

KIDS DIG HEALTH BULLETIN

2020 Volume 10



CENTRE FOR CHILD AND YOUTH DIGESTIVE HEALTH McMaster Children's Hospital

The CCYDH at McMaster Children's Hospital provides young patients with highly specialized GI services.

WWW.KIDSDIGHEALTH.ORG

Research and education for children and youth, their families and the professionals who care for them.

PANDEMIC PIVOT

Despite the unprecedented dislocation arising from the Covid Pandemic, the McMaster Pediatric GI Service has maintained pre-pandemic service levels at a rate of 4000 clinic or virtual visits per year. Many patients and families have expressed a preference for virtual visits when they are not seriously ill.

PEDIATRIC IBD REFERENCE GUIDE

Dr. Mary Zachos together with Dr. Jenna Dowhaniuk and Nurse practitioner Emily Braackenridge developed a Guide for resident learners, NP's and MD's who care for pediatric IBD patients. This guide will be distributed to Pediatric IBD programs and community GI MD's nationally

AYA IBD TRANSITION CLINIC

Dr. Katherine Prowse and adult GI Specialist Dr. Smita Halder have jointly established the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) IBD Clinic designed to continue care for young patients with IBD once they have aged out of the Pediatric IBD service at McMaster Children's Hospital.

MCH “Go Poop” Program

About 500 children a year are seen in the McMaster Pediatric GI Clinic. Some children in our region wait a year or more to be seen for this issue. Dr. Jenna Dowhaniuk working with our nurses and her colleagues in Pediatric Surgery and Urology have developed the *MCH Go Poop Program* as a tool kit allowing Family Physicians and Pediatricians to help families with this common problem. The program is being first trialed in the McMaster Clinics before being shared across the region.

ONGOING RESEARCH STUDIES

1. SPORE – Recruiting relatives of IBD patients to help determine the cause of Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn’s Disease
2. Exploring the role of Fecal Microbial Transplant in Pediatric Crohn’s Disease
3. VidiPEC – A Study of the Role of Vitamin D in Reducing the Recurrence of Crohn’s Disease

Recent Events: *Dr. Robert Issenman-* Led the CVSA internet forum on Meeting the Challenge of Emergency Department Care of Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome
Hosted on the CVSA website - www.cvsaonline.org

Staff News

Dr. Huda Alghfeli joined our Post Graduate Training Program as a GI Fellow

Dr. Kate Prowse remains with the program as a Clinical Scholar developing the McMaster AYA IBD Transition Program

Dr. Zhaolu Ding was accepted and started his program in Design Measurement and Evaluation at McMaster

Dr. Natalie Reitzel GI Fellow successfully passed the Royal College of Physicians Examination in Pediatrics

Dietitian *Joanne Saab* rejoined our program continuing many years of service

FUNDRAISING

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