Message from the Chief

Sohail Husain, MD
Chambers-Okamura Endowed Professor of Pediatric Gastroenterology

We are excited to share with you in 2022 our progress and growth, as we continue to speed in the fast lane. We are fueled by the renewable energy of our mission "to heal children with digestive disease through innovation." What has strengthened our engine, despite the universally bumpy road of the pandemic, is a culture of unity, mutual respect, and program development. We commute together with a shared vision for excellence in clinical care, education, and research. We invite you to sit back and join us to read a few lines from our Associate Chiefs about what the road looked like a year ago and the exciting journey ahead.

BY THE NUMBERS

70 22 24 30 14
% Increase in Faculty in 3 Years
Total # of Faculty
# of GI Clinical Research Coordinators
% Growth in Clinical Visits
2021 Ranking in US News and World Report
Research is an integral part of the Stanford Pediatric GI Division’s mission – “To Heal Children with Digestive Disease through Innovation.” To accomplish this mission, we have committed considerable Division effort and resources to building a robust culture of scholarship, supported by diverse research resources to support our staff, fellows, and faculty in forging new investigative paths. Congruent with this, our research enterprise has grown over the course of 2021. In 2022, and over the next decade, we have a strategic vision for continued growth in faculty, research scientists, post-doctoral trainees, and research resources to support our goal of being innovative in how we approach the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric digestive diseases. Below are highlights from 2021:

- Moved to new state-of-the-art laboratory research space, 1701 Page Mill Road in the new Stanford Research Park. This historic move now consolidates all the pediatric GI laboratories into one location. It has facilitated increased sharing of ideas and expertise amongst our researchers and paves the way for the vision to synergize in our research efforts.
- Two new physician-scientist faculty appointments– Drs. Michael Rosen (Professor) and Zachary Sellers (Assistant Professor), with more recruitment efforts underway.
- Quadrupled the number of Division clinical research coordinators, with CRC specialization in luminal GI, liver, and IBD/Celiac Disease.
- All laboratory investigators in the Division hold active NIH grants. Division research is also funded by the Department of Defense, multiple foundations, industry sponsors, and philanthropy.
- The monthly Pediatric GI Research Seminar Series, which brings together innovators across all disciplines with a relevant interest in digestive health, continues to foster the sharing of new ideas and approaches across Stanford University and School of Medicine.
- Despite many conferences being virtual, Division research was presented at a variety of large and small meetings, including: Digestive Disease Week, AASLD, ACG, NASPGHAN, American Pancreatic Association, and the North American CF Conference (amongst others).
The Stanford Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship is celebrating 40 years since welcoming our first fellow. Since then, we have seen the opening of Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, the expansion of both the adult and children’s hospitals, and the opening of a new academic medicine building. As the School of Medicine has expanded, so have our educational offerings. In addition to the Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship, which welcomes 3 fellows a year, we have a ACGME-accredited 4th Year Transplant Hepatology Fellowship under the leadership of Dr. Noelle Ebel and a Pediatric Integrative Medicine Fellowship under the direction of Dr. AnnMing Yeh.

Our Gastroenterology Fellowship Program aims to train fellows to succeed as cutting-edge pediatric gastroenterologists in academic settings. Our fellows gain clinical skills in rotations through our subspecialty outpatient clinics and our 3 inpatient services. They devote the majority of their second and third year to scholarly pursuits in the sprawling intellectual hub of the Stanford campus. Over the past 5 academic years, our fellows have contributed to 30 publications and over 90 presentations at national meetings. We continued to strengthen our structure and support for scholarly research so that our fellows gain the skills necessary to advance the field of pediatric gastroenterology and medicine at large.

Marwa Abu El Haija, MBBS
Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Director
Our clinical operations have continued to grow throughout 2021, despite the many challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Providers have grown in number, now including 22 faculty providers, including a PhD Director of GI Psychosocial Services; 13 advanced practitioners; and 10 fellows. Our Clinical Operations can be broken down into 3 categories: Inpatient, Outpatient and Endoscopy. Here are some highlights from each area.

OUTPATIENT

- We had a 30% growth in ambulatory clinics over 2021 and a 30% increase in visits over the last year.
- Our digital health platform is strong, and we are now able to see patients with both Telehealth and in person.
- We have multiple specialty clinics that merge up-to-date research with best practice clinical guidelines to provide the best care for our patients.
- Our liver transplant program is in the top 5 nationally for liver transplant volume.
- Current sites of practice include Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and the South Bay. We also offer Hepatology clinics in San Francisco and Fremont and an Integrative Medicine clinic at our Middlefield site.
- We welcome new Director of Motility, Dr. Shikib Mostamand, who utilizes state of the art tools for the care of patients with a wide array of motility disorders.

ENDOSCOPY

- We are excited to have two nationally recognized physicians, Drs. Roberto Gugig and Monique Barakat, who have a specialized pediatric skill set in advanced endoscopy, including ERCP, Endoscopic Ultrasound, Stent placements, endoscopic drainage and other more advanced procedures.

INPATIENT

- To provide pre-eminent quaternary care, we have expanded our growing inpatient service to include a dedicated GI consult service and a specialized 24/7 complex procedure service.

What to learn more? Visit our Website or follow us on Twitter