

Docs' Digest is a quarterly newsletter for IWK Health Centre Medical, Dental, and Scientific Staff (MDSS). Below is an update on projects of particular interest to physicians and dentists.

-Dr. Robin Walker, Vice-President Medicine

Fully at the Table

30 physicians in leadership roles, or aspiring to leadership roles, from the IWK and CDHA completed a new leadership program in May. The program started last summer with 360 degree evaluations on all the participants, continued in October with a standing room only open session on leadership and then in monthly sessions combined messages from leaders in health and in other fields with interactive discussions on practical problems physician leaders face. Initial evaluations from the participants are stellar! We are very grateful to Joe Litven for helping Drs Robin Walker and Brendan Carr put together and lead this program. Look for an announcement of next year's program soon!

College of Physicians & Surgeons of Nova Scotia Guidelines for Physicians Regarding Referral & Consultation

The CPSNS has issued new guidelines for physicians making and accepting referrals. These are quite stringent and may require individual physicians as well as the IWK to make some changes in practice. You can find the guidelines at: <http://www.cpsns.ns.ca/guidelines-policies/guidelines-referral-consultation.pdf>.

In the meantime expect some requests for input into changes to ensure the IWK follows the guidelines in its policies and practices with respect to consultations.

Offshore patients and the CMPA

The IWK continues to care for a substantial number of patients from Bermuda and occasionally other offshore jurisdictions. Such patients are accepted only in areas where we have excess capacity from time to time and only where accepting them will not displace the care of regional residents. This supplements our Department of Health budget as well as providing a much needed and high quality service to these countries. The CMPA assures physicians involved in such care that its members will be fully covered by them provided that the patients are not US citizens and have emergent/urgent problems or require treatments not available in their own countries

If you are involved in the transfer of a patient from an offshore jurisdiction remember to ask that the CMPA Governing Law and Jurisdiction Agreement [for Health Care Organizations] be completed, preferably before transfer if possible. You can find the form at:

http://www.cmpa-acpm.ca/cmpapd04/docs/member_assistance/more/pdf/com_glja_health_care_org-e.pdf

CMPA will still cover its members even if the form is not signed provided a reasonable effort was made to get the form signed.

ID cards

A reminder that you will need to carry your IWK ID card to gain access to certain areas out of hours. This includes external doors other than the Women's Site entrance and certain internal areas, e.g. the Pediatric ORs. Make sure your card is up-to-date since some older cards may not provide you access!

**New Head of the Division of
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine**

Jonathan Kronick, Chief of Pediatrics, IWK Health Centre

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Krista Jangaard is the successful candidate for Head of the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine and will assume the position effective July 1, 2010. We are confident that Krista will be an effective leader of the Division and wish her all the best in assisting the Division to continue its excellence in both clinical care and academic endeavours.

The Department of Pediatrics would particularly like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Robin Whyte, Interim Head of the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, for his fine leadership during the past six months. Robin's willingness to take on this important role is very much appreciated.

Please join me in welcoming Krista in her new role.

Wireless capability at the IWK
~Technology Programs and Services

Technology Programs and Services is pleased to announce that wireless network capability is now available in the following areas:

Children's Building - floors 1 through 8
Women's Building - floors 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7
Link Building - floors 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7
Goldbloom Pavilion - floors 2 through 5

Wireless network capability is also in the planning stages for the new level 0 lab area.

Health Centre staff and physicians with IWK laptops are able to have wireless access to the internet and the IWK network (i.e. Meditech, U: and H: Drives). To ensure the IWK laptop is 'wireless ready', please complete and submit an IT Project Initiation Form (PIF) requesting an assessment.

If you have any questions concerning wireless network capability at the IWK, please contact Terry Thorne, Infrastructure Team Lead, at 7945 or

Terry.Thorne@iwk.nshealth.ca.

Celebrate the completion of the Children's Site Redevelopment Project

~A message from Allan Horsburgh, CFO and VP, Operations and Support Services

You're invited...

As you know, the Children's Site Redevelopment Project will be completed this summer. After five years of hard work and hard hats, the transformation of space in the Children's Building calls for a celebration!

IWK staff, physicians and volunteers are invited to join us in the Goldbloom Pavilion on Tuesday, June 22nd as we look back on the past five years and say thanks for your patience throughout the construction process. This is also an important opportunity to thank and bid farewell to AECON – members of their team have truly become honorary members of the IWK community over the course of this project!

Please join us at 2:00 p.m. to hear remarks from Anne McGuire, President and CEO; Allan Horsburgh, CFO and VP, Operations and Support Services; and Robbie Shaw, President, IWK Foundation. An ice cream social will follow. We invite everyone to mix and mingle, and share stories of the past five years.

If you receive this newsletter by fax or mail, you can click the "Docs' Digest" button on our website

www.iwk.nshealth.ca located under the "Health Professionals" section. From time to time, you will also see Docs'

Digest Bulletins, which I will send to you if there is a news item that is time-sensitive, or of particular importance.

Cancer Care Nova Scotia Announces Excellence Award Winners

Halifax, NS, June 7, 2010

The recipients of the annual Excellence Awards in leadership, innovation, and patient care were announced today, June 7, by *Cancer Care Nova Scotia*.

The awards will be presented during the organization's Celebrating Excellence event at 4 p.m. in the Bethune Ballroom, Victoria General Site, Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre, Halifax.

The awards were introduced in 2009 to mark the 10th anniversary of *Cancer Care Nova Scotia*. They acknowledge the work and commitment of people who have helped the organization further cancer prevention, treatment, and care for Nova Scotia cancer patients and their families.

"Meeting our commitment to make health care better for families depends very much on the people who work in our health care system," said Maureen MacDonald, Minister of Health. "The individuals being recognized today represent the dedication and hard work of all those working in cancer care to deliver excellent care to cancer patients and their families. On behalf of the province of Nova Scotia, I congratulate the award recipients."

"With 25 compelling nominations to consider, our job to select the one worthy individual or team that most exemplified each award was very challenging," said Archie MacEachern *Cancer Care Nova Scotia* advisory board member and chair of its Excellence Awards selection committee. "Indeed all nominees are worthy of recognition. However, upon careful review of the nomination packages and a customized evaluation tool, we were able to make thoughtful decisions."

The award recipients are Dr. Dorothy Barnard, pediatric hematologist/oncologist and professor (retired), the Capital Health Head and Neck Cancer Site Team and Dr. Robert Rutledge, radiation oncologist, Capital Health Cancer Care Program.

The Leadership Excellence Award will be presented to Dr. Barnard, a seasoned clinician with more than 30 years experience working with pediatric cancer patients and their families. She has made significant contributions to pediatric cancer through clinical practice, teaching, and research. Her vision and leadership in establishing the Atlantic Provinces Pediatric Hematology Oncology Network has had a lasting and positive impact on patient and family care. Because of the network, children and families who used to have to travel to, and stay in, Halifax for weeks for treatment, can now access care at their home hospital and be confident the standard and quality is consistent with that at the IWK.

The Innovation Excellence Award will be presented to the Head and Neck Cancer Site Team. The team of health professionals, under the direction of registered nurses Judi Phillips and Karen Woodworth, has changed its approach to patient care to better meet the needs of patients and families. It uses a new referral process for quicker access and better co-ordination and continuity of care through case-management. The changes have enhanced communication and collaboration among team members, increased links with community resources and improved patient education and advocacy.

The Excellence in Patient Care Award will be presented to Dr. Rutledge. A respected cancer specialist, Dr. Rutledge has great interest in understanding how a patient is feeling and applies that to help patients cope better with their cancer. He developed a weekend retreat workshop for cancer patients and families that led to more than 30 Skills for Healing Workshops in 15 cities, in Canada and around the world for more than 1,000 people. Dr. Rutledge has also developed a Skills for Wellness program for health care providers to help colleagues to extend the reach and impact of their work.

"We truly are fortunate to have excellence in all aspects of cancer care," said Theresa Marie Underhill, chief operating officer, Cancer Care Nova Scotia. "Congratulations and special thanks to the award recipients, nominees, and all who work with *Cancer Care Nova Scotia* to provide quality cancer care for Nova Scotia cancer patients and their families."

Cancer Care Nova Scotia Announces Excellence Award Winners (cont)

Dr. Carman Giacomantonio, chief medical director, *Cancer Care Nova Scotia*, said each day in communities and districts across the province, health professionals work tirelessly to support and care for patients.

"We're all in this business for one reason and one reason alone, to provide Nova Scotia cancer patients and families with the best cancer care possible, and I count myself fortunate to part of such a team," said Dr. Giacomantonio.

Cancer Care Nova Scotia, a program of the Department of Health, was created to facilitate quality cancer prevention and care for all Nova Scotians. Through Cancer Patient Navigation, health professional education, and standards and guideline development, Cancer Care Nova Scotia supports health professionals in providing patients with high quality care. Its work with other organizations raises awareness about the importance of healthy lifestyles to reduce cancer risk, and its screening programs educate Nova Scotians about healthy lifestyles and available testing like Pap tests for cervical cancer and the FIT kit for colorectal cancer. The goal is to find cancer earlier and treat it better.

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DOC'S DIGEST
June 2010
Volume 9
Page 4

Survey for Nova Scotia Health Care Providers on Growth Monitoring Practices

~Nova Scotia Department of Health Promotion and Protection

Consistent and regular growth monitoring is essential for assessing health and nutritional status of infants and children at both the individual and population levels. Growth charts are a useful tool for health care providers and parents to understand patterns of growth and identify potential growth problems.

The World Health Organization (WHO) released new growth charts for infants and children that reflect optimal growth. These new growth charts include the 2006 WHO Child Growth Standards (birth-five years) and the 2007 WHO Growth Reference for children and adolescents (5-19 years). The new charts differ from the 2000 CDC growth charts in that they focus on a multi-ethnic population of children living in optimal conditions for growth and development, are based on a breastfed population, and are adjusted to take into account the emerging childhood obesity epidemic.

Canadian Pediatric Society, College of Family Physicians of Canada, Community Health Nurses and Dietitians of Canada are recommending the adoption of the WHO growth charts in Canada.

The Nova Scotia Departments of Health, Health Promotion & Protection and the NS Reproductive Care Program are conducting a short online survey to gain an understanding of current practices and barriers to growth monitoring of infants and children. We need to hear from healthcare providers across the health system and encourage you to complete this survey. Survey results will be used to inform discussions on how to support the adoption of the WHO growth charts in Nova Scotia.

The online Survey for Nova Scotia health care providers on growth monitoring practices will take approximately 2-5 minutes to complete and is available until **June 30th**.

Please visit <http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/growthchartsurvey/> to take the survey.

Questions or comments? Please contact healthpromotion@gov.ns.ca.

**IWK Receives Full
Accreditation Status**

~A message from Allan Horsburgh, Acting President and CEO, and John Rogers, Chair, Board of Directors, IWK Health Centre

As you may recall, during our most recent Accreditation Survey (May 2008) certain areas for follow-up were identified – in other words, we were accredited, with conditions. We are pleased to advise that we were notified on March 10th by Accreditation Canada that these conditions have now all been met.

Under Accreditation Canada's new Qmentum program, ongoing reporting is required until we are fully compliant. Last month, we provided a final report to Accreditation Canada reporting on our progress on the following:

- Making our Ethics Framework publicly accessible;
- Various medication management processes including medication storage and quality control procedures;
- Identifying and monitoring process and outcome measures for our mental health service.

On behalf of the Executive Leadership Team and Board of Directors, we wanted to extend our sincere thanks to all those who helped make our most recent Accreditation process a success. Accreditation is an important and invaluable exercise for our organization.

We know that the entire process requires significant planning, coordination and follow-up. Much thanks for your ongoing commitment to this process and your commitment to the care we provide at the IWK each day. Your efforts year-round help make each Accreditation a success. The IWK will undergo our next Accreditation survey in May of 2011 and preparations are already underway.

If you have any questions about the Accreditation process, please contact Brenda MacDonald, Manager, Privacy & Evaluation, at extension 8088.

**Appointment of Interim Head,
Department of Pediatrics**

~Anne McGuire, President and CEO, IWK Health Centre and Tom Marrie, M.D., Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University

It is our pleasure to inform you that Dr. Wade Watson has been appointed Interim Head and Chief of the Department of Pediatrics at Dalhousie and the IWK, pending approval by the Dalhousie University Board of Governors. Dr. Watson's appointment is effective July 1, 2010 while a search is underway to find a permanent Head/Chief of the Department for the department.

Dr. Watson is a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Head of the Division of Allergy at the IWK Health Centre. He has been with the Faculty of Medicine since July 2005.

We thank Dr. Watson for his leadership during this transition and we know he will have the full support of the department and our respective institutions as he moves the Department of Pediatrics forward with its academic and clinical mandate.

Our appreciation also goes to Dr. Jonathan Kronick, who is stepping down from his second term as Head/Chief of the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Kronick was appointed to the position in 2002, when he was recruited to Dalhousie and the IWK from the University of Western Ontario. As Head and Chief he has shown all-around outstanding leadership and vision. Deeply committed to academic activities, he has supported the department's excellent research productivity and stimulated the establishment of a fund to support faculty development. He was instrumental in setting up the undergraduate medical education program in New Brunswick, and has been equally supportive in building a highly regarded postgraduate program in pediatrics. Thanks to his strong leadership and calm resolve, the department achieved just last week an AFP agreement with the Nova Scotia Department of Health. For department members, students, residents, and colleagues alike, Jonathan is unanimously regarded as a consummate professional of great integrity who leads by example. We thank him for his considerable contributions and look forward to working with him in many other capacities as he continues his academic and clinical work at Dalhousie and the IWK.

Halifax physicians recognized by Canadian Paediatric Society for outstanding contributions to child and youth health

DOC'S DIGEST
June 2010
Volume 9
Page 6

Recognized as the highest honour in Canadian paediatrics, the Canadian Paediatric Society's (CPS) awards program has named four Halifax physicians who practice at the IWK Health Centre and teach at Dalhousie Medical School as 2010 award recipients.

Drs. Peter Camfield, Carol Camfield, Natalie Yanchar and Robert Bortolussi will receive CPS awards at the 87th CPS Annual Conference set to take place June 22nd to 26th in Vancouver, BC.

"I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to these four deserving individuals," said *Anne McGuire*, President and CEO of the IWK Health Centre. "The passion that they have for the work they do has resulted in the betterment of children's health as a whole."

"We're proud of these exceptional physicians for their dedication to Maritime Canada's children and youth," said Dr. Tom Marrie, dean of Dalhousie Medical School. "Each one of these physicians is deserving of their respective awards; I extend my congratulations for their high calibre of work."

Husband-and-wife team Drs. Peter and Carol Camfield will receive the Career Research Award, which recognizes the careers of outstanding and accomplished researchers working on an aspect of paediatric research in Canada. The Camfields have been chosen for their work in the day-to-day care of children with a wide range of neurological disorders. "They have both contributed immensely to our understanding and the care of children with neurologic disorders," said Dr. Jonathan Kronick, Chief of Paediatrics at the IWK Health Centre and Dalhousie University. "Their works are cited routinely in new investigations, and recognized around the world."

As recently retired professors of paediatrics at Dalhousie Medical School, the Camfields have worked and published extensively on paediatric epilepsy, Tourette syndrome, neonatal stroke and migraines. The pair has been acknowledged with a host of awards, co-authored a combined 130 works on paediatric neurology, and served on several editorial boards and research review committees.

Also being recognized by CPS is Dr. Natalie Yanchar who will be the recipient of the Victor Marchessault Advocacy Award for her contributions to injury prevention legislation and guidelines. The award honours individuals or organizations who have made outstanding contributions to Canada's children and youth at the local, provincial or national level. Dr. Yanchar is the medical director of trauma care at the IWK Health Centre and an associate professor of surgery and emergency medicine at Dalhousie Medical School. Noted for her ability to objectively provide facts and data in a way that can influence a broad audience, Dr. Yanchar is the president and founding member of Injury Free Nova Scotia and helped influence the adoption of legislation in Nova Scotia to protect children and youth from injury and decrease the use of all-terrain vehicles by young children.

"Dr. Yanchar exemplifies the type of advocate for child health for which [this] award was created," said Drs. Scott Halperin and Jonathan Kronick, fellow colleagues at the IWK Health Centre, in their nomination.

Dr. Robert Bortolussi will also be recognized at this year's CPS Annual Conference. He will receive a Member Recognition Award for his exceptional leadership during the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic.

Dr. Bortolussi is a paediatric infectious diseases consultant at the IWK Health Centre, where he led the research program for 15 years, stepping down as Vice President of Research in 2007. Under his leadership, the IWK research program attained national prominence culminating in the construction of the \$20 million Dr. Richard B. Goldbloom Research and Clinical Care Pavilion in 2005. He currently directs the AIDS treatment program for children at the IWK, and is a professor of paediatrics and microbiology and immunology at Dalhousie University.

Publishing over 100 original articles on infection and newborn host defence, Dr. Bortolussi is also a past recipient of the Sanofi Pasteur Research Award. He received the award in 2005 for his research on the development of innate immunity in the newborn.

For more information and complete biographies of all the award winners, visit: www.cps.ca.