Welcome to this edition of Pediatric Pulse, a Kentucky Children’s Hospital newsletter published specifically for referring physicians. The newsletter is intended to provide updates on the happenings at Kentucky Children’s Hospital as well as provide helpful education on pediatric topics and information on any new providers or services.

This issue includes a dedication to the career and retirement of Andrew Pulito, MD, the announcement of a new pediatric emergency medicine physician and an update on genetics and metabolism by R. Stephen S. Amato, MD, PhD.

I realize that there have been difficulties referring patients to certain specialties. We are aware of those frustrations and are working hard to recruit the appropriate staff to help alleviate those issues. We have new faculty who have recently joined us who we will be announcing in the next issue. Thank you for being patient and understanding while we continue to recruit new providers.

Kentucky Children’s Hospital records are available through the physician portal. The most utilized information is the online discharge notes from the newborn nursery and units, along with lab results and procedural notes. More daily progress notes also are being made available online. Our liaisons will be glad to instruct you or your office staff in accessing the portal.

As always, we continue to focus on improving communication with our referring providers. In the meantime, if you have trouble getting in touch with your patient’s attending physician, please contact me through UK•MDs (toll free 800-888-5533), email at cwall4@uky.edu, or my office phone 859-323-1432.

If there’s a topic you would like to see addressed in a future issue of Pediatric Pulse, contact our Marketing Manager, Cynde Estep, at cleston2@email.uky.edu.

Carmel Wallace, MD
Physician-in-Chief, Kentucky Children’s Hospital
Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Division Chief, General Academic Pediatrics
The 21st century has brought advances in technology that enhance the understanding of inherited diseases on a molecular and personal level. The discoveries of primary causes for these complicated disorders are slowly leading to molecular and biochemical treatments. Although the inherited biochemical disorders are individually rare, collectively they are a major cause of disability and death.

The Division of Genetics and Metabolism has initiated a program of enzyme replacement therapy for several conditions. At present, these include treatment for Fabry Disease, Morquio Disease, Hunter Syndrome and Pompe Disease. These therapies include regular infusions of replacement enzyme to correct, alleviate and treat the consequences of each disorder.

The Division is also conducting experimental trials of an enzyme given by daily injection to treat Phenylketouria (PKU). PKU was the disorder that stimulated the start of newborn infant screening in the 1960s. Treatment has been by a stringent low protein diet, but this treatment is very difficult to follow, and the enzyme replacement therapy may be curative. Two studies are underway. The first is testing the tolerance of patients for the medication, a bacterial derived enzyme “Phenylalanine Lyase,” and its success in lowering neurotoxic blood levels of phenylalanine, and the second is a double blind study of the treatment to determine if it can correct subtle cognitive, emotional and behavioral aspects of the disorder. These trials are in conjunction with BioMarin, a biotech company that specializes in developing new therapies for rare disorders.

To date, there are 21 patients participating in these treatments and trials. Patients range in age from 3 to 58 years.

The Division has established this methodology for new treatments at the University of Kentucky and is serving as a center for the development of the new PKU treatment.
Celebration of a Career in Pediatric Surgery

Andrew R. Pulito, MD, retired from full-time academic practice in July 2014. He spent his entire life dedicated to the surgical care of children here in the Bluegrass for three generations. He did this for more than a decade by himself. He has served as a mentor for hundreds of physicians and surgeons who trained at UK. Many are practicing and taking care of patients in our region. Finally, he served the state medical community as a leader in the Lexington Medical Society, Kentucky Medical Association and the American Medical Association. But most of all, he was devoted to the practice of pediatric surgery. Many of our neighbors know him and his amazing work with our sick kids. He is known as “the doctor with the buttons on his coat” and a smile on his face.

On Dec. 6, 2014 at the Carrick House in Lexington, friends, family and colleagues celebrated his 36-year career. It was a night where we celebrated countless lives touched and relationships forged as well as lives saved and lost. Dr. Pulito’s career paralleled the growth of both Lexington and Kentucky Children’s Hospital. Children’s surgical care in the Bluegrass would not have been able to grow and flourish without his skill and leadership. The theme of the night was a Broadway show, something that touched on Dr. Pulito and his wife Evelyn’s love of the New York musical scene. “Performers” took the stage to recall highlights of his career and honor the humble surgeon all while trying to raise funds for a professorship in his honor in pediatric surgery. Speakers included all his current partners, Sean Skinner, MD, John Draus, MD, and Ana Ruzic, MD, who acted as emcees for each act of the show. Talks by Ardis Hoven, MD, past president of the AMA, Preston Nunnelly, MD, Matthew Shane, MD, William Farish, and Robert Letton, MD, discussed milestones of Dr. Pulito’s clinical career and his devotion to education. The evening ended with his children talking about their dad and finally with Dr. Pulito bringing the night together. Other highlights from the evening’s festivities included a “selfie” booth with Dr. Pulito’s white coat full of buttons and performances by the University of Kentucky School of Music. Contributions to the Andrew R. Pulito Professorship in Pediatric Surgery are still being accepted through the KCH Development office. KCH would like to thank Dr. Pulito for his career devoted to the lives of all our children.

Physician Liaison Program

The Physician Liaison Program works to improve service to providers who refer patients to UK HealthCare physicians, hospitals and clinics. The team’s role is to facilitate communication between you, the referring provider, and our physicians and staff so you get the access and information you need.

If you have questions, or would like to schedule portal training, contact Tarra Crane Lowe at 859-559-7602 or tlcran2@email.uky.edu.

Community Corner

Join us for the next
Community Wide Morning Report
May 20, 2015
Wheeler Room – MN136
UK Chandler Hospital Pavilion H

For more information or to register, contact Tarra Crane Lowe at tarra.crane@uky.edu or 859-257-5736.

The department is always looking for interesting cases to present at our meetings. The discussions are enlightening and have led to new ways of thinking about care for our patients. These are well attended. Please email or call me with suggestions. I also appreciate any suggestions related to Community Pediatrics at UK.

Katrina Hood, M.D.
Chief, Division of Community Pediatrics
859-277-6102
khood@paalex.com
Playing any sport is a great way for kids to have fun while exercising, learning about teamwork and discipline and making new friends. Unfortunately, sports can also put an athlete at risk for injury. Injuries can be as mild as scraped elbows and knees to more serious ones like concussions or heat related illness.

Did you know?
• Every day emergency rooms see 3,400 children with sports related injuries. That’s one child every 15 seconds.
• 90 percent of athletes have been injured playing a sport and more than half have reported playing while injured.
• About 42 percent of players report they have hidden an injury or downplayed it during a game so they can keep on playing and 62 percent of players say they know someone else who has done so.

When to Stop Play and Seek Immediate Medical Attention:
If an athlete —
• Is bleeding and swelling.
• Is unable to bear weight on the affected limb.
• Feels dizzy or physically ill.

Play Smart
• Follow injury prevention protocols that are set at the beginning of each season for both team members and parents.
• Learn ways to prevent injuries: Proper technique, training and conditioning.
• Prevent overuse injuries. Encourage young athletes to take time off from playing only one sport; allowing them time to get stronger and develop skills learned in another sport.
• Encourage young athletes to speak up when they are injured.

Play Safe
• Obtain a pre-participation physical exam each year.
• Warm up before and cool down after an activity.
• Wear proper fitting equipment.
• Drink water before, during, and after practices and games.
• Rest and take a break.

Got Pain?
• If an athlete experiences sharp pain, they should stop the activity immediately.
• Playing through the pain may make the injury worse.

Batter Up!
The Spring Sports season is here!
Is your young athlete ready?

Some injuries or sports related illnesses require emergency attention.
These include heat related illnesses or hits to the head, neck or spine.

Follow us on Facebook: Safe Kids Fayette County