

2021 Fellows' Scholarship Round Robin

Faculty Biographies



Cristina Alvira, MD completed her medical degree at Tufts University, and then came to Stanford University School of Medicine to complete both her pediatric residency and her clinical fellowship in pediatric critical care medicine. After fellowship, Dr. Alvira pursued postdoctoral fellowship training with Dr. Marlene Rabinovitch, a preeminent vascular biologist. Dr. Alvira was recruited to Stanford School of Medicine in the University Tenure Line in 2010, and currently runs an NIH-funded basic research program aimed at identifying novel mechanisms that direct lung growth and repair in infants and children. Dr. Alvira is currently a Stanford Child Health Research Institute John and Tashia Morgridge Faculty Scholar in Pediatric Translational Medicine.

[Learn more about Dr. Alvira on her CAP profile.](#)



Becky Blankenburg, MD, MPH is a Clinical Professor in Pediatric Hospital Medicine and the Associate Chair for Education for the Department of Pediatrics at Stanford. Dr. Blankenburg is the President of the Association of Pediatric Program Directors. In the past, she was the Pediatrics Residency Program Director and Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship Director at Stanford. Her educational research interests focus on building a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning environment and helping learners develop a sense of belonging, professional identity formation, and competence through longitudinal coaching and scholarly mentorship.

[Learn more about Dr. Blankenburg on her CAP profile.](#)



Lisa Chamberlain, MD, MPH, Professor of Pediatrics, Associate Chair of Policy and Community and the Arline and Pete Harman Faculty Scholar at Stanford Children's Hospital. Dr. Chamberlain has focused her career on the elimination of child health disparities. She is committed to do this in two ways: 1) transforming the way pediatricians practice by developing and disseminating models of community engaged pediatrics by combining principles from both medicine and public health, and 2) conducting health services research to inform policy. Recent work involves a partnership with the Stanford Graduate School of Education, where she now holds a courtesy appointment. There her work examines the intersection of kindergarten readiness and pediatric practice, in order to reach and change the trajectory of the most at-risk children.

[Learn more about Dr. Chamberlain on her CAP profile.](#)



Lauren Destino, MD is the Associate Division Chief of the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Division and Medical Director of Acute Care at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford (LPCHS), and a Clinical Associate Professor at Stanford University. She is currently serving as the President of the Medical Staff. She was a site co-Investigator for the I-PASS study at Stanford and is the site Principal Investigator for the PCORI grant, Bringing I-PASS to the Bedside: A Communication Bundle to Improve Patient Safety and Experience. She is involved in a number of quality and process improvement-related activities at LPCHS. She is the director for a required quality improvement rotation for residents and co-directs the scholarly concentration for quality and process improvement. Her research interests include communication among the care team (inclusive of patients and families), patient flow throughout the hospital, and value centered improvement.

[Learn more about Dr. Destino on her CAP profile.](#)



Matthew Eisenberg, MD is board certified in Pediatrics and Clinical Informatics. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor (Affiliated) in the Stanford Center for Biomedical Informatics Research at the Stanford University School of Medicine and he serves as the Stanford Health Care site director for the Stanford Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program. He previously held the position of Clinical Assistant Professor in Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine. He is a current member of the eHealth Exchange Coordinating Committee, a Sequoia Project Board member and serves as the current chair of the Epic Care Everywhere Network Governing Council. He is a member of the Carequality Advisory Council (past co-chair) and a member of IHE USA Implementation Committee. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the American Medical Informatics Association and their Clinical Informatics Community.

[Learn more about Dr. Eisenberg on his CAP profile.](#)



Janene H. Fuerch, MD, Neonatal and Developmental Medicine is an innovator, educator, researcher, and physician entrepreneur. She is passionate about improving the health of women and children through medical device innovation and research. She completed the highly prestigious 2016-2017 Innovation Fellowship at Stanford Byer's Center for Biodesign (biodesign.stanford.edu) and since then, has started a successful women's healthtech company (EMME) and become a coveted medical director (Equalize Health, Novonate) and advisor for several neonatal and women's health companies. She is the Assistant Director of the Stanford Biodesign Faculty Innovation Fellowship, Assistant Director for the UCSF-Stanford Pediatric Device Consortium funded by the FDA. Janene is an established leader in neonatal medical technology innovation, leading innovative academic initiatives and partnering with industrial healthcare leaders, all in an effort to provide safer, more efficient, and more effective patient care for mothers and children around the world.

[Learn more about Dr. Fuerch on her CAP profile.](#)



Bonnie Halpern-Felsher, PhD is a tenured Professor in the Division of Adolescent Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Epidemiology and Population Health Professor, and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, at Stanford University. She is also the founder and executive director of the [Tobacco Prevention Toolkit](#) and the [Cannabis Awareness and Prevention Toolkit](#). Dr. Halpern-Felsher is a developmental psychologist with additional training in adolescent and young adult health. Funded by the NIH and many foundations, her research has focused on understanding and reducing adolescent tobacco use, alcohol and marijuana use, and risky sexual behavior. Her research, including over 170 publications, committee work, and advocacy work have been instrumental in setting policy at the local, state, and national level. She has served as a consultant to a number of community-based adolescent health promotion programs and has been an active member on several national campaigns to understand and reduce adolescent tobacco/e-cigarette use. She has testified in several cities, states, in congress, and at the FDA arguing for more tobacco/e-cigarette regulation. She has also served on six Institute of Medicine/National Academies of Medicine committees and contributed to three Surgeon General Reports, all focused on reducing adolescent risk behavior and promoting health.

[Learn more about Dr. Halpern-Felsher on her CAP profile.](#)



Rebecca Kunder, MD, PhD, a medical director at Genentech in Early Clinical Development, is a physician-scientist with experience leading clinical development programs in multiple areas including rheumatology, NASH, and pediatrics. Rebecca joined Genentech in 2018 from Gilead, after completing her MD and PhD training at Duke University followed by Residency and Fellowship training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Rheumatology at Stanford. Rebecca has particular interests in autoimmune diseases including lupus, and in diseases that affect children. When not at work, Rebecca enjoys taking her family on hikes (which are sometimes forced marches), dreaming of a time when she can go to the library to browse again, and playing the ukulele (her Pandemic Hobby).



Desiree LaBeaud, MD, MS is a physician-scientist, epidemiologist, and professor for the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Stanford University's School of Medicine. She studies the epidemiology and ecology of domestic and international arboviruses and emerging infections, with an interest in the vector, host, and environmental factors that affect transmission dynamics and spectrum of disease. She currently heads a clinical research lab focused on better understanding the risk factors and long-term health consequences of arboviral infections, specifically Rift Valley fever, chikungunya, dengue fever, and Zika disease. Her lab also investigates the genetic and immunologic differences that influence variable host responses to arboviral infections, and develops diagnostic tests that can be administered in the field to quickly and accurately determine infections. A primary focus is also to understand local and

personal perceptions of mosquito-borne disease risk in order to engage community action in prevention. Her current field sites include Kenya, Grenada, and Brazil.

Dr. LaBeaud is affiliated with the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, the Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment & Resources, and the Center for Innovation in Global Health at Stanford University.

[Learn more about Dr. LaBeaud on her CAP profile](#) and [her lab's website](#).



Mary Leonard, MD, MSCE is the Arline and Pete Harman Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine and the Adalyn Jay Physician in Chief at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford. She assumed these positions on July 1, 2016.

Energetic and collaborative, Dr. Leonard is a compassionate clinician and researcher who cares deeply about improving the health and well-being of children everywhere. A graduate of the Stanford University School of Medicine, Mary returned to Stanford Medicine in 2014 after spending 25 years at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania. At Stanford, her multi-disciplinary research program is focused on the impact of chronic diseases on bone metabolism and nutrition across the life span. Mary directs the innovative and trans-disciplinary child and maternal health research and training initiatives of the Stanford Child Health Research Institute.

[Learn more about Dr. Leonard on her CAP profile](#).



Keith Morse, MD, MBA is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Pediatric Hospital Medicine and clinical informaticist. He completed a two year fellowship in Clinical Informatics at Stanford and now serves as Medical Director of Clinical Informatics at Stanford Children's Health. His research focuses on the meaningful deployment of machine learning into clinical care. He has published on the deployment costs of machine learning and is currently leading a study to evaluate the efficacy of an algorithm to identify patients at high risk of developing chronic kidney disease after an inpatient hospital stay. He continues to work with the Stanford Clinical Informatics Fellowship program as an associate faculty member.

[Learn more about Dr. Morse on his CAP profile](#).



Anisha I. Patel, MD, MSPH, MSHS is an Associate Professor in the Division of General Pediatrics at Stanford University and an affiliate faculty member at the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Patel practices general pediatrics at the Gardner Packard Children's Health Center and cares for newborns at Stanford's Lucile Packard Children's Hospital. Dr. Patel's research focuses on child health promotion, including helping children grow up at a healthy weight. Most of her research is focused on reducing health inequities for children and families among low-income and minority backgrounds. She has conducted numerous studies to evaluate interventions and policies that focus on child health promotion. She has published extensively in this area and has maintained a steady track record of funding from foundations (e.g., RWJF, W.K. Kellogg) and NIH. She has presented her research to local, national, and international audiences, and she has been recognized for her work to inform policies with awards from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Public Health. Dr. Patel has also mentored numerous trainees at Stanford and other institutions. Her areas of expertise include community-based participatory research, qualitative research, quasi-experimental trials, cluster-randomized controlled trials, policy evaluation, implementation science, and translational research.

[Learn more about Dr. Patel on her CAP profile](#) and [her lab's website](#).



Carrie Rassbach, MD, MA(Ed) is the Program Director for the Pediatrics and Combined Pediatrics-Anesthesiology Residency Program. She is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Hospital Medicine. Her research interests include coaching, assessment, learning environment, and professional development for both learners and faculty. She is the past founding Fellowship Director for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship at Stanford and past founding Director of the Pediatrics Residency's Coaching Program. Nationally, she is the past Chair of the Association of Pediatric Program Directors' Assessment Learning Community and the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship Directors' Executive Council. Dr. Rassbach received her Master of Education from the Stanford Graduate School of Education and is a graduate of the Stanford School of Medicine's Rathmann Fellowship for Medical Education Research and the Academic Pediatrics Association's Educational Scholars' Program.

[Learn more about Dr. Rassbach on her CAP profile](#).



Lee Sanders, MD, MPH, General Pediatrics: My areas of methodologic expertise include the areas of Health Services Research, Epidemiology, Clinical Research (trials), Health Behavior Research, Human-centered Design, and Mixed Methods (qualitative and quantitative). My areas of content expertise include health literacy, health policy, immigrant-family health, obesity, lifecourse health (e.g., consequences of preterm birth), and complex chronic illness management. Examples of successful mentored fellows projects include the following: RCT of a novel mHealth Tool to Support Goal Setting in Complex Care; Observational study of an mHealth Tool to Aid Child Obesity Management; Prevalence of PTSD among Parents and Children after PICU Admission; Disparities in End-of-Life Care for Children and Youth across California; Relative Risk of Obesity among Medically Complex Children; Language Barriers in Post-NICU Care of infants.

[Learn more about Dr. Sanders on his CAP profile.](#)



Clea Sarnquist, DrPH, MPH focuses on applied teaching and research on the development, implementation and evaluation of interventions to decrease gender-based violence and prevent HIV infection, especially among adolescents and children. She is particularly interested in rights-based approaches that tackle the complex interplay of factors that lead to poor health for many children and families. All of her work is applied, with direct links health practice and policy, and usually performed in conjunction with non-governmental organization and government partners. She works both globally and in the U.S., with a focus on sub-Saharan Africa.

[Learn more about Dr. Sarnquist on her CAP profile.](#)



Alan Schroeder, MD is the associate chief for research in the division of pediatric hospital medicine at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford, and a clinical professor in the division of hospital medicine and the division of critical care. His research interests focus on identifying areas where we can "safely do less" in healthcare, and frequently lectures on this theme locally and nationally. Dr. Schroeder is currently involved in multiple projects involving common conditions and interventions in pediatrics such as head trauma, bronchiolitis, UTI, meningitis, febrile infant management, and third molar extractions. He is a co-chair of the Low RightCare Alliance Pediatric Council, co-chair of the Academic Pediatric Association's Healthcare Value Special Interest Group, an editor of the Yearbook of Pediatrics and an associate editor for the journal Hospital Pediatrics. Dr. Schroeder provides clinical care for children in the PICU and the pediatric ward.

[Learn more about Dr. Schroeder on his CAP profile.](#)



Zachary Sellers, MD, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and the Associate Chair of Research in Pediatric Gastroenterology at Stanford University. He is also the Director of the Stanford Children's Pancreas Program, where he specializes in the clinical care of children with cystic fibrosis and other pancreatic diseases. Dr. Sellers' research is centered around improving the gastrointestinal, pancreatic, and liver health of those with cystic fibrosis. His laboratory investigates new pharmacologic and gene editing approaches to correct ion transport defects in cystic fibrosis, with a special focus on bicarbonate transport, and is particularly interested in identifying therapies that address treatment disparities in cystic fibrosis. He also studies the pathophysiologic interactions between the pancreas and intestine in pancreatic and intestinal diseases. Additionally, Dr. Sellers is an active clinical researcher in pediatric pancreatitis and cystic fibrosis-associated liver disease. His research is funded by the NIH/NIDDK, CF Foundation, NASPGHAN Foundation, and previously Stanford Maternal Child Health Research Institute. [Learn more about Dr. Sellers on his CAP profile](#) and [his lab's website](#).



Nita Srinivas, MD is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Divisions of Pediatric Hospital Medicine and Pediatric Infectious Diseases. She is the fellowship director for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship at Stanford and a co-leader of the pediatrics residency program's QI Scholarly Concentration. Her academic efforts are focused on: 1) Improving communication between patients, families, and medical providers in the inpatient setting as well as during transitions of care and 2) Teaching and mentoring residents and fellows in Quality Improvement methods with the goal of training future leaders versed in healthcare systems improvements. She has received intramural funding to support Quality Improvement initiatives on acute care at LPCH and served as the site lead for several national QI projects through the Value in Inpatient Pediatrics network. Her current projects are centered on improving team-based communication between physicians and nurses on pediatric acute care as well as improving care delivery and communication for hospitalized patients and families with limited English proficiency. [Learn more about Dr. Srinivas on her CAP profile](#).