

# The Specialist

Issue 8 January 2011

## Message from the President Herbert C. Kimmons, MD, MMM



Herbert Kimmons, MD, MMM

I would like to congratulate members of the Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego Orthopedics, Pulmonology (Respiratory Medicine and Asthma services), Endocrinology, Urology and Neonatology teams for being ranked as one of the top pediatric specialties in U.S. News and World Report's 2010-2011 edition of *America's Best Children's Hospitals*. The recognition is quite an honor and I expect that these specialties, in addition to some of our other specialties, will make the short 2011-2012 list when the new rankings are released later this year.



In this issue we highlight the Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders; Sean Daneshmand, MD, the founder of Miracle Babies; awards for Ilona Szer, MD, and Jeffrey Schwimmer, MD; and two new physicians: Andrew Pennock, MD, in Orthopedics-Sports Medicine, and Andrew Skalsky, MD, in Rehabilitation Medicine. We are also excited to announce the opening of the Rady Children's-Sanford clinic which is expected to open in April 2011. The new clinic will house primary and specialty care, along with psychiatry, Chadwick Services, developmental services, and will serve as an urgent care center in the evening. I hope you enjoy this issue and welcome your feedback.

## In This Issue

The Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.....	Page 2
Rady Children's Sanford Clinic Opening in April 2011.....	Page 5
RCSSD in the Community: Sean Daneshmand, MD, and Miracle Babies.....	Page 5
Physician Achievements and Honors.....	Page 6
New Pediatric Specialists.....	Page 7
Calendar of Upcoming Events.....	Page 8

# The Specialist

## The Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders Leading the Way in Patient Care and Discovery

The Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego is the largest pediatric cancer care facility in San Diego, Riverside and Imperial counties. A team of skilled professionals ensures that families receive the resources they need to cope when a child is diagnosed with cancer. Over 14,000 outpatient visits and more than 7,500 inpatient visits are provided each year. Approximately 200 new oncology patients are diagnosed annually at Rady Children's. While mortality rates have declined dramatically over the past several decades, unfortunately the incidence rates of childhood cancers continue to grow.

### New Home for the Peckham Center

On October 10, 2010, Rady Children's opened its brand new 279,000 square foot, LEED-certified Acute Care Pavilion. The entire second floor of the Acute Care Pavilion became home to the Peckham Center, including the Viterbi Family Outpatient Clinic. With 12 outpatient exam rooms, 38 private inpatient rooms and advanced HEPA air filtration system, risks of infection are greatly reduced for our most vulnerable chemotherapy patients and their families. And the new Carley's Magical Garden, constructed to reduce the risk of infection from germs and mold, helps to create an incredible healing environment.



*Rady Children's new Acute Care Pavilion opened 10/10/10*



*(Left to Right) Deborah Schiff, Courtney Lyle, Catherine Madigan, Hyunah Anh, Eric Anderson, Jenny Kim, William Roberts, Amy Lovejoy, Faith Kung*

### The Team

The Hematology/Oncology Division is comprised of twelve physicians from Rady Children's Hospital San Diego and UC San Diego. William Roberts, MD, is Division Chief and Medical Director of Ambulatory Services at Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego. Donald Durden, MD, PhD, an internationally acclaimed physician scientist known for his work on childhood cancer research and drug therapies, is the Director of Research for the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Division Department of Pediatrics and Vice Chair of Research in the Department of Pediatrics, UC San Diego.

# The Specialist

## The Peckham Center (*Continued*)

### Clinical and Support Programs

At the Peckham Center, children and their families are managed with state-of-the-art medical and psychosocial programs. Highlights of the Peckham Center include:

- The [Neuro-Oncology Program](#) consists of a multidisciplinary team involved in the care of patients with central nervous system malignancies, as well as a specific Neuro-Oncology Tumor Board, are led by John Crawford, MD.
- The [Blood and Marrow Transplantation Program](#) (BMT), or [Stem Cell Transplant Program](#), performs autologous and allogeneic transplants including umbilical cord blood transplantation. The program is certified by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) and led by Eric Anderson, MD.
- The [Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center](#) specializes in health maintenance and treatment of children with sickle cell disease. Dr. Jenny Kim is the Medical director of the Sickle Cell Program.
- The [Hemophilia Treatment Center](#), under the leadership of Amy Lovejoy, MD, specializes in the early diagnosis, treatment and management of bleeding disorders. The Center is also active in clinical research including national studies of joint outcomes and data collection on blood borne diseases, as well as taking part in clinical trials of newer therapeutic agents for hemophilia.
- The [Integrative Medicine Program](#) offers non-traditional modalities to help reduce side effects of treatment and enhance health and wellness. Services include healing touch, massage, acupuncture, mind/body skills, nutrition education and yoga for hematology/oncology and chronic pain patients, their families and the staff who serve them.
- The [Adolescent and Young Adult Program](#) (AYA) is being developed to improve care and outreach to patients 15 to 30 years old. The diagnosis, treatment, research, psychosocial and follow-up care needs of the AYA population presents many challenges.
- The [Parent Liaison Program](#), founded in 1994 by Lisa Peckham, was created to help guide families through the unfamiliar and often frightening journey of childhood cancer. Most Parent Liaisons have been through a similar journey and families instinctively respond to their empathetic connection.
- The [Supportive Palliative Care Program](#), led by Dr. Deborah Schiff, offers support for patients and their families undergoing intensive therapy and/or facing difficult decisions.



# The Specialist

## The Peckham Center (*Continued*)

### Discovery

Rady Children's is committed to the discovery of cures and treatments through research, teaching and innovation.

Members of the Hematology/Oncology Division participate in research activities aimed at improved understanding and treatment of pediatric cancer and blood disorders. Together with the UCSD Moores Cancer Center, the division is part of a National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. Through an exciting alliance with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, there is increased access to innovative oncology clinical trials at Rady Children's Peckham Center.

The alliance focuses on the development of basic, clinical, and translational research in the area of childhood cancer. Several joint clinical trials have begun and collaborations regarding other research efforts are underway. Rady Children's is also a member of the 240-institution, international Children's Oncology Group (COG). Additionally, as members of the Neuroblastoma & Medulloblastoma Translational Research Consortium and the Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Consortium, the physicians help design and conduct clinical trials that are leading to improved cure rates and quality of life for children and adolescents with cancer.



*Carley's Garden*



*A hematology/oncology patient at play.*

The Hematology/Oncology Division's Fellowship program is entering its third year with four current fellows and two more scheduled to arrive in July 2011. One of our fellows, Dr. Paula Aristizabal, recently won Best Poster at the SIOP meeting. The poster describes the successful efforts of Rady Children's and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to build a pediatric oncology program across the border in Tijuana, Mexico.

For more information or to contact the Peckham Center, call (858) 966-5811.

# The Specialist

## New Oceanside Location Opening in Spring 2011

Rady Children's services will soon be closer for families living in the northwest San Diego county region.

In collaboration with Rady Children's Hospital, Rady Children's Specialists, Children's Primary Care Medical Group and Sanford Health, a "Castle of Care" will open for business on **Monday, April 4, 2011**.



*Rady Children's Sanford Clinic*

Located at 3605 Vista Way in Oceanside (on the north side of the 78 Freeway, between College and El Camino Real), the new Rady Children's regional hub will offer a wide variety of Rady Children's Hospital and Rady Children's Specialists services (along with primary care pediatrics provided by CPCMG). Rady Children's Hospital will open an Oceanside Urgent Care and consolidate services currently available in Oceanside and Vista.



*Sean Daneshmand, MD*

Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego  
A Medical Foundation

*In The Community*  
*Miracle Babies*

Sean Daneshmand, MD (*pictured left*), of the San Diego Perinatal Center, is the Founder of Miracle Babies. A non-profit, Miracle Babies' mission is to provide financial assistance and support to families in need with newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit. On November 14, 2010, the 2nd Annual Miracle Babies 5K Run/Walk was held at Mariners' Point in San Diego. More than 1,300 supporters participated, raising upwards of \$75K.

San Diego Perinatal Center, the perinatology division of Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego, provides specialized care for high-risk pregnancies. The physicians and staff manage diagnostic and imaging studies, genetic testing, counseling, multiple births, surgical deliveries, and prenatal and after care. Last year the group hosted several CME events, participated in fundraisers at the San Diego Ronald McDonald House, and developed a strategic business plan to simultaneously maintain a high-level of care while expanding the practice to meet the community's needs.



**San Diego  
Perinatal  
Center**

A Division of  
Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego  
A Medical Foundation

# The Specialist

## Physician Achievements & Honors

2010 Earl Brewer Award for Physician Leadership  
Arthritis Foundation  
*Ilona Szer, MD*



*Ilona Szer, MD*

Congratulations to Dr. Ilona Szer for receiving the 2010 Earl Brewer Award for Physician Leadership from the Arthritis Foundation. The prestigious award is presented to a physician who has fostered a reputation for excellence, developed a strategy that is considered a model in the field, been involved with patient care, and been an advocate for children with rheumatic diseases.

In short, someone who has it all! In presenting the award, the Arthritis Foundation described her as “...not only an outstanding board-certified pediatric rheumatologist, but she is also a phenomenal human being who has dedicated her entire professional and personal life to the overall health and well-being of children with arthritis and related rheumatic conditions.”

High praise - and well-deserved!

American Gastroenterological Association  
Young Investigator Clinical Science Award  
*Jeffrey Schwimmer, MD*

Dr. Jeffrey Schwimmer has been selected to receive the American Gastroenterological Association Young Investigator Clinical Science Award. This award is based on innovative insight into a major problem in gastroenterology, as well as on the significance of one's work to an area of clinical research in gastroenterology or hepatology. The award honors someone who has made the most outstanding contribution to clinical science in his or her first decade after completing GI training. It is rare for this award to go to a pediatric gastroenterologist.



*Jeffrey Schwimmer, MD*



# The Specialist

## New Pediatric Specialists



Andrew Pennock, MD

**Andrew Pennock, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgery

### Clinical Expertise

- Sports related injuries and their prevention
- Hip, shoulder and knee arthroscopy
- Joint ligament and cartilage reconstruction

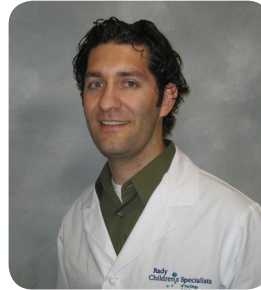
### Education and Training

- Medical degree with honors from University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine, Chicago, IL
- Internship, Research Fellowship and Residency completed at University of California San Diego
- Sports Medicine Fellowship completed at Steadman Hawkins Clinic, Vail, CO
- Undergraduate degree with honors in Chemistry from Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

### Accomplishments and Academic Awards

- Member of Team Physician Pool, US Alpine Ski Team, 2011
- Author and contributor of over ten full length, peer-reviewed, original articles and publications
- Depuy Award California Orthopaedic Association
- Two Lloyd W. Taylor Awards, Western Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting
- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Education Grant

**Contact Dr. Pennock:**  
3030 Children's Way, Suite 410  
San Diego, CA 92123  
Phone | (858) 966-6789



Andrew Skalsky, MD

**Andrew Skalsky, MD**  
Rehabilitation Medicine

### Clinical Expertise

- Neuromuscular Disorders
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Spinal Defects
- Spasticity

### Education and Training

- Medical degree from University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN
- Neuromuscular Medicine clinical fellowship and Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency at Shriners Hospital for Children-Northern California and University of California-Davis
- Undergraduate degree with honors in Natural Sciences from University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

### Accomplishments and Academic Awards

- Chief Resident, University of California-Davis, 2006-2007
- Authored and contributed to over 20 publications, presentations and abstracts

**Contact Dr. Skalsky:**  
3020 Children's Way, Care Team 4  
San Diego, CA 92123  
Phone | (858) 966-8974

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Thursday, February 3, 2011**

*RGHSD 2011 Annual Meeting*

*Time:* 12 - 1:30 PM

*Location:* Manchester Grand Hyatt  
Randle Ballroom

**Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> &**

**Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> 2011**

*Perinatal Sonography CME Course*

*Time:* Friday; 12 - 4:00 PM

Saturday; 8 AM - 3:30 PM

*Location:* Scripps La Jolla  
The Schaetzel Center



*CSSD Physicians 2008*

## About Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego

We are committed not only to offering the most advanced diagnostic and therapeutic options, but also to providing responsive customer and patient service. RCSSD's physicians are pleased to provide health services ranging from one-time consultation to comprehensive treatment and follow-up, and are committed to maintaining effective communication to provide the best care.

## Our Mission

To provide specialty services that are state of the art, comprehensive and family-centered in order to improve the health and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and mothers with high-risk pregnancies.

## Our Vision

To be the premier provider of healthcare to infants, children, adolescents and mothers with high-risk pregnancies, through excellence in clinical care, research, teaching and advocacy.