

Pediatrics 2017 Annual Report – Division Highlights

Nephrology

DIVISION DESCRIPTION

The Division of Nephrology provides comprehensive care for children with all types of kidney disease.

We offer a complete range of renal replacement therapies for both acute and chronic renal failure, with successful transplantation the ultimate goal for children with kidney failure. We are internationally recognized experts in pediatric renal transplantation and for over 10 years have offered a novel prednisone-free immunosuppression option to our patients.

Research interests include corticosteroid-free maintenance immunosuppression in pediatric kidney transplant patients; pediatric kidney stone risk factors; impaired growth associated with kidney failure; peritonitis and exit site infection rates and quality outcome measures in patients on home dialysis modalities; outcomes research in chronic kidney disease; and epidemiology and prevention of nephrotoxin-associated acute kidney injury.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Division Chief **Sharon M. Bartosh, MD**, began her term as chair of the American Transplant Society (AST) United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Public Policy Committee.

She also served on the organizing committee of the first AST-sponsored Transplant Patient Summit in Washington, DC. The summit is an initial outreach effort to engage transplant donors, recipients, and families in a needs assessment.

Finally, as a consequence of a multidisciplinary AST Consensus Conference on Transition of Solid Organ Transplant Patients, also organized and chaired by Dr. Bartosh, the Patient Transition Portal of the AST website was made available in the spring of 2017. This web-based portal houses transition readiness tools for clinicians.

- **Allison Redpath Mahon, MD**, was invited to be a member of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Making Dialysis Safer for Patients Coalition Patient Engagement workgroup. At that workgroup's first annual meeting in September 2017, she presented her initial work on patient and family engagement in infection prevention for pediatric peritoneal dialysis patients, which took place in partnership with the Standardized Care to Improve Outcomes in Pediatric Endstage Renal Disease (SCOPE) collaborative.

Dr. Redpath Mahon was also appointed co-chair of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology Workforce Committee, whose primary objective is recruiting and retaining doctors in pediatric nephrology.

In addition, she was invited to be on the strategic planning committee to implement the NINJA (nephrotoxic injury negated by just in time action) protocol on a larger scale throughout UW Health as part of its partnership with the Solutions for Patient Safety collaborative.

Finally, she and the co-directors of the [UW Health Pediatric Metabolic Syndrome Clinic](https://www.uwhealthkids.org/pediatric-diabetes/pediatric-metabolic-syndrome-clinic/48983) (<https://www.uwhealthkids.org/pediatric-diabetes/pediatric-metabolic-syndrome-clinic/48983>) received a Department of Pediatrics Research and Development Grant to create a joint clinical database for this clinic and the [UW Health Pediatric Preventive Cardiology Clinic](#)

(<https://www.uwhealthkids.org/cardiology-cardiothoracic-surgery/pediatric-preventive-cardiology-clinic/33800>).

- **Neil Paloian, MD**, joined the clinical affairs committee of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology. He was also appointed to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the International Society of Clinical Densitometry.

In addition, in 2017, the multidisciplinary UW Health Pediatric Bone and Mineral Metabolism Clinic (<https://www.uwhealthkids.org/findadoctor/clinic/1173>) that he leads expanded from 12 to 18 clinics per year to accommodate increasing patient volume.

- **Michael Semanik, MD**, was selected to be an American Society of Pediatric Nephrology (ASPN) Foundation John E. Lewy Fund Advocacy Scholar. As part of this national two-year advocacy leadership program, he participated in the ASPN Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC, to advocate for improved access to pediatric specialty care, increased funding for the National Institute of Health, and better prescription drug coverage for renal transplant patients.

Dr. Semanik also became certified as an Epic Physician Builder and leads a team creating specialty-specific electronic health record content for the institution.

- Pediatric nephrology nurse practitioner **Kimberly Squires, NP**, was on the planning committee of the ASPN's 5th Annual Multidisciplinary Symposium, held in Dallas in October 2017.
- The division continues to expand its regional outreach activities and now provides opportunities for patients to see nephrology specialists four times monthly in La Crosse, Green Bay and Oshkosh.
- In 2017, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked American Family Children's Hospital (AFCH) among the **top 50 children's hospitals for nephrology** (<https://www.uwhealthkids.org/news-and-events/american-family-childrens-hospital-ranks-among-us-news-world-report-best-hospitals/51058>).

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Redpath Mahon A, Neu AM. A contemporary approach to the prevention of peritoneal dialysis-related peritonitis in children: the role of improvement science. *Pediatr Nephrol*. 2017 Aug;32(8):1331-1341. doi: 10.1007/s00467-016-3531-1. Epub 2016 Oct 18. PubMed PMID: 27757588. **

Semanik MG. The use of electronic health records to identify children with elevated blood pressure and hypertension. *Curr Hypertens Rep*. 2017 Oct 26;19(12):98. doi: 10.1007/s11906-017-0794-2. Review. PubMed PMID: 29075864.

*** Publication had previously appeared in 2016 report as an ePub*

GRANT SUPPORT

| Faculty/Role | Funding Agency | Title |
|-------------------|------------------|--|
| Bartosh, Sharon M | Emory University | Cystinosis: clinical outcomes in a contemporary group of American patients |

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| Bartosh, Sharon M | Nationwide Childrens Hospital | Integrative proteomics & metabolomics for pediatric glomerula disease biomarkers (CureGN) |
| Bartosh, Sharon M | Nationwide Childrens Hospital | NephCure kidney foundation |
| Paloian, Neil J | Relypsa | A phase 2, open-label, multiple dose study to evaluate the pharmacodynamic effects, safety, and tolerability of patiromer for oral suspension in children and adolescents 2 to < 18 years of age with chronic kidney disease and hyperkalemia |