



# Dermatology Newsletter

Summer 2023



## Message from the Chair – Summer 2023

**Teresa S. Wright, MD, FAAP****Chairperson**

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Greetings from the Section on Dermatology!

I am honored and excited to begin my term as Chair of the Section on Dermatology (SOD) and am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to our newly elected Executive Committee members, Dr. Brandi Kenner-Bell and Dr. Sean Reynolds. I know they will bring a wealth of ideas and experience to the group, and I look forward to collaborating with them.

As you will see from the summaries in this Newsletter, the SOD and its Sub-Committees have had a remarkably busy and productive year. I am pleased that a representative from our Advocacy Sub-Committee was able to attend the recent AAP Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC. Our Education Sub-Committee continues to make regular contributions to the HealthyChildren.org website, as well as a variety of other AAP sponsored publications. In February, we hosted an extraordinarily successful 3rd Annual Pediatric Dermatology Pearls for the Pediatric Provider webinar. I am proud to share that we have had six pediatric dermatology session proposals accepted for the 2023 NCE meeting, and am thrilled to report that our membership continues to increase each year and that we have expanded our Visiting Professorship Program to include a virtual option in addition to the existing in-person format.

I want to thank my predecessor, Ex-Officio, Dr. Kim Horii for her leadership and mentorship as I make this transition into the role of Chair for the SOD. I also want to thank our new section manager, Melissa Marx, for her outstanding and expert assistance with all the administrative needs of this committee.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Chair for the AAP's SOD, and I look forward to leading our efforts to further our mission of "improving the care of infants, children, and adolescents with cutaneous disorders."

If you have questions or comments on our activities or wish to become more involved, please contact our Section on Dermatology Manager, Melissa Marx ([m Marx@aap.org](mailto:m Marx@aap.org)), 630-626-6324.

Sincerely,

Teresa S. Wright MD, FAAP

*We welcome contributions to the newsletter on any topic of interest to the pediatric dermatology community.  
Please submit your idea or article to: [Melissa Marx at m Marx@aap.org](mailto:m Marx@aap.org)*

Section on Dermatology Newsletter  
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# AAP Election Results

The SOD is excited to welcome Dr. Brandi Kenner-Bell for her first term on the Executive Committee and Dr. Sean Reynolds, who will be joining us in the role of Early Career Physician Liaison. We are also very pleased to share that Dr. Christine Lauren will remain on the Committee for a second term.



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## Society for Pediatric Dermatology (SPD) Meeting Updates

The pre-American Academy of Dermatology SPD meeting took place in New Orleans, LA at the Roosevelt Hotel on March 16th. A total of 308 registered attendees enjoyed lectures on a variety of topics relevant to pediatric dermatology, including dysautonomia, medical photography, pediatric melanoma, and hidradenitis suppurativa, to name a few. In addition, several interesting/challenging “Cases of the Year” were presented.

The SPD’s 2023 Annual Meeting is set to take place in Asheville, North Carolina at The Omni Grove Park Inn July 13-16th. We look forward to presenting the Alvin Jacobs Award for outstanding lifetime contribution in the field of pediatric dermatology to Dr. Sheila Fallon-Friedlander of the University of California in San Diego. We will also be presenting our Education Travel Award to a dermatology resident or pediatric dermatology fellow with the most outstanding presentation or poster focusing on pediatric dermatology education, workforce, Medical Home, or collaboration with pediatrician partners.

<https://pedsderm.net/meetings/annual-meeting/#Anchor-Registration>

### Underrepresented in Medicine (URiM) Mentorship Award

The SPD proudly sponsors the Underrepresented in Medicine (URiM) Mentorship Award. This award supports the academic pursuits of historically marginalized individuals with disproportionately low representation in pediatric dermatology. The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) describes “underrepresented in medicine” as “those racial and ethnic populations that are underrepresented in the medical profession relative to their numbers in the general population,” defined as Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. To promote greater inclusivity in our selection process, we will consider additional elements of diversity, including LGBTQIA+ identification, physical or mental impairment, immigration status, socio-economic background, or disadvantaged experiences. This year, the SPD expanded the application pool to include pediatric residents interested in pursuing formal dermatology training to later work as board-certified pediatric dermatologists.

The award funds exposure to pediatric dermatology through mentorship and in-person clinical experience. The rotation can be 1 - 4 weeks and should be discussed with the pediatric dermatology mentor in advance. We hope initiatives like this mentorship program will lead to better representation and participation by URiM physicians within our field. Stay tuned for the 2024 application season to open!

-Crystal Pourciau, MD (Chair; SPD’s Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee)

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## Pediatric Dermatology Case of the Month



**Raegan Hunt, MD, PhD, FAAP**  
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Houston, TX  
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The Pediatric Dermatology Case of the Month feature is sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Dermatology. The Section on Dermatology recognizes the long-standing effect workforce shortages have had on dermatology education for pediatric trainees. This online, interactive tool was created to address pediatric dermatology knowledge gaps among practicing pediatricians and pediatric trainees. Cases of interest and those that address American Board of Pediatrics content specifications will be presented each month in vignette form.

AAP and SOD members can subscribe to receive the monthly cases by visiting <https://collaborate.aap.org/SOD/Pages/Home.aspx>.

You will need to enter your email address and password, and then scroll down to the Current Case.

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## Education Committee Update



**Sarah Stein, MD, FAAP**  
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The SOD Education Committee updated our membership this year. We have 10 enthusiastic physician members and 2 trainee members.

The Committee continues to contribute to educational initiatives of the AAP through several modalities. New content has been updated and created for the website [HealthyChildren.org](http://HealthyChildren.org), to include the following topics:

- Acne is a common condition afflicting almost all adolescents to some degree. Drs. Matthew Mahoney and Sarah Asch collaborated on an updated patient-focused approach to understanding and managing this condition with attention to the psychosocial impacts.
- Impetigo is a frequent bacterial skin infection that may remain localized or can spread extensively, especially in those with underlying skin disorders such as eczema. Drs. Matthew Mahoney and Ingrid Polcari provided an updated review of the signs and symptoms, diagnosis and management of this often-recurrent affliction.
- Tinea infections include superficial skin infections commonly referred to as “ringworm”, “athlete’s foot” and “jock itch”. Student doctor Jenna Dick and Dr. Christina Boull wrote an article reviewing how to recognize and manage these infections.
- Scabies infestation causes an extremely itchy hypersensitivity rash that requires careful attention to treating not just the one most affected individual, but the whole household and the environment. Dr. Sarah Asch described the most up to date approach to eradicating this affliction.

The SOD contributes annually to the AAP News in the Focus on Subspecialties section. The 2023 contribution, authored by Drs. Sarah Stein and Ingrid Polcari, was published in April on the topic of psoriasis with an update on co-morbidities and management in pediatric patients. The article can be accessed at <https://publications.aap.org/aapnews/news/23778/Update-on-psoriasis-co-morbidities-management-in?searchresult=1>. The evolving recognition of the association between psoriasis and systemic co-morbidities that can impact lifelong health, such as musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, metabolic and psychiatric conditions, necessitates strong partnerships between pediatricians and dermatologists to appropriately monitor and care for these children.

An updated edition of the AAP publication *Caring for Your Baby and Young Child* is in process. Members of the SOD have reviewed and provided feedback on the dermatology relevant portions of several chapters as the work of revising progresses.

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## Membership Committee Update

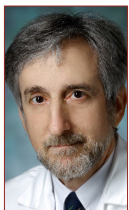


**Marissa Perman, MD**  
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Membership in the SOD remains strong. Despite having multiple opportunities to join other societies, our members feel a strong obligation toward advocacy and education of our fellow pediatricians and their patients particularly in the setting of the severe shortage of pediatric dermatologists. Total SOD membership has been on the rise from 98 members in 2020, 128 members in 2021 to the current membership number of 152. One third of SOD members are medical students, which remains a group that continues to increase. We are continuing to try and identify ways to encourage more of our pediatric dermatology colleagues to join the AAP SOD as we continue to find ways to improve the health and wellbeing of our pediatric patients.

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## AAP Advocacy Conference



**Bernard A. Cohen, MD, FAAP**  
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I was impressed with my first AAP Advocacy Conference which I attended as a representative of the Section on Dermatology of the American Academy of Dermatology in Maryland from March 26-28 in Washington, DC.

There were representatives of the Advocacy Committee from every state in the union for a total of over 200 representatives. We had multiple workshops with speakers on childhood immunizations, nutrition, gun violence, how to make advocacy work for us, how to tell advocacy stories, children's health care coverage, and online protection. Speakers included the President of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Chair of the AAP Committee on Federal Government Affairs, pediatricians who were members of the AAP and working in the Federal Government including Rachael Levine the Assistant Secretary for Health and US Department of Human Services. All of these sessions preceded with visiting our state congressman at the Capitol.

Specific issues that we discussed for advocating for the 118 Congress included the following:

- (1) Access to health care for children
- (2) The need to advocate for increased vaccine coverage particularly during the COVID epidemic
- (3) The need to work for mental health care and other health issues for children during this pandemic period
- (4) Support for SNAP, the nation's largest child nutrition program
- (5) Importance of bipartisan coverage of family access to paid family and medical leave to support child health and wellbeing

Major discussion was dedicated to supporting legislation for protecting young people online. The group recognized that children as young as 1-2 years old were spending significant time online with adolescents online constantly. Unfortunately, the online ecosystem was not designed with young people in mind and their privacy is not protected. In fact, it is recognized that many online sites target young people with advertisements that focus on commercial gain. Unfortunately, this may result in abnormal behavior in children as well.

*Continued on Page 6*

In 2022 congress came close to passing the Kids Online Safety Act and the Children and Teens Online Privacy Protection Act because of the consensus about the impact of digital platforms on young people. These laws are still pending, and we were trained on how to advocate for them. We subsequently divided into state advocacy groups and met with our congressional senators and representatives and/or their representatives at the Capitol on Tuesday morning.

We now await responses from our representatives and continue to contact them to support approval of these acts.

If you are interested in following progress of these advocacy issues, contact the AAP Washington office at 202-347-8600 or [kids1@aap.org](mailto:kids1@aap.org).

Thanks,  
Buddy Cohen

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## Visiting Professor Program Update



**Miriam Weinstein, MD, FRCPC, FAAP**  
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Toronto, ON  
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**T**he Visiting Professorship Committee is getting ready to review applicants for the 2023 Visiting Professorship Awards with this year's winners to be announced in early summer! We can once again offer in-person professorships after several years of offering on-line teaching. We're excited that we've emerged from this experience with an expanded program and will now be offering both in-person and virtual professorships starting this year! This will enable more pediatric residency programs to receive pediatric dermatology teaching from experienced faculty. We'll offer 1 in-person fellowship per year and 1-3 virtual professorships per year. Another update is the family medicine residency programs (with sponsorship from a local AAP chapter) may apply as we recognize that family physicians provide primary care to many children and would also benefit from our educational programs. The in-person visiting professorship will continue to be known as the **Walter Tunnessen Visiting Professorship** and the virtual visiting professorship has been named to honor the memory of our dear colleague and committee member, **Janice Pelletier**, and will be the **Janice Pelletier Visiting Professorship**.

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## SOD Executive Committee Roster

**Teresa Wright, MD, FAAP**

*Chair*

**Kim Horii, MD, FAAP**

*Ex-Officio Chair*

*Executive Committee Members*

**Christina Boull, MD, FAAP**

**Deepti Gupta, MD, FAAP**

**Raegan Hunt, MD, PhD, FAAP**

**Christine Lauren, MD, FAAP**

**Sheilagh Maguiness, MD, FAAP**

*Membership Committee*

**Marissa Perman, MD**

*Education Committee*

**Sarah Stein, MD, FAAP**

**Sarah Asch, MD, FAAP**

**Christina Boull, MD, FAAP**

**Lisa Gelles, MD, FAAP**

**Deepti Gupta, MD, FAAP**

**Raegan Hunt, MD, PhD, FAAP**

**Christine Lauren, MD, FAAP**

**Matthew Mahoney, DO**

**Laura Melnick, MD**

**Ingrid Polcari, MD, FAAP**

**Sean Reynolds, MBBCH**

**Jaqueline Tran**

**Patricia Treadwell, MD, FAAD, FAAP**

*Advocacy Committee*

**Bernard A. Cohen, MD, FAAP**

*Visiting Professor Committee*

**Miriam Weinstein, MD, FRCPC, FAAP**

**Bernard A. Cohen, MD, FAAP**

**Kim Horii, MD, FAAP**

**Brandi Kenner-Bell, MD, FAAP**

**Sarah Servattalab, MD, FAAP**

**Albert Yan, MD, FAAP**

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