CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Howaida El-Said’s “Re-stenting Improves Vessel Patency, Lumen Area and Endothelialization: A Feasibility Study in Piglets Demonstrating Re-Stenting with Simultaneous Intentional Fracture of Previously Placed Stents” won the 2017 Pediatric Interventional Cardiac Symposium Annual Scientific Sessions Oral Abstract Award recognizing the best oral abstract presentation at this year’s conference in Miami, Florida.

Recruiting Studies

Fontan Udenafil Exercise Longitudinal Trial (FUEL)
Sponsor: Pediatric Heart Network
PI: Christopher Davis, MD, PhD
Randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled phase 3 clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Udenafil versus placebo. Please let us know of any adolescents (ages 12-18) who have undergone the Fontan procedure. For more information, please contact: Gail Aguilar: gaguilar@rchsd.org 858-576-1700 x3457

Panorama-HF: Pediatric Heart Failure study
Sponsor: Novartis
PI: Rakesh Singh, MD, MS
A multicenter study evaluating the safety and efficacy of LCZ696 (Entresto®: valsartan + sacubitril) compared with enalapril. Please let us know of any eligible patients from 1 month to 18 years of age with LVEF ≤40% or SF ≤20% and biventricular physiology. For more information, please contact: Danica Griffin: dgriffin1@rchsd.org 858-576-1700 x7139

Heart Institute Research Metrics 2015-2016

Heart Institute Research

Ongoing Studies

Clinical Trials: 10
Prospective, Data Collection: 14
Translational: 3
Registry, QI: 6

Retrospective Chart Reviews: 23
HDE: 2
Educational: 2
Community Service: 1
Cardiovascular Surgery Spotlight

Please welcome Dr. John Nigro as the new Division Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery for Rady Children's Specialists of San Diego and Director of the Heart Institute at Rady Children's Hospital. Dr. Nigro is a congenital cardiothoracic surgeon and has been in practice for more than 20 years. We sat down with Dr. Nigro for a Q&A and discussed his visions for the Heart Institute.

Q: What are your research interests?
A: My research interests include outcomes analysis, especially for patients with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, cerebral blood flow and 3-D printing, simulation and imaging.

Q: What is your vision for the Heart Institute Research Program?
A: My vision is to create a multi-disciplined integrative initiative focused on results and improved quality of life for congenital heart disease patients. It would involve clinical outcomes analysis, basic science initiatives, and the evolution of virtual surgery and simulation.

Q: Amongst all your research interests, what are you most passionate about?
A: Outcomes analysis specifically for Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome and transplants. I am most passionate about this because they are the most challenging conditions. We have the opportunity to improve the quality of life and survival for our congenital heart disease patients.

Dr. John Nigro – We are glad to have you on our team!

STAR RESEARCHER: Dr. Raghav Murthy

Highlighted are just a few of Dr. Murthy's many research accomplishments for the year of 2016!

2016 First Author Publications:

Philanthropy

The Donald C. & Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation recently made a generous $2 million gift to help establish a pediatric Image-Guided Intervention Center; the first of its kind in the nation. Kris Dickinson, a Rady Children’s Hospital Foundation Trustee and executive director of the family foundation, championed support for the project. Long-time and generous supporters of Rady Children’s, the Dickinson Foundation also have made gifts supporting the Heart Transplant program and MRI center at Rady Children’s.

When fully funded, the planned Image-Guided Intervention Center will utilize real-time cardiac MRI to address the two main limitations of conventional imaging and image guidance: the need for better visualization of 3-dimensional structural relationships and minimizing radiation exposure. A cardiac MRI’s dynamic, 3-D images will create a complete anatomic map that can both guide interventions and help avoid complications; it could mean being able to repair a child’s heart without opening the chest and stopping the heart for surgery. Learn more about the Heart Institute’s Image-Guided Intervention Center at: https://www.rchsd.org/programs-services/heart-institute/innovation/interventional-cardiac-mri/

Frank Subaru Share the Love Campaign – From November 17, 2016 to January 3, 2017, Frank Subaru donated $250 for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased to the customer’s choice of charity. Approximately 90% of the customers selected Rady Children’s. Monica Salem, Marketing Director for Frank Motors Group, inspired the employees to share her passion for giving back to Rady Children’s, through Isabel’s (Izzy’s) story. A total of $50,718 was raised for the Heart Institute.

The 10th Annual Run to the Max 5K – February 25, 2017: Proceeds went to the Heart Institute’s Image-Guided Intervention Center.

Little Hearts Big Hopes – May 21, 2017: Proceeds went to Dr. Paul Grossfeld’s research on the ETS-1 gene, which is linked to human congenital heart defects.

New Research Website
We are pleased to announce the launch of our new updated website. You can check it out at: https://www.rchsd.org/programs-services/heart-institute/

Intramural Grant Funding

A team of pediatric cardiologists from Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego and mechanical engineers from UCSD led by Dr. Sanjeet Hegde (principal investigator) were selected for the inaugural cohort of the new UC San Diego Technology Accelerator. Other members of the team are Professor Prabhakar Bandaru (co-principal investigator), Dr. John Moore (advisor), Dr. James Perry (advisor), Dr. Kanishka Ratnayaka (co-investigator), Zichen Zhang (graduate student) and Abhishek Sathisha (graduate student). The team is developing electromagnetically shielded devices for MRI guidance of minimally invasive procedures.

More information can be found here: http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/new_uc_san_diego_technology_accelerator_selects_five_teams_for_its_inaugura
Fourteen posters were presented by members of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery at last year’s symposium.

Poster topics included:

- Interventional pediatric cardiology
- Biomedical engineering and imaging
- Cardiovascular surgery long-term outcomes
- Arrhythmia diagnostics
- Fetal echocardiography
Featured Publication:

Rady Heart Institute’s Publications:
- Hegde S, Hsiao A. Improving the Fontan: Pre-surgical planning using four dimensional (4D) flow, biomechanical modeling and three dimensional (3D) printing. Progress in Pediatric Cardiology, Volume 43, 2016, Pages 57-60.


**Rady Heart Institute’s Collaborative Publications:**


Richmond ME, Easterwood R, Singh RK, Gilmore L, Zuckerman WA, McFeely ED, Chen JM, Addonizio LJ. Low-Dose Donor Dopamine is Associated with a Decreased Risk of Right Heart Failure in Pediatric Heart Transplant Recipients. *Transplantation*. 2016 Dec;100(12):2729-2734.


