

## Faculty Updates



**Dr. Curtis Vandenberg**  
**Assistant Professor, Orthopedics**

Dr. Curtis Vandenberg joined Pediatric Orthopedics on April 1. He has a BS from the University of Michigan, MD from Loyola University, completed his residency at Columbia University as well as fellowships at CHCO and the University of Michigan. Dr. Vandenberg comes to us from Children's Hospital Los Angeles where he served as a Sports Medicine and Pediatric Orthopedic surgeon for over 6 years. Welcome Dr. Vandenberg!



We are pleased to announce that in March, **Dr. Daniel Wood, Urology** was appointed as the inaugural Chief of Transition Surgery.

As part of a complete package of care, Children's Hospital Colorado has always worked to ensure our young patients receive the best possible care. In his new role Dr. Wood will be seeking to learn from those who have established solid transition practices, with a view to supporting those who are earlier in this journey. He currently sits on the transition

committees at both Children's and the University and is actively working to develop practice and policy in urology and more widely. The ultimate aim is to ensure that parents who bring their child through the door of our hospital for the first time can rest assured that they will receive the excellent, coordinated care they need throughout their life, from all teams, in both the pediatric and adult environments.



Congratulations to **Dr. Aubrey Armento, Orthopedics** for her acceptance into the Surgical/Subspecialists Clinical Outcomes Research (SCORE) fellowship. Dr. Armento is currently researching the relationship between energy availability, disordered eating, and quality of life in adolescent athletes. Her future research aims to explore the relationship between energy availability, bone microarchitecture, and bone stress injury risk in adolescent female athletes. Learn more about this 2 year fellowship [here](#)

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**Dr. Jill Kaar**, our Director of ROCS will be chairing a symposium at the Society for Prevention Research annual meeting in Seattle, WA entitled: A Call to Create Evidence-Based, Upstream Prevention Programs Targeting Youth's Mental and Physical Health That Are Equitable across Marginalized Communities: Post COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery. She will also be giving a keynote lecture entitled: "Mind the Gap" between Mental Health Literacy and Mental Health focused Prevention Programs: Advocates for All

Youth (ALLY).

The CCS is incredibly excited to announce the recent approval of our APP Surgical Fellowship! The fellowship will be led by **Richele Koehler, APP Lead, Pediatric Surgery** and



**Brian Miller, APP Lead, Urology**, and will encompass 12 months of surgically focused pediatric care. Fellows will augment their core medical education initially by joining our current Pediatric Inpatient APP fellowship, followed by immersive rotations throughout surgical subspecialties at Children's Hospital Colorado. Graduates will be well versed in care for the surgical patient in clinic, the operating room and in the hospital. We are

proud to be on the leading and innovative edge of enhancing our already strong APP team here at Children's and ensuring the best care for our patients into the future.



### CCS Research Coordinator Forum

ROCS has established a virtual collaborative space for research coordinators in CCS member departments and divisions to come together. The CCS Research Coordinator forum is held virtually twice a month on Tuesdays from 2-3PM. During these meetings

we work with coordinators to navigate existing or new research processes at both CHCO and CU as well as provide a platform for coordinators to share new information or tips/tricks they have developed on their own. Attendance has been great and we encourage anyone interested to attend. Please contact [jill.kaar@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:jill.kaar@cuanschutz.edu) with questions.



All **CCS internal grant proposal submissions** for the Ponzio, Innovation, QPS, SILC and Culshaw awards are **due June 1**. Contact [sandra.talley@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:sandra.talley@childrenscolorado.org) with any questions.

## A big thank you and a warm welcome



After 29 years of dedicated service, **Dr. Kenny Chan** is stepping down as Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Chan on all of his achievements and thank him for his outstanding tenure and notable accomplishments. Under Dr. Chan, the unit has grown into one of the five largest Pediatric Otolaryngology Departments in the country, participating in over 15 multi-specialty clinics with a nationally recognized fellowship program. We simply can't thank Dr. Chan enough for all he has achieved for Children's Colorado. We wish him all the best as he moves toward an eventual and well-deserved retirement.



We are thrilled to welcome our new Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology, **Dr. Soham Roy, MD, MMM, FACS, FAAP**. Dr. Roy previously served as the Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology and the Assistant Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs at the University of Texas - Houston and Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital.

An internationally recognized speaker and published author, Dr. Roy is a renowned expert in operating room safety issues and serves as a consultant to the FDA and industry in the development of innovative

and safer surgical devices. He has given hundreds of national and international invited lectures and published numerous scientific articles, book chapters, and national research presentations. He also has received multiple awards for teaching, clinical care and original scientific research. Dr. Roy officially began in his new role at Children's Hospital Colorado on May 1. Please join us as we welcome him to the team. Dr. Roy will undoubtedly serve as a dynamic and exciting addition to our incredible organization.

## Congratulatory Corner



The Center for Children's Surgery's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Symposium was held on February 18, 2022, with a successful virtual turnout. We had 15 presentations from 7 units, as well as over 50 posters from 11 units. A big thank you to the co-chairs, **Dr. Allyson Alexander, Neurosurgery** and **Dr. Shannon Acker, Pediatric Surgery**, as well as our ROCS senior coordinator, **Claudia Mata** for their hard work in coordinating and hosting such a wonderful event.

### Congratulations to this year's winners!

**Outstanding Podium Talk- James Bardill, MS:** Topical Delivery of Cerium Oxide Nanoparticles Conjugated with MicroRNA-146a Accelerates Diabetic Wound Healing  
**Outstanding Poster- Parker Jesberg, BS:** Pediatric Salivary Gland Neoplasms: A 20-year Review

**Dr. Lucy Kohn, Dermatology**, has received a Career Development Award from the Dermatology Foundation for her project, "Evaluating Disparities in Dermatology for American Indian and Alaska Native Youth"

**Dr. David Howell, Orthopedics**, has received a CCTSI Pilot grant for his project, "Understanding How Sleep Health Affects Recovery from Adolescent Concussion."

**Dr. Ken Liechty, Pediatric Surgery**, was elected as the President of the Wound Healing Society and has received a School of Mines grant, along with Dr. Melissa Krebs from the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering for their project, "Zwitterionic Gels with Nanosilk and Cerium Oxide Nanoparticles for Pediatric Pressure Ulcer Healing."

An abstract entitled, National trends in pediatric firearm and automobile fatalities, won first place in both the state and regional ACS committee on trauma resident paper competition. Congratulations to the authors- **Jenny Stevens MD MPH, Marina Reppucci MD, Kaci Pickett MS, Margo Nolan BS, Steven Moulton MD**

**Dr. Leon- Pineda** has been appointed as the new Director of Postdoctoral Education in Pediatric Dentistry.

**Dr. Chaitanya, Pediatric Dentistry** was highlighted in this article [CU Dental Team Creates First, Targeted Antibacterial and Regenerative Coating in Dentistry](#)