



# ConnecToRs Corner

Center for Translational Research Newsletter

Summer 2019



## Center for Translational Research

Connect science with the community  
Outcomes-driven  
Novel and impactful  
Need-responsive design  
Equity in implementation  
Collaboration and transparency  
Transformation and innovation  
Optimize data literacy  
Rigor and reproducibility  
Serve diverse local, national, and global communities

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# Faculty in the news



## DENISE CORA-BRAMBLE, MD, MBA

Selected for Mayor's Commission on Healthcare Systems Transformation



Photo credit: Executive Office of the Mayor



## ELEANOR MACKEY, PHD

How to get your kid to eat without forcing them, according to experts

Parents' role in healthy eating is deciding when kids eat and what food is presented. However, it should be up to the kids to decide what to eat and how much.



## LEE BEERS, MD

The truth about tummy time

It's good for all of us – babies, children, adults – to push ourselves out of our comfort zone a little bit and practice things that are a little bit hard for us.

# Faculty in the news



## LINDA HERBERT, PHD

**Medical and psychosocial factors related to your child's food allergies**

Dr. Herbert, Director of the Division Allergy and Immunology's psychosocial clinical program, spoke with SiriusXM about food allergies and mental health concerns.



## ANDREW DAUBER, MD, MMSC

**20-Year Mystery of Girl with Angelman and 2nd Rare Disease Solved via Genetic Testing**

*“The advent of different technologies and techniques over the years allowed pieces of her diagnosis to be made - and then brought together, commencing a 20-year diagnostic odyssey.*



## NAZRAT MIRZA, MD, SCD

**How doctors can stop stigmatizing and start helping kids with obesity**

Dr. Mirza, Director of IDEAL Pediatric Weight Management Clinic, spoke to NPR about helping kids lose weight and the importance of treating families with dignity and respect.

# Faculty in the news



## BERNHARD WIEDERMANN, MD, MA

No link between flu vaccination in utero and child health problems

A group of Canadian investigators performed a retrospective cohort study looking at 5-year outcomes of children born to mothers in 2009-2010 who received the 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine, compared with infants whose mothers were not vaccinated during pregnancy.

The researchers found no association of maternal flu vaccination with most of the outcomes of interest.



## MURRAY POLLOCK, MD, MBA

Children's National, KenSci studying the use of AI to improve pediatric critical care

Our collaborative goals are to study the temporal variation in data, taking the first step towards dynamic risk scoring for pediatric ICUs.

Exploring accurate data use that supports clinical judgment



## DANIELLE G. DOOLEY, MD, MPHIL, FAAP

The Best Discipline Strategy For Toddlers & Kids, According To Pediatricians

It is important to recognize that discipline approaches and styles are influenced by cultural factors as well as historical factors, for example what kind of discipline style the parent or caregiver grew up with.

# Faculty in the news



## MONIKA GOYAL, MD, MSCE

Strict state laws and universal background checks linked to lower pediatric firearm-related deaths

“Our findings demonstrate a powerful association between the strength of firearm legislation and pediatric firearm-related mortality.

Dr. Goyal is the Director of Research in the Division of Emergency Medicine and Trauma Services. CTR faculty and staff co-authors include Gia M. Badolato, MPH; Kavita Parikh, MD, MSHS; Robert McCarter Jr., ScD.

**PEDIATRICS**  
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Saving children's lives with stricter gun laws



## BETH A. TARINI, MD, MS

How better genetic screening could save babies' lives

“Some of these disorders will present in the first few days of life and could do irreversible harm or end in death for the child.



## MICHELE MIETUS-SNYDER, MD

Natural Movement Is Key to Improve Your Family's Heart Health

“Coupled with good nutrition, physical activity does wonders for insulin sensitivity and energy regulation in the body, supporting the powerhouses in our cells called mitochondria, which is like revving up our engine. This means the more we move, the easier it gets to move even more.

# Faculty in the news



## CHAYA MERRILL, DRPH

### D.C. Lacks Mental Health Providers, Especially For Youth

“There’s a lot of discussion from our community stakeholders about the lack of providers to provide mental health services, especially in a time in D.C. where – and actually across the nation – we’re seeing such an increase in rates of depression, suicidal ideation, and things like that, particularly among our youth,



## DANIEL S. LEWIN, PHD, D.ABSM

### Can your smartphone help you sleep?

Click on the link above to view Dr. Lewin's comments about sleep tracking apps and their contributions to sleep disorders.



## MAUREEN E. LYON, PHD, FABPP

### Families of children with rare diseases open to advanced care plans with caregiver support

“Our goal was to find out if the tools we've developed are feasible and not too burdensome for the caregivers of children and adolescents with rare diseases.

CTR staff member, Jessica Thompkins, BSN, RN, CPN, also participated in the discussion. Jessica is the research coordinator for the FACE program and facilitator of the Carer Support Needs Assessment Tool (CSNAT) sessions with families,

# Faculty in the news



## SHAYNA COBURN, PHD

Psychological Comorbidities in Childhood Celiac Disease:  
A Systematic Review



## LAMIA SOGHIER, MD, FAAP, CHSE

How Children's National slashed unintended extubations in the NICU by 60%

"These babies have complex care needs, however lowering the rates of these life-threatening events came down to instituting a series of simple changes to standardize what we do, including how we tape the endotracheal tube to the child's mouth, how we position infants during X-rays and who we include on daily rounds when the medical team discusses intubated patients' care plans

# Around Research

66

This year Discover Science with Dr Bear, an NIH funded Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA), hosted 19 third through fifth graders and 5 high school

mentors with an interest in science and technology for a one week summer camp at Children's National with the title "DEEP IN SLEEP." Children and mentors had a 'hands on- minds on' series of inquiry focused art and science experiences learning about the importance of neuroscience in explaining wakefulness, improving learning and behavior, encouraging sleep and developing questions about the world around us. They also learned about the impact of new technologies including robotics, engineering, astronomy, space and exploration through exposure to neuroscientists, neurologists, art therapists, a NASA engineer and astronomer and by exploring the multiple resources that can be found at the LIBRARY to not only gather data but to stimulate even more inquisitiveness .

- Naomi L.C. Luban, MD

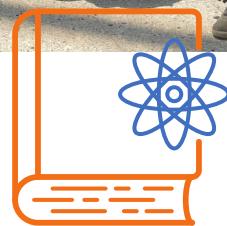
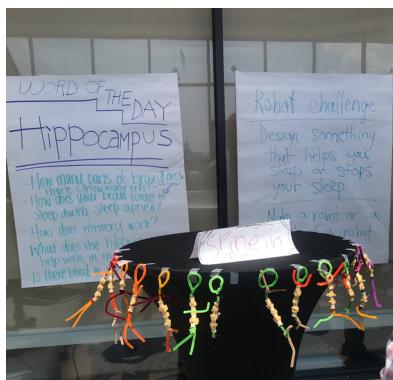


# Around Research

2019 SUMMER



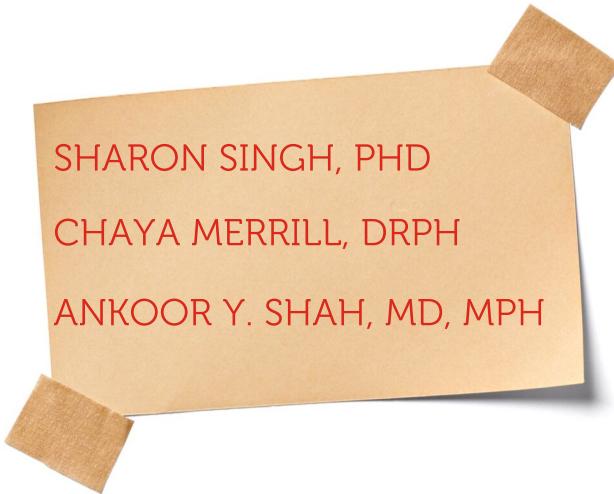
EXPERIENCE



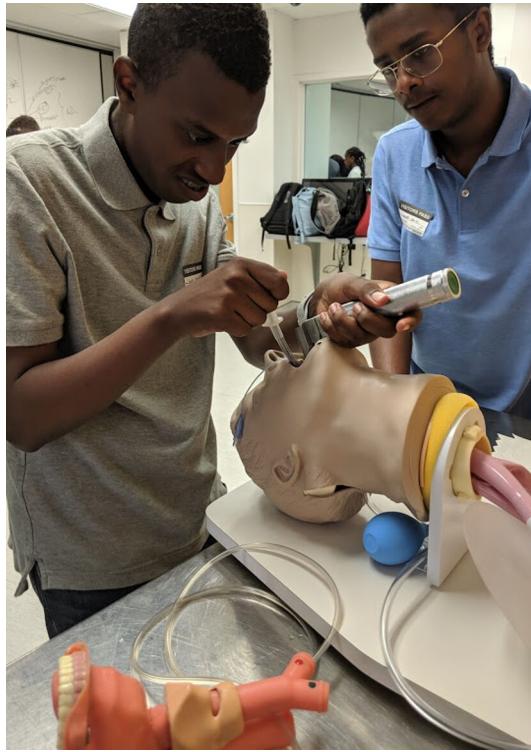
# Around Research

## COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH: A COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT WEEK AT CHILDREN'S NATIONAL ENRICHMENT SEMINAR

In partnership with Child Health Advocacy Institute (CHAI) and Health Disparities SIG



# Around Research



NATIONAL LIBRARY  
OF  
MEDICINE



METEOR (Mentored Experiences to Expand Opportunities in Research) embeds high-achieving high schoolers into research labs throughout the hospital for six weeks. On Wednesday July 3rd, METEOR students visited the Simulation Center at George Washington School of Medicine and Health Services where they learned how to use and read ultrasounds, intubate mannequins, and draw blood. The following week, on Tuesday, July 9th, the METEOR students were invited to the veterinary hospital at the National Zoo, where they saw some of the instruments the vets use to keep the animals healthy. And on Friday, July 12th, several post-baccalaureate students from GW visited the hospital and talked with the kids about their journey into medicine, many of them non-traditional. Our kids have been busy getting inspired!

- Julia Miller, Program Coordinator

# Around Research



Mentored  
Experience To Expand  
Opportunities in  
Research



Bill Quirk, Director of Government Affairs at Children's National, provided a personal tour of the U.S. Senate Office Buildings and the U.S. Capitol.

# New CTR Members



## Faculty



Laura Fischer, PhD, RD



Amy Jones, MD



Rebecca Carlin, MD

## Research Interns



Kelly Christensen  
(left)- Dr. Tarini's Team

Natalie O'Toole (right).-  
Dr. Guay-Woodford's  
Team



Anna Savage -  
Dr. Lyon's Team



Lily Rose Gage -  
Dr. Lisa Tuchman's Team



High school interns from the METEOR  
program with GW Students, Post-  
Baccalaureate Pre-Medicine Program -  
Dr. Luban's Team

# Employee Spotlight



## Sadiqa Kendi, MD, FAPP, CPST

Medical Director, Safe Kids DC

Emergency Medicine and Trauma Center

### What drew you to the job here at Children's National?

I am interested in meeting other colleagues at CNMC who are doing translational research. As an early career researcher, it is very helpful to interact with and learn from more researchers.

### Tell us about your Bloomberg Fellowship.

The Bloomberg Fellowship is part of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. I was selected as a Bloomberg Fellow in the Environmental Focus Area, and the Emergency Medicine Division was selected as a collaborating organization. During the fellowship, I will engage in my MPH training and additional leadership training opportunities.

Read more about Dr. Kendi's Bloomberg Fellowship.

### What are 3 words to describe Children's National?

Innovative, inclusive, and engaging.

### Any random facts you could share with us?

I have never eaten meat :) I was raised vegetarian, and am now vegan.

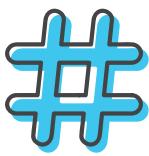
### Favorite travel spot?

Any beach! I love the water.

### How do you define success?

Success is refusing to quit when I fail or when it's hard.

# Social Media Highlights



**Innovation District** @cn\_inno... · 6/11/19 ▾  
Dr. Sadiqa Kendi, a pediatric emergency physician [@childrenshealth](#) and medical director of [@safekids](#), is among the 2019 cohort of Bloomberg Fellows [#AmericanHealth](#) Read more: [spr.ly/6012EoA7A](http://spr.ly/6012EoA7A)



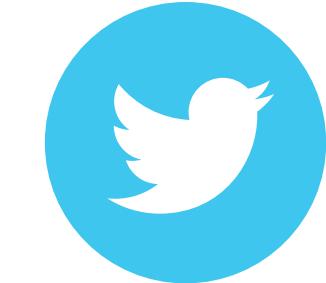
**Innovation District** @cn\_inno... · 6/13/19 ▾  
Researchers from 8 sites, including Dr. Roberta L. DeBiasi, investigate usefulness of metagenomics, next-gen sequencing of cerebrospinal fluid to diagnose infectious meningitis & encephalitis in hospitalized patients. They report their findings via [@NEJM nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.105...](#)



**Innovation District** @cn\_inno... · 5/22/19 ▾  
The [@ACCIInTouch](#) [@American\\_Heart](#) released clinical practice guidelines for adult congenital heart disease (ACHD) treatment in August 2018. How much do you know about treating [#ACHD](#)? Join [@ChildrensHealth](#) [@MedStarHealth](#) for a [#CME](#) conference Oct. 4-5 [spr.ly/6019EY7DP](http://spr.ly/6019EY7DP)



Dr. Anitha John, 3rd from the right



**Innovation District** @cn\_inno... · 6/11/19 ▾  
Dr. Monika K Goyal, assistant chief of the Division of Emergency Medicine [@childrenshealth](#) is co-author of 'Prevention of firearm injuries among children and adolescents,' multi-institutional study led by University of Michigan published by [@JAMPediatrics](#)



JAMA Pediatrics – The Science of Child and Adolescent Health [jamanetwork.com](http://jamanetwork.com)



**Children's National** @children... · 4h ▾  
"Each patient and their family are literally world experts on their version of that rare disease." - Dr. Marshall Summar on the power of working w/ patients & families to personalize treatment [#LivingRareForum](#) [#rarediseases](#) [facebook.com/childrens.nati...](http://facebook.com/childrens.national)



## Leadership:

Lisa M. Guay-Woodford, MD  
Center Director

Beth A. Tarini, MD, MS  
Associate Director

## Executive Committee:

John van den Anker, MD, PhD  
Adelaide Robb, MD  
Randi Streisand, PhD, CDE  
Pamela S. Hinds, PhD, RN, FAAN

## Administration:

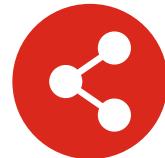
Annie Fulton, MA

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Share your news with us and email to  
[afulton@childrensnational.org](mailto:afulton@childrensnational.org)



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