



Welcoming our New Inpatient Attending – Elena Wolner MD

We are excited to welcome our newest Peds Hospitalist, Dr. Elena Wolner. Dr. Wolner is not new to many of you since she just finished her pediatric residency here in June. Dr. Wolner shares the following:

“Hello everyone- I am very excited to join the pediatric hospitalist group! Many of you might recognize me as a recent graduate of the Upstate Pediatric Residency, or maybe even from my time here as a medical student. I am originally from Albany, NY and moved to NYC for a few years before coming back up to central NY for my medical training in Syracuse. My husband Marcus is also an Upstate grad and is currently doing an ultrasound fellowship through our Emergency Department. We are both thrilled to be staying here in Syracuse close to family with our 3 cats (Dobby, Waldo and Gus). When I am not at work, I enjoy travelling, binging Netflix, baking cakes and taking advantage of everything central NY has to offer.”



Pictured with her husband Marcus, This was taken just off the coast of Portugal.

The Interns are All Here!

Last month we were excited to introduce our new intern class but were missing two people at that time. Timi Raja and Khulood Shkookani are now here completing the complement. We hope to have a new picture next month.

The Robert K. Kanter Award

In that massive list of awards and special honors that were given out at Graduation on June 11th, the Crier somehow omitted one of the top honors of the night. Lexi Sirota was the recipient of the Robert K. Kanter Award

presented by Dr. Bill Hannan. As Dr. Hannan so eloquently explains, each year, “Dr. Robert Kanter served as the Chief of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine from 1980 to 2014. This award is given to a graduating PL-3 who best exemplifies those qualities Dr. Kanter admired most and always tried to teach residents: 1) Good general pediatric skills, 2) Excellence in problem solving 3) Aptitude for the care of acutely ill children”. You can now have the opportunity to see all of those qualities in the ED since Lexi is now a Peds ED fellow here at Upstate.



Another Exceptional Teacher

We were excited to learn that Dr. Stuart Trust was yet another member of our department who was the recipient of positive comments from one of the medical students he taught last year. His ongoing dedication to teaching students is an inspiration to us all.

High Quality!

The Dept of Pediatrics has another new monthly publication that you don't want to miss. The online Pediatric Quality & Safety newsletter is edited by our very own Michelle Jeski DNP, RN, PCNS-BC, CPN who is the UGCH Quality Manager and SPS Project Manager. It is fun, informative, and very high quality. You can read the July issue at: <https://secure.smores.com/n/h2zft>

Engaged!

Former resident, Ripal Patel (Class of 2019) let us know that she is officially engaged and is getting married in October! She shared a picture of the moment when she said yes!

Ripal tells the Crier that she met him through a dating app and that he is a Physician Assistant turned Entrepreneur! And, her family adores him! We are so happy for Ripal and wish her and her future husband the best.



The Adirondoc in Manlius

Our former Chairman, Dr. Tom Welch, may not still be giving our annual Grand Rounds, but he has not given up public speaking. In fact, he will be speaking locally in August at the Manlius Library in his non-Upstate role where he is known as the Adirondoc. Dr. Welch is also a He is a licensed wilderness guide and outdoor educator. He will be presenting a talk entitled, “Gentlemen and the First Ascent of the High Peak of Essex” (soon to be published in the Adirondack Life Magazine) on Thursday, August 15th at 6:30 PM. For more details see the attached flyer or visit the Manlius Library website:

<https://onlib-manilus.libcal.com/event/12604229>



Peds in Review

We were excited to hear that former GI faculty member, Dr. Aamer Imdad recently had an article published in Pediatrics in Review that was co-authored with our very own former chief resident Rida Sherwani. The article, Pediatric Formulas: An Update was published in the July issue of Pediatrics in Review. Congratulations, Rida and Aamer.

Welcome Baby Souid

Congratulations to Ahmed Souid and his wife Aasiya on the arrival of their baby boy, Ayman Malik Souid on July 27th. Ahmed tells the Crier, "We couldn't be happier! 2 weeks and 2 days early because he was too excited to meet everyone! Aasiya is doing well and regaining her strength! We appreciate everyone's thoughts and prayers!"



IT Outage and the Heroes of Pediatrics

It was called the 'largest IT outage in history'. On Friday, in the wee hours of the morning, a routine Microsoft-CrowdStrike computer update ended up shutting down financial services, doctors' offices, TV stations, air travel and...Upstate computer systems. A phone call was sent out at 4:30 AM to all staff and faculty. Before 7 AM, the GME office had sent out a notice asking all residents hospital-wide to remain at work. Dr. Ajagbe assessed the situation, and Aubrey sent out the instructions for the internal Peds residency response moving residents from electives to the floors for their "all hands on deck" availability. While the rest of the world grappled with the chaos going on all around them, the Peds Dept (faculty, staff, residents, and chiefs) all took it in stride and most computers were up and running before the end of the day.

A special shout out to Chief Lauren, Chief Sloan, and Aubrey Mariani for the extra treats and Brooklyn Pickle run, to keep the troops fortified. And, again, thanks to all who were so flexible and were willing to help out in any way they could.

CEO Robert Corona, DO, MBA said that everyone who played a hand in the hospital's response "truly demonstrated how incredibly important the entire team is to the care of the region." Upstate's President Mantosh Dewan, MD, wrote, "All of campus is grateful for the quick action so many took beginning yesterday at the break of dawn to keep our clinical enterprise safe and operational. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to this campus and our region." Chancellor John B. King, Jr., J.D., Ed.D. also sent a brief note "to thank you for your tremendous work during the global IT disruption caused by what was supposed to be a routine update from the cybersecurity company CrowdStrike...The challenge was vast and widespread, but your expertise, diligence, and dedication prevailed—downtime was minimized, and you found ways to continue to deliver high quality care for Upstate patients. I'm grateful for what you did and appreciate you!"

The Next Generation

Dr. Botash let us know that she recently met a first year resident with a very familiar last name. She shared, "I just met Jacque Abi-Hanna. He is a first year medical student and the son of "our" residents, Claire Del Signore and Adel Abi-Hanna. I introduced him to Dean Welch last year, and he was accepted to medical school here!"

Claire and Adel were both residents in the Class of 1994 and met each other here in our program.



(back row of the Class of 1994)

They both currently work at Stanford. Adel is a Peds GI doctor and Claire is primary care peds. We look forward to having Jacques rotate through our program in three years and perhaps even follow in their path.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 8/1 Lauren Thomas
- 8/9 Caitlin Deluca
- 8/10 Jody Sima
- 8/15 Melissa Schafer
- 8/22 Beth Nelsen
- 8/24 Sarah Rehman
- 8/25 Heather Ross
- 8/27 Leen Khalife
- 8/28 Ancy Alexander