Physician Newsletter

Welcome -- *from Dr. Ronald Ford*

Hello to all!

There is much to celebrate from 2022 and even more to look forward to in 2023!

The beautiful four-story expansion was completed and opened in November. In addition to housing state-of-the-art technology to expand the breadth of cardiac services, our critical care and inpatient rehabilitation areas have been given a beautiful new home.

The expansion exemplifies our commitment to patient and family-centered care with its bright, colorful, and welcoming design. The Child Life Zone is an amazing new resource for medical play, education, and fun activities for our patients and includes a respite area for their parents.

Our highly skilled medical staff continues to add new members from across the country, many of whom are featured in this issue.

Our partnership with Boston Children's Hospital and our JDCH Partners program continues to grow, allowing us to connect to our patients and our community care partners in new and innovative ways.

As we look to 2023, you can expect more exciting news from us. On behalf of the entire medical staff, I would like to thank you for your continued commitment to Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital.

Ronald Ford, MD

Dr. Ronald Ford, MD
Chief Medical Officer

Recognizing YOU

JDCH Partners Update

Dr. Shannon Fox-Levine AAP Special Achievement Award Winner

Join us in congratulating Dr. Fox-Levine 👏👏

JDCH is proud to recognize **Dr. Shannon Fox-Levine** as a recipient of the AAP Special Achievement Award for 2022 for her outstanding work with the Chapter.

Congratulations!

FCAAP
Florida Chapter

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

We LOVE Our Team

Meet the Physicians

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

Lenore Omesi, MD

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Fellowships:
New York Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia Campus, 2018, Pediatric Oncology and Hematology

Residency:
SUNY at Stonybrook School of Medicine, 2015, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
Ross University School of Medicine, 2012

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Javier Gonzalez, MD

Pediatric Cardiology/Pediatric Imaging Cardiology

Fellowships:
Medical University of South Carolina, 2008, Pediatric Cardiology
Medical University of South Carolina, 2009, Pediatric Cardiology

Residency:
University of Puerto Rico, 2005, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
Universidad Nacional de Colombia, 1998

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Stephen Plachta, MD

Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery

Fellowships:
Columbia University, 2020, Orthopedic Surgery
Pennsylvania Hospital of the University of Pa, 2021, Spine Surgery
Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia, 2022, Orthopedic Surgery

Residency:
St Louis University School of Medicine, 2019, Orthopedic Surgery

- **Internship:**
  St Louis University School of Medicine, 2014, Orthopedic Surgery
- **Medical Education:**
  Chicago Medical School, 2013

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Lisa Kenigsberg Fechter, MD

Pediatric Endocrinology

- **Fellowships:**
  Albert Einstein/Montefiore College of Medicine, 2015, Pediatric Endocrinology
- **Residency:**
  New York University School of Medicine, 2012, Pediatrics
- **Medical Education:**
  University of Florida College of Medicine, 2009

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Brian Boe, MD

Pediatric Interventional Cardiology

- **Fellowships:**
  C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, 2015, Pediatric Cardiology
  Nationwide Children's Hospital, 2016, Interventional Cardiology
- **Residency:**
  McGaw Medical Center, Northwestern University, 2012, Pediatrics
- **Internship:**
  McGaw Medical Center, Northwestern University, 2010, Pediatrics
- **Medical Education:**
  University of South Florida College of Medicine, 2009

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Chelsea Gordner, DO

Pediatric Endocrinology

Fellowships:
Baystate Medical Center, 2013, Pediatric Endocrinology

Residency:
Baystate Medical Center, 2009, Internal Medicine

Medical Education:
Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine, 2005

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Yatyng Chang, MD

Pediatric Allergy and Immunology

Fellowships:
Nicklaus Children's Hospital, Allergy & Immunology, 2022, Pediatric Allergy and Immunology

Residency:
Nicklaus Children's Hospital Pediatrics Residency, 2020, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, 2017

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Allyson Bush, MD

Pediatric Gastroenterology

Fellowships:
Baylor College of Medicine, 2022, Pediatric Gastroenterology

Residency:
Northwestern University Medical School, 2019, Pediatrics

- **Medical Education:**
  University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, 2016

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Linda Chen, MD

Surgical Director, Living Donor & Pediatric Abdominal Transplant Program

- **Residency:**
  University of California at San Francisco - East Bay, 2002, Surgery
- **Medical Education:**
  University of Wisconsin Medical School, 1995

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Amisha Desai, DO

Pediatric Palliative Care

- **Fellowships:**
  All Children's Hospital, 2022, Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- **Residency:**
  Cooper Hospital - University Medical Center, 2021, Pediatrics
- **Medical Education:**
  Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, 2018

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Stanley Szybinski, MD

Pediatric Sports Medicine

Fellowships:
Baylor College of Medicine, 2022, Sports Medicine

Residency:
Memorial Healthcare System, 2021, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
University of Queensland, 2017

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Zaira Garcia-Corujo, MD

Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

Fellowships:
Jackson Memorial Hospital, 2009, Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

Residency:
Jackson Memorial Hospital, 2006, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
University of Puerto Rico, 2003

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Bin Wang, MD

Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

Fellowships:
Jackson Memorial Hospital, 2021, Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

Residency:
Jackson Memorial Hospital, 2019, Pediatrics

Internship:
Jackson Memorial Hospital, 2017, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
Nanjing Medical University, School of International Education, 2002

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Mariela Sanchez Rosado, MD

Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Fellowships:
UT Southwestern Medical Center, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Residency:
Nicklaus Children's Hospital, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine

Meet the Physician

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Max Shenberger, MD

Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Fellowships:
Westchester Medical Center, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Residency:
SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
Sackler School of Medicine

Meet the Physician

Leah Regenbaum, MD

Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Residency:
Children's Hospital at Montefiore, 2021, Pediatrics

Medical Education:
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, 2018

Read All About It!

NEWS

In the News

Dr. Hanadys Ale Presents at the International 22q11.2 Scientific Meeting

Thank you!
22q
DREAM TEAM
The International 22q11.2 Scientific Meeting
Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

Dr. Hanadys Ale, Medical Director at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital 22Q Multidisciplinary Clinic, had the unique opportunity to make a presentation at The International 22q11.2 Scientific Meeting in June. Dr. Ale spoke to physicians, scientists, and investigators from 25 countries across 5 continents about the amazing work she and the 22Q team do at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital.

Did you know that the 22q Multidisciplinary Clinic at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital is the first clinic of its kind in the state of Florida?

Our goal is to provide patient-centered, comprehensive, and individualized care to patients who have 22q11.2 deletion syndrome (also known as DiGeorge Syndrome or Velocardiofacial Syndrome) and 22q11.2 duplication syndrome.

22Q Facts:

☑ 22Q Deletion Syndrome is also known as the DiGeorge Syndrome or Velocardiofacial Syndrome;
☑ It is the most common microdeletion syndrome, the second most prevalent genetic syndrome after Down syndrome;

- ☑ Despite its high prevalence, many are still unfamiliar with the condition; hence, increased awareness is essential;
- ☑ 22Q Duplication Syndrome also exists, but it’s a different condition;
- ☑ 22Q differences are caused by a missing or extra piece of chromosome;
- ☑ Due to the multiple genes that are included in the area, patients can have multiple health concerns, such as:
  - congenital heart problems
    - kidney differences
    - low calcium
    - immune system problems
    - thyroid problems
    - velopharyngeal insufficiency
    - speech difficulties
    - learning differences

Go to International 22q11.2 Foundation Website

Dr. Stephen Plachta speaks at Scoliosis Research Society Meeting

STEPHEN **PLACHTA**

MD: Scoliosis Research Society Meeting

Congratulations **are in order!**

One of our very own pediatric orthopedic surgeons, Dr. Stephen Plachta, recently delivered a presentation on his research at –the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) meeting that was held in Stockholm, Sweden on the 15th of September, 2022.

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

SRS
Scoliosis Research Society
57TH ANNUAL MEETING
STOCKHOLM SWEDEN
SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2022 • Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre

Longitudinal Neurological Analysis of Moderate and Severe Pediatric Cerebral Visual Impairment

Dr. Andres Jimenez Gomez

Dr. Andres Jimenez Gomez

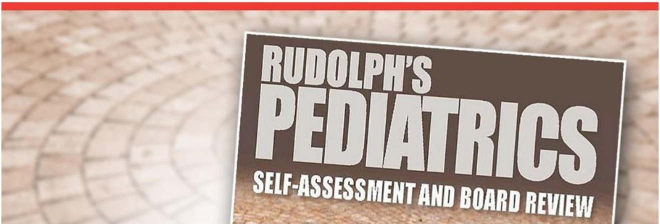
Abstract

Cerebral visual impairment (CVI) results from damage to cerebral visual processing structures. It is the most common cause of pediatric visual impairment in developed countries and rising in prevalence in developing nations. There is currently limited understanding on how neurologic, developmental, and ophthalmic factors predict outcome for pediatric CVI.

Read the whole article

Contribution to the 23rd Ed. of Rudolph's Board Review

Dr. Andres Jimenez Gomez, Pediatric Neurologist at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital contributed to the Neurology chapter as the first author of the 23rd Edition of Rudolph's Pediatrics Self-Assessment and Board Review.



RUDOLPH'S
PEDIATRICS
SELF-ASSESSMENT AND BOARD REVIEW

23rd
EDITION
MICHAEL D. CABANA
ANGELO P. GIARDINO
Associate Editors
JULIESTEIN O'BRIEN
BRENT A. MOTHNER
HEATHER C. MOORE
CHRISTIAN M. NIEDZWECKI
Mc
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Hill

National Awareness Months 🎗

Birth Defect:
Memorial Regional Hospital and Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital are Teaming up to Provide Specialized Care for Moms and Babies

Written by: Holly Neville, MD
Chief, Pediatric General Surgery Program; Associate Program Director, Surgical Residency Program; Pediatric General Surgery, Pediatric Surgery

Memorial and Joe DiMaggio recognize the need for the safe care of high-risk moms and their fetuses in our community. Currently, the Memorial Healthcare System delivers around 13,000 babies per year, with approximately 25% of pregnancies in South Florida being defined as high-risk pregnancies. In our system alone, we evaluate approximately eighty babies a year with congenital anomalies or birth defects that may require surgical intervention.

To better meet this need of women and families in our community, the Memorial Healthcare System has hired a new leader, Division Chief of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Dr. Terri-Ann Bennett MD, FACOG, to work collaboratively with our community's maternal-fetal medicine physicians to provide high level consultative and inpatient care. Dr. Bennett will be coming home to South Florida to lead the new maternal-fetal medicine team in January 2023.

This new team – a multidisciplinary team of experts in fetal and neonatal care developed by Holly Neville, MD, and Chief of Pediatric General Surgery, will be an integral part of the Memorial/Joe DiMaggio Fetal Care Center. This team will allow us to serve our community from the pregnancy, delivery, and neonatal periods through to the stage of complex care of babies and children. This aspect will be facilitated by Dr. Amanda Porro at the Center for Complex Care. Such collaboration allows for a lifetime of expert care.

Our Fetal Care Center has a strong fetal navigation team with years of experience guiding moms to needed specialists and making sure both moms and their babies get the care they need – before and after delivery! To streamline what can be an overwhelming experience, the specialists have teamed up to create a Fetal Multidisciplinary Clinic, launching in November 2022, to allow parents to have all the physician visits and important information they need, during one in-person or virtual visit. Our multidisciplinary office comprises available specialists from neonatology, maternal-fetal medicine, pediatric general neonatal surgery, pediatric urology, neonatal neurology, genetics, otolaryngology, cardiology and cardiac surgery, nephrology, palliative care, and orthopedics. The multidisciplinary office will be customized for each family. In addition to the physician appointment, a concierge visit will include a tour of our neonatal services, birthing center, and provision of information regarding the Conine Clubhouse.

Memorial and Joe DiMaggio have consistently delivered high-quality care in both general and specialized areas such as the heart center, placenta accreta program, high-risk obstetrics, and gynecology. We have also earned a verification as an American College of Surgeons Level 1 Children's Surgery Program. This sought-after designation is given to select children's hospitals that demonstrate a devotion to skilled and quality surgical care with a high level of accountability to their patients and their families. Joe DiMaggio is one of 49 children's hospitals national-wide, one of four in the state of Florida, and the only children's hospital in South Florida to receive this verification.

Our children's hospital has specialists to cater to babies and children with a wide array of medical conditions, ranging from urinary tract infections to kidney and heart transplantation and everything in between. Additionally, we are proud to have an alliance with Boston Children's Hospital which allows for a second opinion when dealing with uniquely challenging medical problems.

Dr. Holly Neville, MD

At Memorial and Joe DiMaggio, we want what is best for our community. We are, therefore, proud to develop the Fetal Care Center and look forward to serving South Florida and beyond with our specialized care for moms and babies.

National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

February 20 - 26th, 2023

Written by: Elba Iglesias, MD; Medical Director, Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Adolescent Medicine Program

The National Eating Disorders Awareness Week has been designated to increase awareness of eating disorders and help spread information on available resources and support.

Millions of Americans struggle with an eating disorder at some point in their lifetime. It is important to dispel misconceptions related to eating disorders. Eating disorders affect people of all genders, ages, races, ethnicities, body shapes and weights, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic statuses. The presentation may vary depending on gender. For instance, males often engage in excessive exercise and are preoccupied with building muscles.

More recently, the pandemic has led to a worsening and increase in eating disorder symptoms. With the detrimental effects on mental health, such as anxiety and depression, these conditions triggered new eating disorders and caused relapses in those that had recovered. Anorexia Nervosa has one of the highest mortality rates for mental health disorders.

Eating disorders are a group of psychological disorders related to a dysregulation of behaviors associated with food and eating. Various contributing factors may cause an eating disorder. Usually, psychological, environmental, and genetic factors may also play a role. Often, there is an overlap and co-occurrence of anxiety or depression, which only serves to worsen eating disorder symptoms. Restrictions in calorie intake or irregular eating patterns exacerbate mental health conditions, creating a vicious cycle that often needs medical and psychological interventions.

There are many types of eating disorders. It is important to note that the symptoms can fluctuate or change over time and don’t always fall into just one category. Changes in eating behaviors can range from eating significantly less than one should, to compulsively overeating and, sometimes, engaging in behaviors that compensate in a harmful way. A person can become overly obsessed with their body shape and size and have an extreme preoccupation with healthy foods, counting calories, and reading labels. Each type of eating disorder can have serious medical and psychological consequences.

The following are some of the types of eating disorders:

Anorexia Nervosa (AN) is characterized by a fear of weight gain, restricted intake of calories, and distorted body image. There is a type of AN that is associated with purging behaviors that compensate after an episode of binge eating. These behaviors can include excessive exercise, self-induced vomiting, or abuse of laxatives or diet/diuretic pills. There is a misconception that all people with anorexia are significantly underweight, but this may not be the case. There may be a history of significant weight loss, preoccupation with food and calories, as well as a distorted body image. Gone untreated, AN can lead to several severe medical complications. Every organ system in the body can be affected, leading to instability of blood pressure, low heart rate, lack of menstrual periods, and subsequent long-term effects on bone health and delay in growth and development, just to name a few.

Bulimia Nervosa (BN) is characterized by episodes of binge eating, where a person eats large quantities of food in a short amount of time, followed by a type of compensatory behavior such as those listed in AN. BN may be accompanied by low self-esteem and self-injury. Medical complications include damage to the gastrointestinal system as well as electrolyte abnormalities which can be very dangerous, leading to cardiac arrhythmias and even death.

Binge Eating Disorder has only more recently been recognized as an official ED. It involves episodes of binge eating that are not accompanied by compensatory behavior. People are many times unable to decide what to eat or are unable to stop eating and feel out of control. These episodes usually occur on average once a week for about 3 months or longer, are accompanied by feelings of shame and guilt, and are associated with depression. This may lead to medical complications that include the risk of developing metabolic disorders such as diabetes and high cholesterol.

Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder or **ARFID**, is associated with a person being extremely selective in what they will eat. They may avoid certain foods with specific colors or textures, and this type of eating may be accompanied by anxieties such as fear of vomiting or choking. This may be triggered by an event in their lives and not accompanied by fear of weight gain. As a matter of fact, these individuals often want to gain weight and are distressed by the difficulty in doing so.

Treatment of eating disorders involves the provision of care by a multidisciplinary team. This care involves medical treatment, nutritional guidance, and mental health support. There are both outpatient and inpatient approaches, the latter requiring higher levels of care such as residential, partial hospitalization or intensive outpatient programs. Medical inpatient stabilization is sometimes needed for severe cases.

The outpatient team consists of:

Medical provider: A medical provider that specializes in eating disorders provides ongoing medical care and monitoring for medical complications and also follows what the rest of the treatment team is doing for the patient. Prevention of long-term health effects and early intervention are key.

Nutritionist: A registered dietitian creates meal plans and reviews and revises them with the patient with the primary goal of nutrient and energy adequacy, weight restoration, and eating disorder behavior cessation. Individualized meal plans help the patient to establish a healthy eating pattern. In addition, teaching new behaviors and acceptance of food-related tasks such as cooking and grocery shopping help the patient on the road to recovery.

Mental health provider and/or Psychiatrist: Mental health support is a critical aspect in the treatment of eating disorders as this is primarily a psychiatric diagnosis that can lead to medical outcomes and long-term implications on health. Along with eating disorders comes depression, anxiety, self-harm, and obsessive-compulsive disorders, which many times require treatment with psychiatric medication to help in recovery. In many instances, as in the case of anorexia which is accompanied by anxiety/depression, food is the best medicine.

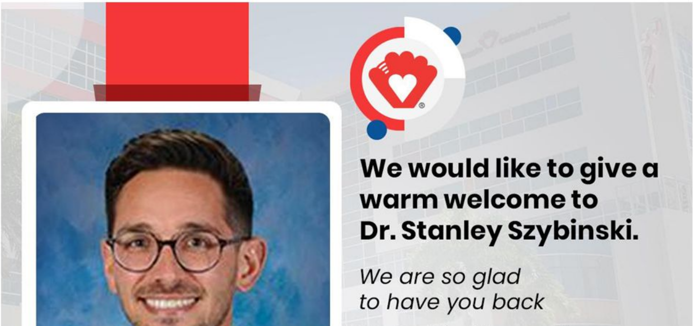
In summary, eating disorders are common and lead to a host of medical and psychological complications. As parents, friends, and family, if an eating disorder is suspected, early intervention is key. Delays in seeking treatment due to perceived stigma must be avoided. Eating disorders are as much a medical condition as orthopedic, neurological or any other medical condition.

Dr. Elba Iglesias, MD

For resources or more information, one can visit the **National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)** website at www.nationaleatingdisorders.org and the National Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness website at www.allianceforeatingdisoders.com. Our office is also available for consultations at 954-265-1460.

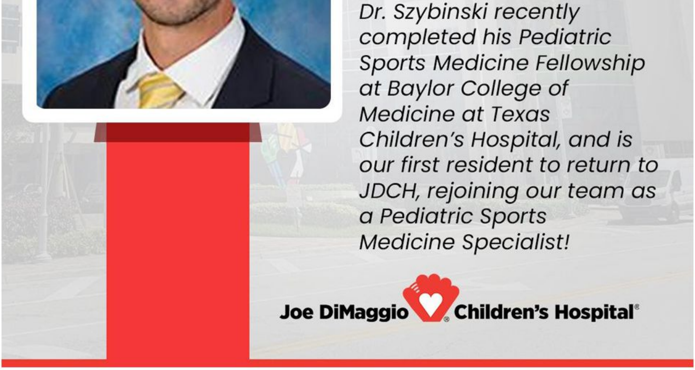
Residents Corner

Dr. Stanley Szybinsky is Back at JDCH



We would like to give a warm welcome to Dr. Stanley Szybinski.

We are so glad to have you back



Dr. Szybinski recently completed his Pediatric Sports Medicine Fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine at Texas Children's Hospital, and is our first resident to return to JDCH, rejoining our team as a Pediatric Sports Medicine Specialist!

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

We are so Proud of our Residents

FCAAP
the FUTURE of PEDIATRIC PRACTICE

Congratulations!

to our team of winners!

Our **JDCH** residents won 2nd place (out of many!) in the **Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Brain Bowl** this year!

JDCH WINNERS:

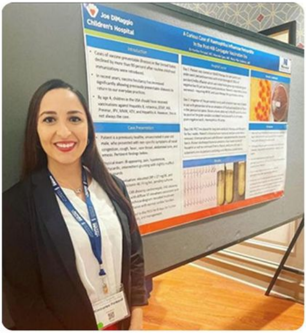
- **Dr. Kimberlee Persaud**
- **Dr. Christine Lopez**
- **Dr. Joey Andreola**
- **Dr. Maria Lucalo**

FCAAP
Florida Chapter
OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

Dr. Kimberlee Persaud was recognized by her case report:

"A Curious Case of Haemophilus influenzae Pericarditis in the Post-HiB Conjugate Vaccination Era"



We congratulate you!

Dr. Persaud won an impressive first prize in the poster competition for her case report!

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

Awards and Accolades

JDCH congratulates Dr. Jason Adler for his acceptance as a Fellow of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

Congratulations!

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital®

Find a Doctor
Pediatric Services
Locations & Directions
Patients & Families
Give Back
About Us

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