

### Residency positions expanded from 21 to 25 at Emory Match Day 2016



The Emory Pediatrics Residency Program is very excited to begin the first year of an expanded residency class, beginning in July 2016. The number of categorical residents is increasing from 21 per year to 25 per year. The Lettie Pate Evans Foundation has made this possible with a grant to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in partnership with Emory University School of Medicine. When the full implementation occurs in July 2018, the size of the residency Program will be 75. The national Match for the new intern class was announced on March 18. The Child Neurology Program increased in size this year, as well, and matched two Emory students. The new interns are geographically diverse, coming from 16 states, including three from Georgia. We look forward to showing all of them some Southern hospitality. Many thanks to all for your support of resident education!

### Dr. Hughes Evans to Develop New Education Strategic Plan for Department of Pediatrics



Dr. Hughes Evans, Vice Chair for Education, is preparing to launch a new strategic planning process for Education in the department. This strategic plan will be conducted in partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and the School of Medicine. In preparation for the plan, you will be receiving a survey to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to our educational programs and mission. Dr. Evans is also interested in hearing from faculty, fellows, residents, and educational staff who are interested in participating on the strategic plan.

For more information, feel free to contact Dr. Evans: [hughes.evans@emory.edu](mailto:hughes.evans@emory.edu).

### Dr. Cynthia Wetmore named Principal Investigator of new "first in pediatrics" investigator initiated study of a drug for children with brain tumors



The Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics program, Aflac Cancer & Blood Disorders Center, recently opened a novel "first in pediatrics" study of *abemaciclib*, an inhibitor of cyclin dependent kinases 4 and 6 (Cdk 4/6) for children with newly diagnosed diffuse pontine glioma and for patients with recurrent or progressive solid tumors including malignant brain tumors. *Abemaciclib* is taken as a pill twice per day and is a small molecule inhibitor of Cdk 4/6 which is an important enzyme regulating progression through the cell cycle and cell division. Inhibition of this kinase is particularly damaging to tumor cells which are often not able to recover from such a blockade. Unlike other inhibitors of Cdk 4/6, this agent is readily able to cross the blood brain barrier making it a very attractive option for brain tumors that are resistant to other types of therapy. This class of inhibitors has been approved by the FDA for use in certain types of breast cancer but this is the first study to include pediatric patients. Dr. Cynthia Wetmore, Director of the Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics program at Aflac, holds the Carter Samuel Martin endowed chair in Developmental Therapeutics and this new study is generously supported by the CURE Childhood Cancer Foundation, as well as by Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals.



### Dr. Harold Simon featured on CBS News Sunday Morning



Dr. Harold Simon, Marcus Professor and Vice Chair of Faculty, recently appeared on *CBS News Sunday Morning*. He explained a study that he completed in 2001 involving accidental shootings among young boys. The study involved eight - to 12-year-old boys who were put in a room where a modified handgun was placed. The magazine was removed from the gun and a radio transmitter was installed to monitor whether the boys initiated enough force to have pulled the gun's trigger and fired it.

Read more and watch the video: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-other-victim-of-an-accidental-shooting/>

### Dr. Shih gives advice for allergy season in AJC



Your kids are sniffing and sneezing and feeling miserable. Chances are, it's caused by the pollen floating around Atlanta. This pollen – from oak, hickory, pecan and other trees – can cause many children to suffer congestion, runny nose and sneezing as if they had a cold. "As we all know in Atlanta, we start seeing the yellow covering everything - which is beautiful - but not so much for people who have allergies," Dr. Jennifer Shih said. Dr. Jennifer Shih, pediatric allergist and immunologist for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and assistant professor of pediatrics and internal medicine for Emory University School of

Medicine, appeared in a recent issue of AJC, giving some much-needed advice for children suffering from allergies.

Read the full article: <http://www.ajc.com/news/lifestyles/parenting/how-help-your-little-one-breathe-easier-during-all/nqsCr/>

### Dr. Douglas Graham receives the Daniel P Amos Chair



On March 28, Dr. Doug Graham received the coveted Daniel P Amos Chair while surrounded by the Aflac family and special guests. Pictured at the left, with Dr. Graham, are Dan and Kathleen Amos (Aflac) and Donna Hyland (CEO, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta). The previous recipient of the endowed chair was Dr. Bill Woods, who stepped down in 2015 after years of service as the Chief of the Aflac Cancer Center.

## Upcoming Events

### April 16 – 17

Emory & CHOA's New Horizons in Pediatrics, Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center

For more info:

<http://www.choa.org/Health-Professionals/Education/CME-Events/New-Horizons-April-16-17>

### April 21-22

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Neonatology Conference to be held at the Emory Conference Center

For more info:

<http://www.pediatrics.emory.edu/divisions/neonatology/>

## Doctors come together to advise about Zika virus at forum



Dr. Raymond Schinazi, Frances Winship Walters Professor of Pediatrics, spoke about the chemistry and biology of viruses pertaining to the Zika virus during the Zika Forum presented by the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami. Top public health leaders, physicians and scientists from the U.S. and Brazil discussed the ongoing research and study of the Zika virus in a packed ballroom in the Shalala Student Center on Wednesday. The experts discussed at length the latest public health and ethical implications of scientific findings into the outbreak of the virus, which was declared an international public health emergency by the World Health Organization on February 1. The event registered about 240 visitors beforehand and 100 on site, according to the registration staff. The

Miller School of Medicine hosted the forum, along with the UHealth system.

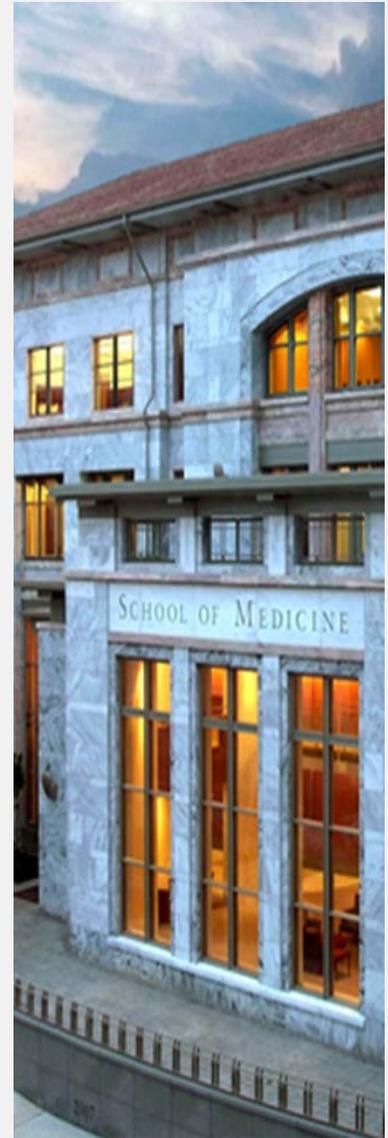
Read the full article: <http://www.themiamihurricane.com/2016/03/23/doctors-come-together-to-advise-about-zika-virus-at-forum/>.

## Upcoming Zika Virus Conference

On behalf of Raymond Schinazi, PhD, DSc; José Esparza, MD, PhD; and Mauro Teixeira, MD, PhD, course directors and co-chairs, we are pleased to invite you to Bridging the Sciences: Zika Virus, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 1 – 3, 2016.

This meeting will facilitate interactions and collaboration between Brazilian scientists and their international colleagues, and will feature scientific sessions geared toward fundamental understanding of Zika biology and practical considerations for management of the infection. Participants in this activity will be updated on key features of Zika epidemiology, pathophysiology, and virology, as well as emerging preventive and therapeutic strategies. These updates on basic and clinical research will be presented in a practical and interactive format that facilitates discussion.

For more info: <http://www.btsmeetings.com/zika/>



## Drs. Linda and Jon Lewin visit Emory Children's Center

Dr. Jon Lewin, the new CEO of Emory Healthcare, and his wife, Dr. Linda Lewin, visited the Emory Children's Center. They were accompanied on the tour by Donna Hyland, Sylvia Dick, and Mary Beth Bova. The Lewins have strong connections with pediatrics.

## In Other News

### Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory to host a reception at the Pediatric Academic Society meeting in Baltimore!

#### *You're invited!*

Join us for a cocktail reception for faculty, alumni and friends of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Emory University Department of Pediatrics and Georgia Institute of Technology.

*When:* **Saturday | April 30 | 8 p.m.**

*Where:* **Hilton Baltimore Hotel-Holiday Ballroom 1**

*Hosted by:*

#### **Lucky Jain, M.D., MBA**

Richard W. Blumberg Professor and Interim Chair  
Emory University Department of Pediatrics  
Executive Medical Director and Interim Chief Academic Officer  
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

#### **Paul Spearman, M.D.**

Chief Research Officer, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta  
Nahmias-Schinazi Research Professor and Vice Chair for Research Department of Pediatrics,  
Emory University School of Medicine

*Sponsored by:* **Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, [choa.org/PAS2016](http://choa.org/PAS2016)**

#### **DOP Staff Award Program**

The Department of Pediatrics is pleased to announce a new Staff Award Program to recognize the hard work and dedication of the many Emory University staff, post docs, and other non-faculty members that help to advance our mission. For the past number of years, we've honored our dedicated faculty, and we would now like to expand the program. Beginning on March 1, 2016, you may nominate a deserving non-faculty employee of the Department for one of the Staff Awards. Nominations will be accepted through April 15, 2016 (hard deadline), and winners will be announced at the State of the Department Address on May 5, 2016.

To view award categories and/or submit a nomination, [click here](#).

#### **Jain's Healthy Corner**

##### **Wellness Tidbit of the Month**



Dear Friends: Need an appointment with an Emory Clinic provider? Use the EVIP line especially setup for employees and families to give you expedited scheduling and access. For more details to this and other wellness services, use the following link : <http://www.hr.emory.edu/eu/docs/healthy-resources.pdf>

Best wishes, Lucky

