Treating them when it really matters

Almost 90% of the patients arriving at the ED are managed by the ED team and can be discharged. However, some suffer from an illness or an injury that necessitates admission to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Children’s. A new study, conducted by Dr Niranjan "Tex" Kissoon in the ED, was designed to determine the therapies and procedures that are undertaken by the dedicated teams of the ED and the PICU when these acutely ill children are in the ED. “We intend to design crew resource management and educational programs so both groups will be able to acquire and maintain these skills”, says Dr Kissoon.

A Message from the Medical Director

The ED is constantly moving forward to enhance its research capacity. Beyond publishing in the medical literature and participating in multicenter studies as part of a network of EDs, the emergency is also enhancing Fellow’s research. Currently all seven Pediatric Emergency Fellows are engaged in at least one research project. Through mentorship within the Division and through collaborations with other Divisions, our Fellowship program will become a powerhouse of effective research that can be disseminated for effective patient care. Watch out for the results in coming newsletters.

Dr. Ran Goldman
Division Head, Medical and Research Director
Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine

Chocolate Milk, Coca-Cola, and Water in the ED

When children arrive to the Emergency with suspected ingestion, the management may include activated charcoal to allow rapid absorption of the ingested material. A recently published study conducted with Dr Adam Cheng from Children’s ED as the lead investigator found that the addition of chocolate milk or coke improves the palatability of charcoal and is favored over charcoal mixed with water alone. The investigators compared the taste preference and ease of swallowing of activated charcoal among healthy teenagers when mixed separately with 3 different additives: chocolate milk, Coca-Cola, and water. The teenagers made their choice: 48% preferred the chocolate milk mixture, 45% preferred the Coca-Cola mixture, and 7% preferred charcoal mixed with water.


Join us for the First Annual Emergency Research Day. Thursday, November 29, 2007 in the ambulatory building. Introduction by Dr Ran Goldman, presentation by Dr. Caroline Ouellet, Dr. Allan Shefrin, Dr. Jonathan Guilfoyle, Dr. Adam Bretholz, Dr. Mohammed Abu Aish and Dr. Michelle Clarke.

Our invited speaker is Dr. Jean-Paul Collet, MD, PhD, Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of British Columbia, Director, Center for Healthcare Innovation & Improvement, CFRI and Associate Director, Partnership Development, CFRI. He will discuss the prospects of research at Children’s.
Caregivers Need Attention Too

We know that children become anxious when they need to go through procedures in the Emergency. But what about their parents? A study lead by Ryan Smith, a Master’s student from Toronto, was recently published to show that caregivers witnessing an intravenous cannulation in their child had elevated heart rate, blood pressure, and anxiety.

“During intravenous cannulation, we noticed there was a significant increase in a caregiver’s heart rate and level of anxiety”, said Dr Ran Goldman, a collaborator and Research Director at Children’s. “We have to pay attention not only to the child but also to the parent and help them cope with their anxiety, so they can help their children”. Future research will be looking for ways to mitigate anxiety and allow the caregivers a better experience despite the stressful environment.


AWARDS TO EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Dr. Quynh Doan was nominated for the CFRI Outstanding Achievement Award by a Clinical Subspecialty Resident/Fellow and was the successful candidate. She received her award at the CFRI Trainee Research Forum. Quynh is a Fellow in the Division of Emergency Medicine.

Congratulations Dr Doan!

ED at the Canadian Pediatric Society

In a recent Canadian Pediatric Society (CPS) meeting in Montreal, QC the emergency presented a total of 7 posters and 1 plenary research paper. There were two pleasant surprises for the Emergency – a paper describing multiconuter practice variation in the management of febrile infants was chosen as one of the 4 best papers at the conference and was scheduled at "Reach for the Top: Best 2007 abstracts “ session. Also, the ED group won a prize from CIHR-Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health for this work. Congratulations to the Division of Pediatric Emergency Department.

CATCH study

BC Children’s Emergency Department is participating in this multicenter study to determine a clinical decision rule for the use of head CT in children with minor head injury. Recruitment is going well and included 12 children in September and 12 children in October.

10 Recently Published Papers by Investigators from Children’s Emergency:

Check out the recently published papers. All that is new and important in pediatric emergency medicine.


Brought to you by:

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