

Interim Chair's Commentary

Dear Colleagues,

Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the opening of Comer Children's Hospital next month offers an opportunity to reflect how far we've come in improving the health of the children on the South Side of Chicago and beyond. Thanks to the generosity of the Comer family, we're now able to treat our patients in a spacious hospital with state-of-the-art advanced technology, which has enabled us to make great progress in clinical care, research, and in educating future pediatric leaders in just a decade. We're extremely proud of the number of medical "firsts" we've accomplished at Comer as well as our many innovations and programs of excellence, such as the Child Life and Family Education program, recognized as a national model, ECHO-Chicago, and the pending development of a biobank to study the genetic underpinnings of early childhood disease.

With the foresight of leaders like Herb Abelson and the hard work of all faculty members and staff within the department of Pediatrics, we've provided care to 51,000 inpatients, 369,000 outpatients, and treated more than 304,000 kids in Comer's ED in the last decade. We've also strengthened our residency program, training more than 450 pediatric residents since 2005. And our research capabilities have been broadened by the opening of the Knapp Center for Biomedical Discovery in 2009, which provides two floors of space for pediatric researchers. In the past decade alone, Comer physician-scientists have received almost \$90 million in federal funding for research.

Looking ahead to the next decade at Comer, one key contributing factor to enhancing care will be our ability to translate basic-science discoveries made by researchers here and at other institutions into successful clinical outcomes for our patients. The University of Chicago's Institute for Translational Medicine and the leadership of pediatricians such as Lainie Ross is critical to that success. Indeed, a recent Institute of Medicine report recommends that future Clinical and Translational Science Awards, which fund the ITM, should focus specifically on advancing child health. Assisted by the research resources provided by the ITM, I'm confident that Comer pediatricians can lead that charge.

I look forward to working with each one of you in continuing to carry out Gary Comer's vision of giving hope to thousands of children on the South Side of Chicago and beyond and saving many young lives by always pushing to increase our knowledge and optimize our treatment of childhood disease.

Sincerely

John



CHICAGO PEDIATRICS MONTHLY

UChicago Pediatrics in the news

Each month, faculty and their work are featured in dozens of local, national and international news stories. Here's a round up of recent mentions.

Read more:
<http://bit.ly/1VDRUfK>

To Be So Honored

A round up of awards, grants, publications and presentations from across the UChicago Medicine Pediatrics community.

Read more:
<http://bit.ly/1Nnndaf>

New Appointments, Re-appointments & Promotions

Lei Lu has been reappointed as Research Associate in the Section of Neonatology.

Donald Liu Library Opens

To honor the late Donald Liu's commitment to teaching and learning, the Section of Pediatric Surgery and Child Life have established an e-library for children who are patients at Comer. Donald Liu was Comer's former surgeon-in-chief. The e-library will make books available to patients on circulating Kindle e-readers.

Read more:
<http://bit.ly/1L6E6QD>

Little Hats, Big Hearts



Newborn Niyella Rivers models the red hat that American Heart Association volunteers are knitting and donating to all new babies at Comer Children's Hospital to celebrate American Heart Month in February and raise awareness of heart disease and congenital heart defects.

At Age 10, Comer is Hitting its Stride



Then Senator Barack Obama (left), Gary Comer (center) and former patient Jimmy Mohan, 8, cut the ribbon to formally open the University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital in January 2005.

In just 10 years, Comer Children's Hospital has already established an impressive legacy of medical innovations and clinical "firsts." Revolutionizing children's health care was, after all, what Gary and Frances Comer had in mind when they donated more than \$84 million to support pediatric medicine at the University of Chicago.

Read more: <http://bit.ly/1VF2X2V>



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICINE
Comer Children's Hospital

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

Celebrate a decade of milestones in pediatric medicine, medical education and caring for communities.

Thursday, February 19

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Friday, February 20

1:30 - 3:30 a.m.

K-160

Cake and coffee will be served

Research Accelerator: Stimulating Scientists to Step Up the Pace



Lainie Ross

The Institute for Translation Medicine may be one of University of Chicago's best kept secrets. "We give away pilot funding and research services — lots of it — yet many faculty and trainees have no idea we're here," says Lainie Ross, co-director of the ITM. Funded with more than \$50 million by the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health/National Center for Advancing Translational Science, the ITM has funded, trained, and provided research services to more than 1,800 UChicago investigators since 2007. Read more: <http://bit.ly/1QZrrm6>

Comer Toyland

Child Life and Family Education gave Santa a helping hand by distributing 700 donated toys to children hospitalized at Comer on Christmas Day and to their siblings. About 70 Comer families, including patients in the NICU and in Women's Care, received gifts.



A Decade of First

- 2005 — **December 2005:** First transcatheter pulmonary-valve replacement in the U.S.
- 2006 — **March 2006:** Youngest beneficiary of innovative Nuss procedure done on a 17-month-old baby
- 2007
- 2008 — **February 2008:** World's first robotic bladder reconstruction on a child, age 10
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011 — **March 2011:** First haplo-cord stem cell transplant
- 2012 — **August 2012:** Youngest patient to receive Fecal Microbiota Therapy at age 18 months
- 2013
- 2014 — **April 2014:** First child in Illinois to receive MIBG therapy

Patients, Physicians, Nurses: Everyone Feels Better at Comer

Ten years ago, 8-year-old Jimmy Mohan stood on a chair to be heard by future president Barack Obama, the Comer family, and other guests at the official opening of Comer Children's Hospital. Four years earlier, Jimmy had been treated for cancer at UChicago Medicine. "I always thought the children's hospital was good," Jimmy told the assembled group. "But now the new Comer Children's Hospital is even better for the kids. I like the ball machine the most."

Read more:
<http://bit.ly/1WNj9le>

February Grand Rounds

Feb. 5 "Home Oxygen Use for Infants with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia: Balancing Infant, Parent, and Health System Outcomes — Joanne Lagatta, Medical College of Wisconsin

Feb. 12 "Sudden Cardiac Death in Children and Adolescents: Can We Prevent It?" — Stuart Berger, Chief of Pediatric Cardiology, University of California-Davis

Feb. 19 "Vaccine Prevention Meningococcal Disease: Beginning of the End?" — Lee H. Harrison, Infectious Diseases Epidemiology Research Unit, University of Pittsburgh

Feb. 26 Joint Grand Rounds, UChicago Institute of Politics