Pediatric Heart Transplant Society

PEDIATRIC HEART TRANSPLANTATION TODAY

PHTS Newsletter

Dr. Juan "Chuck" Alejos, Senior Editor
Dr. Neha Bansal, Junior Editor

May 2024



Greetings to the PHTS Community,

Welcome home for those of us who have recently returned from Prague, an exceptional city with much history and charm. The surprisingly warm weather was welcome. The meeting itself was spectacular. Not only for the chance to see old friends, meet new ones and make new connections but also to benefit from the valuable research and experiences from our colleagues around the world. Dare I say that we even found the adult presentations to be insightful as they provided much needed experience in this rapidly advancing and changing field in topics ranging from the use of VADs to DCD organ donation to donor selection and much more. I watched with pride as our graduating fellow and newest faculty member, Majid Husain, was named the Best of the Best from the Early Career & Trainee Clinical Case Dilemmas. Majid was not the only junior faculty rising to the top.They showed us all that the future of pediatric heart failure and heart transplantation is in worthy hands.

We also got to enjoy the social aspects of the ISHLT Annual Meeting. From the river cruises to the dinner experiences and the nightlife, the camaraderie made the trip a special one. Some found a challenging golf course not far outside of Prague while others, like me chose to avoid the frustration of our golf game and enjoy the charm of the city. All in all, it was a wonderful experience. For those of you who didn't make it to Prague, please know that you were missed. We are a small community working in a stressful but rewarding job. It's always a pleasure when we have a chance to get together. SO .... I look forward to seeing everyone in Boston!!

Dr. Juan "Chuck" Alejos, Senior Editor
UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital

PHTS GROWTH*

12425 → Patients Enrolled Total
12,894 → Listings/relisting entered
9460 → Transplants entered
533 → Listings for 2023
445 → Transplants for 2023
98 → Listings for 2024
52 → Transplants for 2024

*as of May 1, 2024



President
Shriprasad Deshpande, MD
Children's National Health System



Vice President
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Craig Collum, MPH
PHTS Executive Director

Success through Commitment and Collaboration

I trust this message finds you all well and in good health and high spirits. As I reflect on the past year, I am deeply honored and humbled to convey my sincere thanks for your exceptional support, dedication, and steadfast commitment to our Society. The contributions each of you make to our organization are fundamental to our collective achievements.

Personally, completing my fourteenth year as your Executive Director marks a significant and transformative milestone. Since the outset, this community has embraced me with warmth and generosity, for which I am truly thankful. Your trust in my leadership has been instrumental in driving our successes over the past decade.

I would like to share with you some updates on our Society:

PHTS Celebrates 30 Years!

We had such a spectacular turnout at our 30th Anniversary Gala in Denver, Colorado in April 2023. I don't think we could have had any better of a time celebrating with you all! I want to thank our Host Sponsor, Childrens Hospital Colorado for helping organize the event. I also want to thank all of our supporting sponsors: Children's National, Columbia NY Presbyterian-Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Norton Children's Hospital, Phoenix Children's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital and Washington University-St. Louis Children's Hospital, Children's Minnesota, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Enduring Hearts, and CareDx. Additional thanks to our VIP Sponsors: Drs. Micheal Kuhn, Daphne Hsu, Jay Fricker, Michael Carboni and Jeffrey Gossett. Special thanks to Ms. DeAnna Archer for organizing the event with our host sponsor and the Denver Art Museum. Thank you all for an amazing evening!

Membership Growth:

I am delighted to share that our membership remains robust, with over 600 institutional and affiliate members. We have several new hospitals in the process of joining and I would like to welcome the newest member, **Cohen Children's Hospital in Queens, NY!**

Mix and Mingle:

It was great seeing many of you in Prague last month and I want to thank our partners at Enduring Hearts for helping us host the Mix and Mingle, of which we had over 100 attendees. Special thanks to Ms. DeAnna Archer for organizing the evenings' festivities. We could not have done it without her!

PHTS to Expand Footprint:

During our time in Prague, we had a lot of interest from the international community, and we are now in the early stages of planning to expand our footprint in Europe. This will involve setting up a GDPR compliant database server in Europe where all of the PHTS data for the registry will be collected and stored from our international participants in Europe and Oceania. Our long-term goal will be to expand our footprint beyond the European and Oceania regions.

Fall Conference:

We are in the early planning stages of our Fall Conference in Chicago, Illinois on Sunday, November 17, 2024. Ann and Robert Lurie Hospital has agreed to serve as our Host Sponsor for the event, but we still have availability for other sponsorships. Please contact Ms. DeAnna Archer at deanna.archer@kirso.net if you would like to learn more about sponsorship opportunities.

Pediatric Transplant Guidebook: 4th Edition

Our guidebook for patients and families continues to be a hot commodity offered to hospitals by PHTS for their patients and family members. I want to thank our collaborators and sponsors in making this resource such a valuable tool to patients and families. I would like to start by thanking Stanford University Lucile Packard Children's Hospital for sponsoring our Spanish Version and our collaborators, Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation, Transplant Families, and Enduring Hearts for providing support in their review and feedback to our past editions.
As we begin preparing our 4th Edition of the Guidebook, we are seeking volunteers to serve as co-editors. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Ms. DeAnna Archer at deanna.archer@kirso.net.

PHTS Foundation Vice-Chair: Accepting Nominations Soon

The Foundation will be accepting nominations for our next Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors soon. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving as our next Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors, please contact Ms. DeAnna Archer at deanna.archer@kirso.net.

In closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to PHTS President Shri Deshpande, Vice-President Kevin Daly, Chairman of the Board Heather Henderson, and the Vice-Chairman of the Board Jeff Gossett and to all the members of the Board, PHTS Committees and our Data Coordinating Center team from Kirklin Solutions for continuing to be a positive driving force in moving the Society forward. Together, with your commitment and our growing collaboration with other organizations such as Enduring Hearts, Transplant Families, ACTION, and ISHLT to name a few; we will continue to profoundly impact the lives of those we serve.

With utmost gratitude and warmest regards.

PHTS Live!

Upcoming Topics

May 29, 2024

Taking care of #1: Wellness in the Heart Transplant Community

Speakers:



Melissa Cousino, PhD



Carol Wittlleb-Weber, MD

June 26, 2024

Fontan to OHT: Peds and Adults

July 17, 2024

A Day in the Life

August 21, 2024

From Bedside to Bench; the research arena

Host



Juan Alejos, MD



Manu Varma, D.O.



Lynsey Barkoff, CPNP

Health Disparities Committee

New Roles



Chair

Shahnawaz Amdani, MD FACC FAAP



Vice Chair

Amanda (Mandi) McCormick, MD



Member Spotlight

Neha Bansal, MD

Mount Sinai Medical Center
New York, New York

ISHLT Best Pediatric Paper of 2023

Impact of race and health coverage on listing and waitlist mortality in pediatric cardiac transplantation

PHTS Booth at ISHLT 2024











PHTS & Enduring Hearts Mix and Mingle







Prague- ISHLT 2024

PHTS Fall 2024 Annual Meeting



Save the Date

Join PHTS in Chicago, Illinois

November 2024

More information coming soon

Sponsorship Information:
Reach out to DeAnna Archer
deanna.archer@kirso.net

Information Corner

Job Postings

HF/Tx MD Position at MUSC

The Dr. Charles P. Darby Jr. Department of Pediatrics' Division of Cardiology at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston is seeking a full-time Pediatric Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiologist. The ideal candidate will be board certified/eligible in pediatric cardiology with additional training completed in pediatric heart failure, transplant, and ventricular assist devices. The candidate's primary clinical responsibility will be to serve on our Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Therapies (PACT) Service that currently consists of two full time PACT physicians, two nurse practitioners, two transplant nurse coordinators, and two heart failure/VAD coordinators. The PACT team is supported by three cardiothoracic surgeons with vast experience in transplantation and mechanical support of complex congenital patients as well as cardiomyopathies. The PACT team is supported by a dedicated team of ancillary staff including transplant program specialist, social worker, pharmacist and dietician. Other clinical and academic opportunities are available and can be tailored to individual interests. Responsibilities will also include teaching our pediatric fellows, residents, and medical students. Pursuing individual scholarly interests is encouraged and supported.

Interested and qualified candidates should email Heather Henderson, MD (hendhea@musc.edu) please include CV and cover letter.

Transplant Nurse Coordinator Position

The Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Care and Transplantation team at Columbia University/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of NewYork Presbyterian is seeking qualified Registered Nurse (RN) candidates to help grow our team in a full-time position as a transplant nurse coordinator. Begun in 1984, our transplant program has performed transplant in over 600 patients and currently averages approximately 25 transplants annually. In addition, we have an established MCS program offering the full complement of temporary and durable devices to approximately 15 patients per year, including bridge-to-transplant in complex CHD patients and destination VAD therapy. Our medical team currently consists of 7 transplant cardiologists, 4 surgeons, 5 nurse practitioners, 1 VAD nurse coordinator and 1 pre-transplant nurse coordinator.

Questions regarding this position can be addressed to Dr. Marc Richmond (Director, Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Care and Transplantation) mr2306@cumc.columbia.edu or Ms. Jessica Roberts-Campbell (Division Administrator, Pediatric Cardiology) jr4278@cumc.columbia.edu

Pediatric Heart Failure/Heart Transplant Cardiologist

Ochsner Children's Hospital in New Orleans is recruiting apediatric cardiologist to direct our Pediatric Heart Failure/Heart Transplant Program. This position includes care of patients with cardiomyopathies, heart failure, transplant, congenital heart disease, and ventricular assist devices. Candidates would be joining two heart failure/heart transplant cardiologists and a newly hired heart failure/transplant physician assistant in the only pediatric heart transplant center in Louisiana. The transplant team is supported by dedicated transplant coordinators, transplant psychologist, transplant social worker, transplant pharmacist, and palliative care team. Ochsner Health has all pediatric cardiac sub-specialties including EP, ACHD, interventional cardiology, imaging including echocardiography and cardiac MRI and CT, and fetal cardiology. We have 3 congenital heart surgeons and a dedicated pediatric cardiac intensive care unit.

Contact Courtney Lawhun, Physician Recruiter, at courtney.lawhun@ochsner.org

Information Corner

Job Postings

UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital OHT/HF/MCS

UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital Division of Pediatric Cardiology is seeking a Pediatric heart failure and transplantation physician. Applicants should have formal 4th year fellowship training in Pediatric heart failure, cardiomyopathy, transplantation, and mechanical circulatory support and must be board certified/eligible in Pediatric Cardiology. Current trainees are welcome to apply.

Application link: https://recruit.apo.ucla.edu/JPF09362

HF/ Tx Cardiologist position at U of Alberta

We have a position open for an additional Heart Function / Transplant Cardiologist to join our team at the University of Alberta/ Stollery Children's Hospital.
The University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, in partnership with Alberta Health Services (AHS) invites applications for a tenure-track position of Assistant/Associate Professor within the Division of Pediatric Cardiology in the Department of Pediatrics, with a focus on Pediatric Heart Function and Transplant. This position is a 1.0 full-time equivalent and includes negotiated and committed protected time for research and other academic pursuits.
All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens or permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered.

E-mail Dr. Lisa Hornberger: lisa.hornberger@albertahealthservices.ca
https://apps.ualberta.ca/careers/posting/740

Late Breaking Heart Tx Psychology Fellowship

One full-time pediatric psychology fellowship position with a specialty in Congenital Heart Disease/Heart Failure/Heart Transplant will be offered at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in the Transplant Center. Fellows will be exposed to a wide variety of presenting cardiac diseases and disorders, including but not limited to Single Ventricle Heart Disease and Dilated Cardiomyopathy, as well as a variety of surgery and medical palliations for these defects/diseases. Fellows will have the opportunity to follow patients and families with CHD and/or in acute heart failure and pre/post heart transplantation. Fellows will receive year-long training in inpatient consultation-liaison services, outpatient therapy, brief bedside intervention, subspecialty primary care, neurodevelopmental assessment, and pre-heart transplant evaluations. A major focus of the rotation will focus on integration into multidisciplinary medical teams and shared decision-making. Fellows will have the opportunity to tailor their training year based on their preferred areas of focus, which will be determined at the start of residency with the help of their mentors and faculty supervisors. Available clinic rotations include heart failure clinic, heart transplant clinic, single ventricle clinic, and the cardiac neurodevelopmental program. Opportunities for research are also available, including participation in international collaboratives such as the Cardiac Neurodevelopmental Outcome Collaborative (CNOC) . Protected research time will be provided during the first year; a second-year fellowship position may also be available to qualified candidates interested in pursuing research/academic medical careers. Fellows also are provided with professional development funds to support travel to conferences or specialty training.

Contact Nadine J. Kaslow, PhD, ABPP, Postdoctoral Residency Training Director, Professor and Chief Psychologist (Grady), Emory University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences; email: nkaslow@emory.edu. Inquiries can also be directed to me at kristin.niel@choa.org