the new Sustainability Representative for the ECC building.

If you would like to become a member of the Sustainability committee, please contact Amelia at arandal@emory.edu or 404-727-3291. There is a lot of improvement to be made and room for a large impact on our campus and community so get excited!

Lab Recycling is Coming!

Emory Recycles is currently working directly with EHSO to determine guidelines and regulations for lab recycling. The program currently accepts Plastics #1-#6 as well as cardboard and clear, brown and green glass, all of which can currently be found in Labs on every floor of the E-CC. Once guidelines are set for cleaning lab materials and how to collect them for recycling, we'll begin the program here.

MedShare: Surplus Lab Supplies & Equipment

If you or someone you know is moving labs, leaving Emory, or just replacing old equipment and have surplus lab supplies or used equipment they're getting rid of, contact either Amelia or Emory Recycles at 404-712-8921. MedShare is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to improving healthcare through the redistribution of surplus medical supplies and repurposing of laboratory equipment in developing countries such as Haiti. For more information: <http://www.medshare.org/>

What You Can Do To Help Right Now

White Paper: White Paper is the Emory's Recycling Program's greatest commodity and money made from recycling white paper **almost single handedly funds Emory's entire recycling program.** So next time you go to place a piece of white paper in the trash, place it in a blue recycling bin instead!

Take the Sustainability Pledge! [Sustainability Pledge](#)

For more information on Emory's Recycling Program: [Emory Recycles](#)

For more information on Emory's Sustainability Initiatives and to learn more about what you can do to help: [Sustainability at Emory](#)

Citing the GCRC and ACTSI – Necessary if you have Received Support from them



Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Community · Discovery · Training

All publications receiving support from the GCRC or ACTSI must cite one or both awards. Access the guidelines from the Woodruff Health Sciences Center [here.](#)

AIDS Vaccine 2010 Conference: September 28-October 1

The Emory Center for AIDS Research is local host for this 10th annual conference, which is expected to attract more than 1,000 researchers, clinicians, and community advocates from around the world. ACTSI investigator, Carlos del Rio, MD is co-chair of the conference. AIDS Vaccine 2010 is co-hosted by GRA and will be held at the Omni Hotel. Early registration ends July 16. More information can be found [here](#).

Conference on Comparative Effectiveness-September 15

This is a topic that has had growing attention from NIH in grant opportunities. Sponsored by Georgia Bio, this conference will bring together all the players in the health care industry to discuss their perceptions of the role of comparative effectiveness, how it should be integrated into the health care system, and what the ultimate benefit will be. The goal is for the half-day conference to lead to continued discussions among the players as comparative effectiveness becomes part of the health care system. View the preliminary program [here](#).



The conference will be held on Wednesday, September 15, at the Georgia Tech Research Institute Conference Center, 250 14th Street, NW, Atlanta. Registration info can be found at [this site](#).

Are you on the Email List for the NIH Extramural News?



This is a monthly electronic newsletter from the Office of Extramural Research. You can subscribe [here](#). It offers updates and resources such as these:

"Peer" Inside a Study Section

NIH's Center for Scientific Review has produced a pair of videos to give you an inside look at how scientists from across the country review NIH grant applications for scientific and technical merit.

New and established applicants will find insights and understanding that can empower them to improve their applications and increase their chances for receiving a more positive review.

View the videos:

<http://www.csr.nih.gov/video/video.asp>

Podcasts Released: Career Development Awards

Listen to Dr. Henry Khachaturian, Director of Policy and Liaison Activities, Division of Loan Repayment, discuss "[Using Career Development Awards to Achieve Independence](#)" and learn more about

mentored career development awards, including what they are, how to select the right one, and what to address in your application.

Change in Process for Radiation Safety Review at Children's

Emory Radiation Safety has stated they will no longer review any studies involving radioisotope or nucleotide use at Children's facilities due to the fact that Children's is now under a separate state license. Due to this, Children's Radiology Department has created a process for the review of all research studies involving radioisotopes in their facilities. If your research study involves use of radioisotopes or nucleotides,

- Complete the Children's Radionucleotide Application available [here](#)
- Send the completed application including full protocol, informed consent and IRB approval (if applicable) to Fran Stocker, Quality Analyst, at Fran.Stoecker@choa.org

Estimated turn-around-time for approval will be 2 weeks

Update from DOP Space Committee

As a reminder, the DOP Space Committee includes these members:

<i>Paul Spearman, MD, Co-Chair</i>	<i>Ron Joyner, MD/PhD</i>
<i>Liz McCarty, MS, Co-Chair</i>	<i>Pete Lollar, PhD</i>
<i>Lou Ann Brown, PhD</i>	<i>Nael McCarty, PhD</i>
<i>Anne Fitzpatrick, NP, PhD</i>	<i>Vickie Gore, MBA</i>
<i>Subra Kugathasan, MD</i>	<i>Stacy Heilman, PhD</i>

We are currently seeking an ECC faculty member to help represent clinical needs and 1 or 2 faculty members active in resident or fellow education to represent teaching needs in the ECC building. If you are interested in helping to meet the needs of these interests, please let Liz McCarty or Paul Spearman know.

The most recent comprehensive space review has been of lab 260 and the adjacent small lab rooms. Through the course of this review, it was recognized that researchers in ECC could benefit from dedicated specimen processing space, a common equipment core, and locked cabinets for clinical trial supplies. These are being set up as we speak in room 260 and will be available for use by all of our Children's Research Center members and DOP faculty.

As the Committee starts to review research space on the other floors, both the division chiefs and the faculty will be sent information on what the review involves. The goal of the committee is to most effectively address space needs during this time before the new

building comes on line, and accommodate our current efforts in recruitment and growth.

eBIRT: the New Electronic Biomedical Interactive Resource Tool

The Atlanta Clinical & Translational Science Institute (ACTSI) and the Emory Research and Health



Sciences IT division announce the recent release of the electronic Biomedical Interactive Resource Tool (eBIRT), a new web-based application used for research resource discovery. For researchers, eBIRT serves as a "one-stop virtual shop" for research resources, such as laboratory services, equipment, software, consultation services, training opportunities, and more. To search for resources in eBIRT, go to <http://ebirt.emory.edu>.

The June 2010 newsletter from Emory Research Administration can be found here: http://www.osp.emory.edu/OSP_documents/RA_News_June_10.pdf

This issue includes a guide to reading your eNOA and info on the new fringe benefit rates

New funding received in February, March, April, and May 2010

David Archer, PhD, HemOnc, NIH R01, "THE PATHOGENESIS OF SICKLE CELL NEPHROPATHY - DIVERSITY SUPPLEMENT"

Todd Cooper, DO, HemOnc, Children's Hospital of LA, "A Study of Bortezomib with Chemotherapy for Relapsed/Refractory Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia"

Carlton Dampier, MD, HemOnc, CHOP, "...Content expert on a study to look at barriers to enrollment of minority children into sickle cell clinical trials"

Eric Felner, MD, Endo, UCSF – Immune Tolerance Network, "ITN041A1: Effect of intravenous alpha-1 antitrypsin on preserving beta cell..."

Anne Fitzpatrick, PhD, PACS, Wake Forest, "ATLANTIC COAST CONSORTIUM FOR ASTHMA ACC-A ASTHMA-NET"

Larry Greenbaum, MD, Nephrology, Alexion Pharmaceuticals, "An open-label, multi-center controlled clinical trial of eculizumab in adolescent patients with plasma therapy-resistant Atypical Hemolytic-Uremic Syndrome (aHUS)"

Nitika Gupta, MD, GI, "Children's Digestive Health and Nutrition Foundation, "Role of GLP-1R Agonists in ischemia-reperfusion injury"

Howard Katzenstein, MD, HemOnc, Children's Hospital Assn, "A Phase II Trial of External Beam XRT Therapy and Cetuximab... for Children and Young Adults w/Newly Diagnosed Diffuse Pontine Tumors and High Grade Astrocytomas"

Howard Katzenstein, MD, HemOnc, Dana Farber Cancer Inst, "A Phase II Study of RAD001 Everolimus for children w/chemotherapy and/or radiation"

Howard Katzenstein, MD, HemOnc, Natl Childhood Cancer Foundation, "Phase III Study of chimeric antibody 14.18 in high risk neuroblastoma"

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, Novo Nordisk, "N8 - NN7008-3543 -NovoNordisk - A Multi-Centre, Open-Label, Non-Controlled Trial on Efficacy and Safety of N8 in Prevention and Treatment of Bleeds..."

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, Novo Nordisk, "A Multi-Centre, Open-Label, Single-Arm, and Multiple Dosing Trial on Safety of Monthly Replacement Therapy with Recombinant Factor XIII (rFXIII) in Subjects with Congenital Factor FXIII Deficiency Safety Extension Trial to F13CD-1725)"

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, NIH RC2, "TESTING OF MECHANISTIC HYPOTHESES GENERATED BY FINDINGS"

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, RHO, "Pharmacokinetic and Outcome Study of Inspiration's Recombinant Factor IX"

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, CSL Behring, "Bone density in hemophilia"

Christine Kempton, MD, HemOnc, U Pitts, "vWD retrospective case-control study to determine predictors of vWD in children"

Subra Kugathasan, MD, GI, Cincinnati Children's, "BIOMARKERS FOR INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE AND TREATMENT RESPONSE"

Peter Lane, MD, HemOnc, New England Res Inst, "IMPROVE Trial"

Peter Lane, MD, HemOnc, New England Res Inst, "Preventing acute chest syndrome by transfusion proactive feasibility study"

Tobey MacDonald, MD, HemOnc, Brain Tumor Foundation, "Preclinical investigation of novel agents against PDGFR-Rac1-Pak1 signaling path"

Tobey MacDonald, MD, HemOnc, CHOA, "Targeting the PDGFR pathway in preclinical brain tumor model"

Sampath Prahalad, MD, Rheumatology, Cincinnati Children's, "Research registry for juvenile rheumatoid arthritis"

Mark Rigby, MD, Critical Care, NIH R21,
“MULTICENTER TRIAL TO CONTROL
HYPERGLYCEMIA IN PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE”

Mark Rigby, MD, Critical Care, UCSF-Immune
Tolerance Network, “ITN045AI Protocol Chair Support”

Sandra Roman, MD, Nephrology, Johns Hopkins,
“Safety and immunogenicity of human papillomavirus”

Allison Ross, MD, ID, GlaxoSmithKline, “Vitamin D
and cardiovascular biomarkers in HIV-infected children
and young adults”

Michael Schechter, MD, PACS, PTC Therapeutics,
“TREATMENT FOR NONSENSE-MUTATION-
MEDICATED CYSTIC FIBROSIS”

Michael Schechter, MD, PACS, CF Foundation,
“Therapeutics Development Center”

Shilpa Vyas-Read, MD, Neonatology, Washington
Univ, “Epidemiology of Surfactant Protein B Deficiency”

Muxiang Zhou, PhD, HemOnc, NIH R01,
“BERBERINE DOWNREGULATES MDM2 BY
INTERACTIO WITH DAXX IN CANCER CELLS”

Funding Received in FY10 – How are we Meeting Our Goals?

DOP set a goal of receiving **\$26M** in total funding and **\$12M** in NIH funding for FY10. This was based on our having received \$24.5M total funding and \$12M NIH funding in FY09.

As of the May 2010 OSP reports, we have received **\$10.2M** total funding and **\$5.4M** in NIH funding. It's hard to tell if this is truly reflective of lower than expected funding this year or if it speaks to continued lags at the Emory OSP level of processing awards. The story isn't finished until after the August 2010 OSP reports have been run. We'll keep you posted!

*Don't forget to check in on
www.pedsresearch.org periodically.*

*It's the primary site for Children's and
DOP research. A major effort is underway
with a web design company to develop
much more capability and content. We
hope to have this available to you later
this year.*