

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGS)

FOCUS GROUP / THINK TANKS / IDEA FORUMS	CONTACT NAME	FREQUENCY
Airway Biology Research Group: The goal of this SIG is to enhance research into lower and upper airway diseases, e.g. asthma, cystic fibrosis, otitis media, chronic rhinosinusitis, etc. Junior faculty, postdoctoral and clinical fellows, and graduate and medical students present at weekly seminars. Faculty also meets quarterly to discuss ongoing and planned projects to foster multidisciplinary collaborations.	Gustavo Nino (CNHS) GNino@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Mondays 8:30 a.m.) Quarterly for faculty
Asthma and Airway Clinical and Translational Research Group: A multidisciplinary group of faculty and staff convene weekly on Tuesday mornings to discuss ongoing and new projects in patient-centered clinical and translational research projects in asthma and other airway disorders (croup, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, etc.). The group's goal is to foster new ideas, grants, abstracts and manuscripts.	Rob Freishtat (CNHS) Rfreishtat@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Autism- Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders Multidisciplinary Lab meeting discusses new and on-going research projects at Children's National, new publications and presentations and important developments in the field. The group's goal is to foster new ideas and projects as well as to facilitate on-going research efforts.	Lauren Kenworthy (CNHS) LKENWORT@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Fridays at Noon)
Autism- CRI Neurosciences Multidisciplinary meeting to coordinate new and on-going translational projects between CNHS Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders and research partners in the CRI, Georgetown University, and GWU. Focus is on neuro-imaging, but other translational projects are of interest.	Lauren Kenworthy (CNHS) LKENWORT@childrensnational.org	Bi-monthly (Wednesdays at 8am)
Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders – The AND Initiative: mission of the AND Initiative is to improve the lives and address the needs of adolescents and young adults with autism as they transition into adulthood. Currently, the AND Initiative has 100 affiliated GW faculty members representing six of our colleges.	Kerstin Gerke autism@gwu.edu	Variable
Behavioral Medicine Research: This long standing SIG brings faculty and staff together from a variety of disciplines (e.g. medicine, nursing, psychology, public health) to learn about current behavioral and community research, brainstorm and problem solve barriers to research, and generate collaborative research submissions. Topics covered include adherence and adjustment to medical illness, screening for behavioral/mental health concerns in pediatric clinics, medical decision-making, transition to adult medical care, and promoting behavior change.	Randi Streisand / Maureen Monaghan (CNHS) RSTREIS@childrensnational.org ; MMonagha@childrensnational.org	Small Group Discussion (4 th Wednesday 10am); Open research presentations (1 st Tuesday 12pm)
BIG Data: The goal of the BIG Data SIG is to enhance understanding of large database research and foster multidisciplinary collaborations.	Hiroki Morizono (CNHS) hmorizono@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Bioenergetics SIG: This SIG is deploying an interdisciplinary approach to one of society's most vexing problems, that is, the rising prevalence of obesity among socio-economically disadvantaged children. Their efforts are targeted at the child in both the family and community context, with the overarching aim of developing interventions to optimize bioenergetics in these children through evidence-based nutrition and exercise programs and when necessary, surgical intervention.	Michele Mietus-Snyder (CNHS) MMSnyder@childrensnational.org	1 st Wednesday 1-2pm in the small CTS conference room #7653
Bioengineering Device Forum: This SIG schedules brown bag lunches where clinicians can present their ideas for new biomedical devices. The group meets in the Sheikh Zayed Institute and meetings are scheduled upon clinician requests to the group.	Kevin Cleary (CNHS) KCleary@childrensnational.org	Ad-hoc
Brain Injury Group Sickle Cell (BIG-SS): The goal of the group is to review and discuss brain imaging (CT, MRI/MRA, conventional angiograms) with a multidisciplinary team of pediatric hematologists, bone marrow transplant doctors, neurologists, neuroradiologists and neurosurgeons and develop management plans for sickle cell patients with CNS vasculopathy or other injury.	Jessica Carpenter (CNHS) JCarpent@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Brain Plasticity: This multidisciplinary SIG involves NIH, GT, CNHS neurologists and neuroradiologists.	William Gaillard (CNHS) / Elissa Newport (GTU) WGAILLAR@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Wednesdays 1:15pm-3pm at NRH)
Cardiac Device Development Group: The goal of this NIH/SZIPS1 and Cardiovascular Surgery group is to develop novel devices for pediatric cardiovascular disease diagnosis and therapy.	Charles Berul (CNHS) / NIH Team CBerul@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Interventional Cardiac MRI (ICMR) Research Group: The objective is to develop a comprehensive cardiac MRI "radiation free" diagnosis and treatment program for children with heart disease. To this end, we are focused on the following: (1) "sedation free" (short, comprehensive) free-breathing diagnostic CMR, (2) "radiation free" MRI guided diagnostic heart catheterization, (3) X-Ray Fused with MRI (XFM) interventions as a step toward MRI guided heart intervention, and (4) MRI characterization of ablation lesions as a step toward MRI guided cardiac electrophysiology.	Laura Olivieri (CNHS) / NIH Team LOlivieri@childrensnational.org	Bi-weekly
Congenital Heart Disease: This SIG brings together cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, clinical and research fellows, students, as well as health care professionals working in the broad field of developmental disabilities to ensure communication between the bedside and bench and to identify collaborative areas for research in congenital heart disease.	Nobuyuki Ishibashi/Nikki Posnack/ Chris Spurney (CNHS) Nshibas@childrensnational.org ; NPASNACK@childrensnational.org ; CSpurney@childrensnational.org	Monthly (3rd Thursday 7-8am)
Board of Visitors Cerebral Palsy Prevention Group: The primary attendees for the meetings are neonatologists, neurologists, neuroscientists, nurses, clinical fellows (from both neonatology and neurology departments), and pediatric rehabilitation specialists involved in cerebral palsy related research, specifically in the preterm population.	Anna Penn (CNHS) APenn@childrensnational.org	3 rd Wednesday/Month
CRITIG (CRI Protein Trafficking Interest Group): has been operational since 2010 and is aimed to provide an informal forum to foster interaction between researchers interested in the area of cellular and molecular biology of diseases. We have a broad spectrum of members comprising of students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculties from all CRI centers. In addition to members presenting their research at monthly seminars we also invite speakers working in this area. Interactions fostered in this forum have resulted in collaborative grants and publications.	Jyoti Jaiswal (CNHS) jkaiswal@childrensnational.org	Monthly (1 st Friday)
DC CFAR: The mission of the NIH-funded District of Columbia Center for AIDS Research (DC CFAR) is to expand our multi-institutional effort to support research that contributes to ending the HIV epidemic in Washington, DC and beyond in partnership with government and community	Alan Greenberg / Gary Simon / Jennifer Skillicorn (GWU) aeg1@email.gwu.edu ; gsimon@mfa.gwu.edu ; skilli_j@gwu.edu	Variable
DMV Regional Medical Genetics Interest Group: Geneticists from CNMC, NIH, VA, MD meet twice a	Deb Regier (CNHS)	Twice a year

year to discuss new trends in the field. Clinical applications of new therapies. Newborn screening technology and research and scientific progress by the fellows and junior faculty.	DRegier@childrensnational.org	
Emergency Medicine Research Group: The purpose of this meeting is to assist junior investigators with study design and implementation for studies relating to emergency medicine.	Robert Freishtat / Jim Chamberlain (CNHS) Rfreishtat@childrensnational.org ; JCHAMBER@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Epilepsy Research Working Group: The epilepsy research group meets weekly. The group includes neurology, neuropsychology, and computational and imaging sciences. The scope encompasses investigations in epilepsy spanning human tissue, epidemiology, imaging, and cognitive/behavior studies. There is data presentation, journal club, and didactics on relevant topics.	Madison Berl / William Gaillard (CNHS) MBerl@childrensnational.org ; WGAILLAR@childrensnational.org	Weekly, (Thursday 10am-12pm)
Faculty Research Salons (GW OVPR): Designed to connect and engage GWU faculty from diverse disciplines in collaborative intellectual and scholarly exchange around a research-themed issues, questions and challenges. The Salons will be moderated by leading faculty and university leadership and lunch will be provided	Shandra White (GWU) shandra@gwu.edu	Monthly
Fetal-Neonatal Brain Injury Network. This SIG meets weekly to identify early antecedents of brain injury in the fetus and newborn. It includes neuroscientists, engineers, neurologists, neonatologists, radiologists and other members from the fetal team.	Adre DuPlessis / Catherine Limperopoulos (CNHS) ADupless@childrensnational.org ; CLimpero@childrensnational.org	Weekly
Global Health: This sig addresses issues related to health of children around the world. Annually, a two day workshop is held to teach, train and ensure faculty, fellows, and residents are knowledgeable about global health issues.	Natella Rakhmanina (CNHS) NRakhman@childrensnational.org	Quarterly
Health Disparities: Topics for these meetings change and now focus on health disparities/health equity education at Children's National. All are welcome as we are seeking input from the broader Children's community.	Leandra Godoy (CNHS) LGodoy@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Immunology Interest Group (IIG): Description: This SIG meets monthly to discuss issues of interest among local immunologists. The meetings take the shape of informal research talks, technique discussions, or forums for joint grant planning. The overarching aim is to bring together immunologists in the DC/MD area to develop new ideas and new opportunities for collaboration to advance the fields of immunology including the immunology of primary and acquired immune deficiencies, infection and cancer and well as developing novel immune approaches for these diseases	Russell Cruz / David Leitenberg (GWU) rcruz@email.gwu.edu ; DLEITENB@childrensnational.org	Monthly
K-SIG: this SIG is open to recipients of any mentored career development award, intramural or extramural. Meetings include guest lectures from prominent researchers at GW, CNHS, and other institutions on topics of relevance to those with a K and like awards.	Naomi Luban / An Massaro (CNHS) NLUBAN@childrensnational.org ; ANGUYENM@childrensnational.org	Quarterly, 2 nd Tuesdays/Month
Neonatal Neurology and Neuroprotection Group: This group meets weekly to update or plan Neuro/NICU clinical pathways, address program issues/events/goals to advance clinical neonatal neurologic research and promote interdisciplinary communication /interaction	Taeun Chang / An Massaro (CNHS) TChang@childrensnational.org ; ANGUYENM@childrensnational.org	Weekly/Bi-weekly emails and meetings
Neurocritical Care: This multidisciplinary SIG includes Clinical Care Medicine and Neurology and focuses on issues related to research opportunities in neurocritical.	Jessica Carpenter / Nathan Dean (CNHS) JCarpent@childrensnational.org ; NDean@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Neurofibromatosis: This weekly multidisciplinary meeting co-lead by neurology and genetics is designed to review ongoing clinical research and clinical care, as well as to discuss new translational research proposals. The meeting's goals are to foster new approaches and investigations and tying these investigations to ongoing translational work in the Neurofibromatosis laboratories.	Miriam Bornhorst (CNHS) MBornhorst@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Tuesdays) 7:30AM – 8:30AM
Neuro-oncology Working Group: The Neuro-Oncology Working Group meets every week to review ongoing clinical care and clinical trials, new translation efforts and neuroimaging aspects of treatment. This is a multidisciplinary meeting with the involvement of neurology, oncology and neuroradiology. This activity is bolstered by ad hoc meetings to further develop clinical and basic science efforts in neuro-oncology with the additional collaboration of neurosurgery, endocrinology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, as well as nursing and social work.	Roger Packer / Brian Rood (CNHS) RPACKER@childrensnational.org ; BROOD@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Mondays) 9:15AM – 12:00PM
Neuroplacentology Videoconference: This group of investigators from different NICU's and fetal medicine program, including pathologists, have research interests in the influences of the placenta in fetal and neonatal brain development.	Anna Penn (CNHS) APenn@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Neuropsychology Division Research Meeting: The goal of this meeting is to discuss division-wide research issues related to common methods, statistics, tools, grant opportunities, and develop collaborations as well as to remain state of the art related to neuropsychology research and methods. Attendees are all research involved personnel from the division including faculty, RA's, fellows, psychometrists, and other trainees/guests.	Madison Berl (CNHS) MBerl@childrensnational.org	Monthly (4 th Wednesday) 12-1PM; 1-2PM postdoctoral fellow concentration
Neurovascular/Stroke: This group meets on the 3 rd Wednesday/month. The primary attendees for this conference are hematology, adult stroke neurologists from NRH/Georgetown/WHC, neuroradiology and IR; sometimes neurosurgery, critical care medicine and rheumatology attend.	William Gaillard / Jessica Carpenter / Jonathan Murnick (CNHS) WGAILLAR@childrensnational.org ; JCarpent@childrensnational.org ; JMurnick@childrensnational.org	Monthly
Palliative and End of Life Care and Research: This SIG, comprised of members from diverse disciplines and settings in five states collaborate in writing publications, submitting grants and addressing policy issues. The SIG purposefully includes clinicians, researchers and administrators to facilitate addressing pressing clinical and administrative issues in pediatric palliative and end of life care and research.	Pamela Hinds (CNHS) PSHinds@childrensnational.org	Monthly (3 rd Friday)
Reproductive Health: The goal of this SIG is to facilitate collaboration, clinical and research strategy, promote knowledge of up to date literature, and provide a forum for addressing challenges of caring for adolescents and young adults with complex chronic conditions and reproductive issues.	Monika Goyal / Lisa Tuchman (CNHS) MGoyal@childrensnational.org ; LTuchman@childrensnational.org	Monthly
SCORE Concussion Research Team: This group, based in Neuropsychology, meets weekly to discuss ongoing projects, plan for new research studies, review manuscripts, review statistical work.	Gerard Gioia/ Chris Vaughan/ Maegan Sady (CNHS) GGioia@childrensnational.org ; CVaughan@childrensnational.org ; MSady@childrensnational.org	Weekly (Monday 8am)

<p>Sickle Cell Research Group: This newly assembled SIG brings together hematology, anesthesiology, SZPSI, laboratory medicine, behavioral medicine and genetic medicine to identify collaborative areas for research in pain, red cell alloimmunization and the importance of reticulocytosis in SCD disease progression.</p>	<p>Drew Campbell (CNHS) acampbell@childrensnational.org</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
<p>Urea Cycle Disorders and Hyperammonemia: This is a multidisciplinary group focusing on inborn errors of nitrogen metabolism, especially urea cycle disorders and other causes of hyperammonemia. The group spans bed to bedside research: basic science, including system biology of the urea cycle; protein chemistry and crystallography of nitrogen metabolism; animal models of hyperammonemia (zebrafish and mice) used for preclinical studies of neuroprotection drugs; natural history studies of urea cycle disorders; multisite clinical trials of drugs to combat hyperammonemia including the use of stable isotopes; liver gene therapy for urea cycle disorders; brain imaging studies of hyperammonemia chronology and biomarkers.</p>	<p>Nick AhMew/ Ljubica Caldovic Ah Mew, Nicholas(CNHS) NAhMew@childrensnational.org; LjubicaL.Caldovic@childrensnational.org</p>	<p>Monthly</p>