From the Editor

Welcome to the Summer edition of the AAP Section of Emergency Medicine (SOEM) Newsletter.

In Indiana, we are having a little taste of Fall with high temperatures in the upper 60’s this week. This is a stark departure from the mid 90’s we’ve had for the past several weeks. I recently returned from a short family get away to the woods. It was a time of refreshing the soul and I hope all of you have taken the opportunity to refresh yourselves in some way this summer. We all deserve it—especially after the hard-fought battle that continues to rage against CoVID19 throughout our country. This issue of the newsletter has several updates from our committees since many didn’t get to meet with the rapid transition away from in person meetings during PAS 2020. We announce several award winners and the program for our virtual SOEM meeting at the 2020 Virtual AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) this fall. We will have an action-packed agenda again with PEMPix, wonderful speakers on a variety of topics and the best part—a chance to have virtual community with each other!

Before we get to our newsletter that is packed with great information from our committee chairs and from the Section I want to leave you with an exhortation. I hope that all of you reflect on the vital roles you play in caring for the most vulnerable members of our society in some of their most vulnerable moments in the ED. You are truly a force for good. It is helpful to ponder this as we are surrounded by tumult every day from the CoVID19 virus, societal inequities, and the entry into our presidential election season. As pediatric emergency medicine physicians we are rocks in our communities—and I think you are all ROCK STARS!

Brian Wagers, MD, FAAP
SOEM Newsletter Editor
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SOEM Revised Virtual NCE Program 2020

The AAP National Conference & Exhibition (NCE) has gone virtual and will take place Oct 2-5, 2020. It will offer a variety of both on-demand and live sessions including daily plenary sessions, a robust abstract and exhibits program, and a wide variety of special events for one low registration fee including a revised SOEM program (below). Registration is now open →

H3814: Section on Emergency Medicine Program (SOEM) – Day 1
Moderator: Karen O’Connell, MD, MEd, FAAP

Sunday, October 4, 2020
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

3:00 PM  State of the Section – Javier Gonzalez del Rey, MD, MEd, FAAP

2020 Award Announcements: (to be presented at 2021 conference)
Jim Seidel Distinguished Service Award – Richard G. Bachur, MD, FAAP
Steve Miller Award for Excellence in Education & Mentorship – Jeffrey R. Avner, MD, FAAP
DynaMed Plus EBSCO Health Award for Technological Innovations in PEM – Deborah R. Liu, MD, FAAP

2020 Award Presentations:
EmergiQuiz Awards – TBA
PEMpix Awards – TBA

3:45 PM  Ken Graff Young Investigator Research Award – Son H. McLaren, MD, FAAP
“High-Throughput Sequencing Platform for the Diagnosis of Bacteremia in Children with Cancer”

4:00 PM  Ken Graff 2018 Project Report – David W. Ashby, DO, FAAP
“Establishing Baseline Normative Values for Pediatric Near-Infrared Spectroscopy”

4:15 PM  Abstract Session I (5-min platform presentations grouped by topic)
5:15 PM  Break
5:45 PM  Abstract Session II (5-min platform presentations grouped by topic)

6:45 PM  Abstract Award Announcements:
Best Overall Abstract Award, Best QI Abstract Award, Best Research Poster Award, Fellowship Trainee Awards Committee for the Future Trainee Award

7:00 PM  Adjourn

H4001: Section on Emergency Medicine Program (SOEM) – Day 2
Moderator: Thuy Ngo, DO, MEd, FAAP

Monday, October 5, 2020
8:00 AM - 12:45 PM

8:00 AM  Social Determinants of Health 101 – Melissa Klein, MD, FAAP
8:45 AM  Q&A

9:00 AM  Emerging Infections – Andrea Cruz, MD, MPH, FAAP
9:45 AM  Q&A
**SOEM Award Winners 2020**

Kudos to all recipients of awards sponsored by the SOEM in 2020 thus far! Additional award recipients will be featured in the next newsletter. While the Ken Graff, EmergiQuiz, PEMPix, Willis Wingert and other Abstract Awards will be presented during the virtual SOEM program in October 2020, the 3 prestigious Section Service Awards (Seidel, Miller, EBSCO) are being announced now, but will be presented in person during the October 2021 NCE in Philadelphia.

**Jim Seidel Distinguished Service Award**

*Richard G. Bachur, MD, FAAP*

Dr. Bachur is Chief, Division of Emergency Medicine at Boston Children’s Hospital and Michael W. Shannon Professor of Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Boston.

*To be presented in person in Oct 2021.*

**Ken Graff Young Investigator Research Award** *(Supported by the Graff Endowment)*

*Son H. McLaren, MD, MS, FAAP*

Dr. McLaren is assistant professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine at Columbia University Medical Center, New York-Presbyterian, Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital. This award project is for research on “High-Throughput Sequencing Platform for the Diagnosis of Bacteremia in Children with Cancer.”

**Senator Daniel Inouye & Calvin C.J. Sia Advocacy Award**

*Megan Attridge, MD, FAAP*

Dr. Attridge is a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital.

**Senator Daniel Inouye & Calvin C.J. Sia Advocacy Award**

*Amanda Stewart, MD, MPH, FAAP*

Dr. Stewart is Assistant in Medicine, Division of Emergency Medicine, and Lead Physician for Clinician Advocacy in the Office of Government Relations at Boston Children’s Hospital, and Instructor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School.

**Steve Miller Award for Excellence in Education & Mentorship**

*Jeffrey R. Avner, MD, FAAP*

Dr. Avner is the Chairman of Pediatrics at Maimonides Children’s Hospital in Brooklyn. He is also Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at SUNY Downstate Medical School.

*To be presented in person in Oct 2021.*

**Technological Innovations in Pediatric Emergency Medicine Award** *(Sponsored by EBSCO Health/DynaMed Plus)*

*Deborah R. Liu, MD, FAAP*

Dr. Liu is Director of Process Improvement and Associate Director, Division of Emergency and Transport Medicine at the Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. She is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine.

*To be presented in person in Oct 2021.*

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10:00 AM  **Break**

10:15 AM  **Substance Use and Child Sex Trafficking** – *Christine Murphy, MD, FAAP*

11:30 AM **Q&A**

11:45 AM **Point-of-Care Ultrasound Education During a Pandemic: Keys to Successful Remote Training** *Amanda Toney, MD and Erika Constantine, MD, FAAP*

12:30 PM **Q&A**

12:45 PM **Adjourn**
SOEM SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

The Roadmap for a Brighter Future from the Committee for the Future

The AAP SOEM Committee for the Future (C4F) is the bridge that links two essential groups within the section. Students, trainees, and junior faculty connect with experts in their fields of interest to expand the involvement at local and national levels. It also serves as the information pipeline for interested individuals to advance their skills during their early stages of the medical profession. While the Section's virtual programming during the NCE has been shortened, the C4F is excited to announce that this year's program will address the hot topic of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). While we had a full schedule for San Diego 2020, unfortunately, COVID-19 changed the program into a virtual one. This year's virtual C4F program will tackle this important subject during the current crisis, as Dr. Melissa Klein will discuss the valuable topic. Our successful yearly poster session will also be virtual. The timeline for evaluating submissions changed due to the current pandemic. We are working in the background to assess your valuable submissions and notifications for accepted posters will be delivered by late August. The poster session serves as an alternative venue for trainees and junior faculty to present their scholarly work at the national level. We are also excited to announce that our program for 2021 will be on information technology (IT) and machine learning. The program will explore this developing field and bring this evolving topic to your footsteps.

We look forward to your participation and contributions! Please don't hesitate to contact me with ideas or questions.

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Chair, Committee for the Future
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Subcommittee of Fellowship Directors

There is likely no aspect of pediatric emergency medicine (PEM) that has not been impacted by the COVID crisis. Fellowship training certainly has not been exempt from its reach. While an in-person meeting at PAS could not occur, more than 70 Program Directors (PDs) and Associate Program Directors (APDs) from across the country joined a Zoom call in May to share experiences and insights in creating meaningful educational experiences for fellows in the current climate. In addition, the group used the virtual call to work collaboratively on pre-existing efforts related to program missions and clinical training and preparing for anticipated upcoming changes. A summary of these initiatives is provided here.

Optimizing Learning Opportunities
Given the reduced volume in most Emergency Departments (EDs) and the efforts to minimize unnecessary clinical exposure and safeguard PPE supplies, PD's shared best practices for creating alternative clinical experiences for fellows and maximizing the effectiveness of educational efforts delivered through virtual platforms. The online meeting itself provided an opportunity to utilize and discuss many interactive features of Zoom, and model strategies for maintaining a sense of connection with colleagues.

Centralization of Resources
The Fellowship PD group used a Google platform to create a common site for all PDs to share materials related to fellowship training. Resources related to all aspects of training (eg. assessment tools, site visit materials, sample policies, faculty development efforts, information about concentrations/pathways within fellowship, and others).

A New Survey Process
Fellows and PDs receive numerous requests each year to complete surveys on a range of topics related to PEM and specifically to training. The aims of these projects range from needs assessments to academic initiatives. To “flatten the curve” of
distributed surveys and to prioritize those with the most relevant content, an internal process was created to review, approve and endorse surveys prior to distribution. Modelled after the current approach used by the PEM CRC, all potential surveys are now reviewed by a group of people with extensive experience with survey methodology. This intermediary step provides an opportunity to improve the quality of surveys, prioritizes surveys most meaningful to fellows and PDs, and ensures distribution is evenly spaced to avoid undue burden on the group over a short period of time. Our hope is that this effort improves the quality of the instruments and boosts response rates, resulting in more meaningful data.

Virtual Interviews Season
The widespread recognition that travel and gathering in large groups will continue to be limited in the fall began an initial discussion about the possibility of a virtual interview season. The ACGME subsequently proposed similar recommendations and many institutions have now disallowed in-person interview for the remainder of 2020. A working group is currently active in defining best practices for the upcoming virtual interview season. Efforts are focused on developing resources for applicants, faculty development around conducting remote interviews, highlighting optimal approaches to reflect the culture of an institution or program, and others. Widespread dissemination of resources and ideas for best practice is forthcoming.

Fellow Representative Input
Three fellow representatives have been engaged and active participants in the Fellowship PD Subcommittee efforts. We would like to thank Natan Cramer (Children's Hospital Pittsburgh) and Hilary Ong (Children's National Hospital) for their valuable contributions over the last two years, as well as Lauren Cantwell (Stanford) who will be continuing in the position for another year.

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Pediatric Emergency Medicine North American Chiefs (PEMNAC) and COVID

The Pediatric Emergency Medicine North America Chiefs (PEMNAC) group was started by Dr Paul Sirbaugh from Baylor in 2016 as a Subcommittee of SOEM. The group has grown and now has approximately 140 members, all or who either are chiefs or medical directors from unique individual programs. It is a robust community, which comes together (in person and virtually) twice a year at our PAS and AAP academic meetings. It includes members from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Emergency Physicians, as well as others who are outside of these organizations. It represents academic and clinical programs, which vary from small to large. Currently there is a singular point of contact for each program, although at some point, membership may expand to include other leaders or potential leaders within the individual emergency medicine groups. Membership is currently limited to the United States and Canada, although there may be an opportunity in the future to expand to include a more international footprint. There is a listserv that is used frequently for information flow, communication, and inquiry, as well as a website that enables participants to post information, become aware of opportunities, and further communicate. PEMNAC has sponsored and designed multiple informational surveys, which have been invaluable to the members, and provided information that is either not accessible or not as up to date from other sources. Perhaps, however, the most value-added efforts we have seen have been around COVID-19.

Early in the coronavirus epidemic, our listserv group united around asking questions, providing information, networking and discussing key medical and operational issues. This initially started with how to prepare, to staff, what additional spaces were needed and how to provide services, while maintaining a stable operation. We relied on and learned from the experiences of others, including those in North American areas that were affected early or especially hard, as well as ID and PEM contacts and colleagues from international backgrounds. As it became clear that pediatrics was not the prime target of the coronavirus, we then discussed ways we could be helpful in our local communities and in our country, which included shutting down pediatric ERs and staffing/providing care for older populations either in our own facilities or areas of need. The ability to see and understand what our colleagues had gone through was invaluable to help inform our own systems and identify opportunities,
strategies, and concerns. When the PAS meeting was canceled, we opted to hold a virtual PEMNAC meeting focused mostly on COVID. Under the guidance of our incoming Chair and Co-Chair, Drs Rachel Stanley and Shari Platt, we were able to host a virtual meeting which included colleagues from Italy who had been affected in ways that many of us had not, as well as ED and ID experts from across our own country. We had the ability, through discussion and chat, to learn an amazing amount about the virus, its trajectory, our successes and failures, and especially about the new (at the time) concern for the Kawasaki's-like syndrome reported from Europe and Italy, which was rampant in New York City.

In addition to the medical issues, the group has spent a lot of time and effort formally surveying our members, providing invaluable specialty specific data regarding staffing models, costs, and ways to ensure that emergency medicine remains the safety net for our individual facilities, systems and our regions. One thing that was especially evident, through the first-hand reports and feedback from our colleagues, was that our disaster and infectious diseases preparations and resiliency of our emergency systems/providers, including physicians, nurses, ancillary team members and prehospital providers would enable us to be successful in caring for affected patients and their families, in a way that would optimally protect our providers. Many of us were able to use this national information and data to help inform our leaders and help them design new and innovative ways to manage patients, families, PPE, and processes. We've also learned from each other how to recognize stress, burnout, anxiety and fear in ourselves, colleagues and peers. We have seen tragedies across the country with emergency medicine nurses and physicians and have been able to share and reflect upon those in a meaningful way.

Overall, introduction and access to the PEM division chiefs across the country been invaluable and has helped many of us cope and work through these challenges. I know that my approach and knowledge about how to manage this difficult environment and process, would not have been as well-informed had I not had the opportunity to learn from the experiences and strengths of my colleagues. We appreciate the AAP, SOEM, and Sue Tellez helping with this important group activity. We look forward to continuing to be informed and learn from other as we move forward.

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Chair, PEMNAC
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Pediatric Emergency Collaborative Research Committee (PEMCRC)

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic did not allow the PEMCRC to hold our regular meeting at PAS, which is our most well attended meeting each year. In lieu of the in-person, meeting, the PEMCRC Steering Committee held a webinar on May 2, 2020, which was attended by over 120 of our colleagues. Many thanks to Todd Chang (LA) and the EMSC Improvement and Innovation Center for making the webinar possible.

There are several ongoing PEMCRC studies that are enrolling new study sites, including Predictors of Anaphylaxis (Tim Dribin, Cincinnati), Predictors of Sepsis Intestinal Failure (Joel Hudgins, Boston), and Risk Factors for Osteomyelitis (Alex Stephan, Seattle). Though PAS was cancelled, we would like to acknowledge several PEMCRC investigators who had network abstracts that were unable to be presented, including Ron Kaplan (Seattle), PI of the Neonatal Mastitis and Omphalitis Study (NeMO) study, and Son McLaren (Columbia) lead investigator for the Infant Otitis Media study. Additionally, the PEMCRC recently solicited the first-stage applications for the 2020 PEMCRC Research Prize, with the goal of naming the winner in the fall meeting in October. The PEMCRC is also a participating network in the international Pediatric Emergency Research Networks (PERN) and enrolling in two studies: PERN Pneumonia (Todd Florin, Chicago) and the new PERN COVID Study (Stephen Freedman, Alberta). A new PERN Study, Pain Management in Intussusception (PAINT) led by Itai Shavit, (Israel) is soliciting sites from the PEMCRC; please contact Rakesh Mistry (Colorado) if interested at rakesh.mistry@childrenscolroado.org. The PEMCRC Survey Subcommittee, chaired by Paul Aronson (Yale) and Chris Pruitt (MUSC), continues to accept survey applications on a rolling basis, with two current surveys in queue for distribution.

Finally, we are extremely pleased to welcome our two newest fellow members to the PEMCRC Steering Committee, Matthias Manuel (Dallas) and Daniel Shapiro (Boston), who were selected among a highly competitive group of applicants.
Many thanks to current fellow members, Colleen Gutman (Atlanta) and Angelica Despain (DC) for their leadership in the selection process.

Our next PEMCRC meeting is scheduled for the AAP NCE in October 2020; in the likely event of cancellation, we look forward to hosting another successful webinar (details TBA)!

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EMSC Innovation and Improvement Center

HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) recently funded a four-year, $2.5 million cooperative agreement for the National Emergency Medical Services for Children Innovation and Improvement Center (EIIC). The EIIC helps promote and implement evidence-based best practices in emergency care for children across the U.S. The program is led by investigators at Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin in collaboration with University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. Funding will help expand current emergency care systems to improve the quality of pediatric emergency care delivery and health outcomes.

National organizational partners for this work include the American Academy of Pediatrics®, American College of Emergency Physicians®, American College of Surgeons®, Emergency Nurses Association®, the National Association of State EMS Officials® and other national stakeholder organizations. Federal collaborators to MCHB include the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Office of EMS and the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

National Pediatrics Readiness Toolkit has been Updated

The updated National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) Toolkit is now available as a free open-access resource intended for use by all providers (e.g. technicians, nurses, physicians, EMS providers, and ancillary staff) across the spectrum of pediatric emergency care to help facilitate delivery of high quality care to all children. The content is organized by the seven domains of pediatric readiness: Administration and Coordination; Healthcare Provider Competencies; Quality Improvement; Policies and Procedures; Patient Safety; Support Services; and Equipment, Supplies, and Medications.
The tools and resources align with the joint policy statement “Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department” and will assist pediatric emergency care providers to better understand and achieve the components of pediatric readiness in their emergency department. The NPRP toolkit also provides support and recommendations for other stakeholders involved in pediatric emergency care such as hospital directors, quality improvement leaders, family advisory network personnel, caregivers, and patients.

**SOEM Article on Disaster Preparedness**

In case you missed it, check out the AAP News Focus on Subspecialties article authored by SOEM member, Joelle Simpson, MD, MPH, FAAP titled “Prioritizing Children in National Disaster Preparedness Planning.”

**AAP Endorsed Statements**

In the past several months, the AAP has formally endorsed 2 statements you may be interested in:

- Ketamine Use in Prehospital and Hospital Treatment of the Acute Trauma Patient (endorsed by AAP, July 2020)

- Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Septic Shock and Sepsis-Associated Organ Dysfunction in Children (endorsed by AAP, Feb 2020)

All AAP policy statements including other endorsed statements can be found [here](#).

**Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP). 4th Edition**

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, PEPP is an evidence-based resource of essential medical content for the assessment and management of infants and children in the field. This respected and ground-breaking program paired physicians and EMS providers together to ensure the content reflects current best practices and the realities of the field. Developed by the AAP, PEPP is designed to give prehospital professionals the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to effectively assess and manage pediatric patients. Visit [shop.aap.org](http://shop.aap.org) for more information and to order PEPP, Fourth Edition.

**AAP Get Out the Vote Campaign: Vote for Kids**

Election Day 2020 is Tuesday, November 3. The America Academy of Pediatrics is leading a robust Get Out the Vote campaign focused on the connection between health equity and voting. This election, we encourage pediatricians and those who care about children to vote like children’s futures depend on it. Multiple resources are available on AAP.org to educate yourself, patients, and families and others at: [https://services.aap.org/en/advocacy/election-vote-kids/](https://services.aap.org/en/advocacy/election-vote-kids/)
SOEM Elections 2020 | COPEM Chair Appointment

Congratulations to SOEM Executive Committee member, Dr Deborah Hsu, who was elected for a two-year term as Chair-Elect starting November 1st!

In addition, Dr Greg Conners, was appointed Chair, AAP Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine, effective July 1, 2020.

SOEM Executive Committee

SOEM Subcommittee Chairpersons
The Section has appointed subcommittee leaders to help further the mission of SOEM and the Academy. We encourage you to get involved! Contact them directly via e-mails provided below to learn more. In addition, a new Women in PEM Special Interest Group has been formed.

Advocacy
Susan Duffy

Committee for the Future
Ameer Hassoun

Education
Cindy Roskind

EMS
Kathy Brown

National Pediatric Readiness Project
Marc Auerbach
A SOEM member-only website aims to improve member value and provide a forum for SOEM members to connect and for sharing of Section news and resources. View here!

Reach out and pass on your ideas to get the word out on PEM and emergency care for children. The AAP appointed SOEM social media ambassadors are:

Brad Sobolewski: brad.soboleweski@cchmc.org @PEMTweets
Sarah Tomlinson: shamilt@med.umich.edu @SarahT_MD

To remove your name from our mailing list, please click here.
Questions, comments, feedback? Please email us at stellez@aap.org.