



DECEMBER 2016

Deepa Manwani, Director of Pediatric Hematology, Named Interim Division Chief

The Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Marrow & Blood Cell Transplantation is proud to announce that **Dr. Deepa Manwani**, Director of Pediatric Hematology, has been appointed Interim Division Chief. Dr. Manwani is an R-01 funded researcher with a long track record of leadership roles within Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematology. Upon her arrival to CHAM in 2008, Dr. Manwani was directly responsible for the rapid growth and expansion of the Sickle Cell Disease Program, which now includes more than 700 patients. The program has become one of the largest comprehensive sickle cell disease clinics in the region and offers patients access to an expert multi-disciplinary team, novel therapeutic agents, and bone marrow transplant. Prior to her arrival at CHAM, Dr. Manwani was the Director of the Thalassemia Program and the Sickle Cell Disease Program at Schneider's Children's Hospital (now Cohen's) on Long Island. She conducts translational research and is an international expert on the management of vaso-occlusive crises. She has received numerous awards for her advocacy and work to improve outcomes for all patients with sickle cell disease and in 2015 she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Sickle Cell-Thalassemia Patient Network. We



Would like to thank **Dr. Richard Gorlick** for his tremendous leadership for the past 12 years and wish him well in his new role as Chair of Pediatrics at MD Anderson. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Manwani and Dr. Gorlick.

Quality In Life Team (QUILT) Supports Patients, Families, and CHAM Providers

The Quality in Life Team (QUILT) has had a busy fall. The team recently taught a two part workshop titled, "Bereavement Basics" to more than 30 staff members including child life specialists, social workers, and school teachers. Last month QUILT participated in the annual memorial service where staff and families celebrated the lives of children cared for at CHAM who have died. The beautiful ceremony included the sharing of photos, stories, and song. In addition, QUILT would like to invite you to the Palliative Minded Book club. The monthly meeting is hosted in the Caregiver Support Center and is open to any member of the CHAM family. Please contact **Dr. Sarah Norris**, Director of QUILT, at SaNorri@montefiore.org if you have any questions.



Montefiore Intra-Abdominal Tumor Team Leads Lecture Series

On November 30th, at the Renaissance Westchester in West Harrison, New York, the Children's Hospital at Montefiore's comprehensive Intra-Abdominal Tumor Team presented on the management of solid organ tumors in 2016. The team, led by pediatric oncologist **Dr. Daniel Weiser**, Chief of Pediatric Surgery, **Dr. Dominique Jan**, and pediatric surgeon **Dr. Steven Borenstein** discussed the importance of the careful coordination of chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and surgical resection in obtaining optimal patient outcomes. Dr. Weiser, who leads a research lab focused on discovering novel targeted therapies for children and adolescents with neuroblastoma, presented on the use of tumor genetics to develop personalized medicine approaches for pediatric patients with solid tumors.



Fellow Takes on Leadership Roles in National Heme/Onc Organization

Two years ago, pediatric resident **Rochelle Maxwell**, was one of 4 trainees selected to receive a travel award to the American Society of Pediatric Hematology Oncology (ASPHO) National conference in Chicago. Now a 2nd year Pediatric Heme/Onc fellow, Dr. Maxwell has been selected to serve on two important committees within ASPHO. As a member of the Early Career Council, Dr. Maxwell is charged with advising ASPHO's leadership on the needs of trainees. In her role on the Program Committee, Dr. Maxwell helps determine the meeting agenda for the annual national conference. Great work Rochelle!



Publications

- Fein D, Avner J, Scharbach K, **Manwani D**, & Khine H. (2016). Intranasal fentanyl for initial treatment of vaso-occlusive crisis in sickle cell disease. *Pediatric Blood & Cancer*. In Press.
- Li L, Qi X, Sun W, Abdel-Azim H, Lou S, Zhu H, ...**Khazal S**, He Q, Warburton D & Kim, Y. M. (2016). Am80-GCSF synergizes myeloid expansion and differentiation to generate functional neutrophils that reduce neutropenia-associated infection and mortality. *EMBO Molecular Medicine*, e201606434.