



**1<sup>ST</sup> Year Fellows Conference Agenda**  
**All times shown below are Eastern Standard Time**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021**

- 12:00 PM Welcome to the Conference  
Sandy Kim and Brian McFerron
- 12:10 PM Welcome from Robert Dahms (Abbott)
- 12:20 PM “Meet the Faculty” – Brian McFerron
- 12:40 PM Icebreaker: “Meet your fellows!”  
Brian McFerron and Sandy Kim
- 13:00 PM Introduction to NASPGHAN  
Jenifer Lightdale
- 13:15 PM Welcome video from the NASPGHAN Fellows Committee
- 13:20 PM Break

**Block 1: “I Will Survive!” Personal Resilience and Development**

- 13:30 PM Know your strengths: resilience and wellness as the antidote to burnout – Sandy Kim
- 13:45 PM Small groups: Faculty with small groups  
Groups pre-assigned – please check chart
- 14:30 PM Break
- 14:45 PM Faculty panel: How did you choose what you were going to do in your (GI) life?  
Moderator: Brian McFerron  
Panelist: Conrad Cole, Elizabeth Mileti, Deb Neigut, Jason Silverman, Karyn Wulff, Des Yacob
- 15:30 PM Make Friends, NOT Enemas...2021 Virtual Edition:  
Norberto Rodriguez-Baez.
- 16:00 PM Concluding Remarks for Day 1 (Sandy and Brian)
- 16:30 – 17:30 PM Optional one-one meetings with faculty (15 minutes/meetings).

**Friday, January 15, 2021**

**Block 2: "Road to Independence:" Professional Development**

- 12:00 PM Welcome and overview of day's agenda  
Brian McFerron and Sandy Kim
- 12:10 PM Learn from our mistakes!: Ways you can optimize your fellowship years.  
Jen Colombo and Arvind Srinath
- 12:30 PM Small group discussions (Choice 1)
- 13:00 PM Small group discussions (Choice 2)
- 13:30 PM Break
- 13:45 PM Mentor/Mentee Relationships  
Christine Lee
- 14:00 PM Panel discussion: Choosing mentors, research projects and career tracks  
Moderator: Sandy Kim.  
Panelists: Bruno Chumpitazi, Erika Montijo, John Pohl, Sofia Verstaete
- 14:30 PM Research exercise (small groups): Small group scenarios  
Pre-assigned groups – please check you assignment  
a. Highlight typical scenarios fellows may encounter (10 min)  
b. Ask questions of how the fellow should address this (20 min)  
c. Report out to the larger group (20 min)
- 15:30 PM Break
- Block 3:**
- 15:45 PM **Equity, diversity, and advocacy in medicine**  
Diversity in Pediatrics: How do we change?  
Conrad Cole
- 16:10 PM Concluding remarks: Welcome to NASPGHAN  
Jenifer Lightdale and Ben Gold
- 16:20 PM Social Time!  
Mocktail contest with Bob Dahms
- Zumba Dance Party  
Norberto "Zumba Maestro" Rodriguez-Baez and Ben "Benjammin" Gold

## 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Year Fellows Faculty Listing

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**Bruno Pedro Chumpitazi, MD**

I am an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital in Houston and Director of the Neurogastroenterology and Motility Program at Texas Children's Hospital. I currently serve as the NASPGHAN Research Committee Chair. From a training standpoint: I'm a Wolverine through and through (University of Michigan undergrad); completed medical school (along with an MPH) at Tufts University School of Medicine; finished pediatrics residency at Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian/Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons; and completed fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital/ Harvard Medical School.

From early on in pediatric gastroenterology training I was struck by how common certain disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) were and the morbidity associated with them. Though there is a tremendous amount of exciting growth in the field, pediatric neurogastroenterology remains clinically and scientifically underserved. I have dedicated my academic career toward applying the most effective, cutting edge, and multi-disciplinary techniques to help children with gastrointestinal functional and motility disorders. My group's scientific research has focused on elucidating the interaction between fermentable carbohydrates and the gut microbiome to induce symptoms in children with IBS. Other research interests include meal-induced symptoms in children with functional dyspepsia/gastroparesis. Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital has been home since graduating fellowship and I've been fortunate to work with tremendous colleagues.

Outside of pediatric gastroenterology I am a lucky father of three children (ages 11, 9, and 7) and won the lottery with my spouse (her name is Corrie – a pediatric emergency medicine physician). Most of my time outside of the hospital is spent with the family. During the pandemic I've picked up some "great" habits like: watching Cobra Kai on Netflix; but have also enjoyed finding more time to play trumpet and sing (poorly) with my daughter Grace; throw the baseball and practice jiu-jitsu with my son Luke; and encourage my daughter Gabby to play softball and be a rock guitarist. There is rarely a dull moment in the Texas Chumpitazi household. Here's hoping 2021 brings great things to all!

**Conrad R. Cole, MD, MPH, MSc**

I am a Professor of Pediatrics at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC), University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio. I serve as the Medical Director of the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and the Medical Director of the Intestinal Rehabilitation Program. In the realm of training, I am the fellowship director for the CCHMC advanced nutrition fellowship program. Within the hospital, I co-chair the clinical medical directors' group.

My family is from Sierra Leone and I graduated from the University of Ibadan, college of Medicine in Nigeria. I spent gap time in Trinidad and Tobago before engaging in a research fellowship in Pediatric Nutrition and Metabolism at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York. I completed my residency at Miami Children's Hospital, Miami, Florida and Pediatric GI fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. During my fellowship training, I obtained a graduate degree in Public Health (MPH in Outcomes and Policy) from Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. My initial position post fellowship was at Emory University, where I obtained a CDC foundation award that allowed me to focus on Micronutrient malnutrition in children from low income populations. I was also awarded an NIH k-award to evaluate the epidemiology of central line associated blood stream infections in children with short bowel syndrome. During this time, I also enrolled and completed a Masters of Science in Clinical Research degree program. I returned to Cincinnati after 7 years and my clinical and research efforts continue to be centered on intestinal failure epidemiology and outcomes and micronutrient malnutrition in children.

I am actively involved in NASPGHAN and was the founding co-chair for the Intestinal rehabilitation special interest group (SIG) and now the chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion SIG. I am a past elected council member for gastroenterology of the Society for Pediatric Research. My interest in diversity and equity was the impetus for my organizing and hosting annually a networking dinner for minority peds GI fellows and faculty who attend NASPGHAN. I am also actively involved in a mentoring program in Cincinnati, 'Black Men in Medicine'.

I am married to Khadija and we have 2 children (Mandisa and Sekani) who keep me grounded. I love travelling and spend my spare time reading, running (Hiking) and travelling. When I travel, I usually try to visit the local children's hospital or children's ward as my global health interest is in program development.

**Jennifer Colombo, MD**

Dr. Jennifer Colombo is a board-certified pediatric gastroenterologist and serves as the Associate Division Director for the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology at Children's Mercy in Kansas City, Missouri. She is also the program director for the pediatric gastroenterology fellowship program. She graduated from St. Louis University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. She completed her pediatric residency and pediatric gastroenterology fellowship training at Children's Mercy.

She is a passionate educator and is committed to excellence in medical education. She completed her master's degree in the Master of Health Professions Education program at University of Missouri Kansas City School of Medicine in Kansas City, Missouri. She serves on the Professional Education Committee of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition and previously served on the Training Committee. Clinically, she is devoted to her patients with chronic abdominal pain and other functional GI disorders.

**Benjamin D. Gold, MD, FACG, FAAP, NASPGHAN-F**

GI Care for Kids, LLC Children's Center for Digestive Health Care, LLC

Attending Physician, Medical Staff, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Quality Director, Aerodigestive Center and Program, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Co-Lead Investigator, GI Care for Kids Site for ImproveCareNow, Quality Improvement Collaborative

President, North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN)

Dr. Gold received his medical degree from The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Washington, DC. He completed an internship and a residency in Pediatrics at Emory University School of Medicine, followed by a fellowship in Pediatric Gastroenterology at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada, where he also completed his research fellowship at the Research Institute as a Medical Research Council of Canada Research Fellow.

Benjamin D. Gold, MD, joined Children's Center for Digestive Healthcare, LLC. GI Care for Kids, LLC. in 2009. Prior to joining CCDHC, Dr. Gold was the Marcus Chair of Pediatric Gastroenterology, a tenured Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Microbiology as well as the Director of the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.

Dr. Gold has published over 160 peer-reviewed manuscripts, over 35 book chapters, and over 65 CME and CEU-accredited webinars, webcasts, and enduring digitized educational materials. He is been a sought-after lecturer on upper GI disease in children, as well as, is an international thought leader on pediatric esophageal disease (gastroesophageal reflux disease, GERD; eosinophilic esophagitis, EoE), *Helicobacter pylori* infection, as well as gut-microbial interactions leading to intestinal inflammation, allergy and immune-mediate disease, including pediatric inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's and ulcerative colitis). Dr. Gold has diligently served the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) in numerous capacities over the years, and, is currently the NASPGHAN President-elect.

**Sandra ("Sandy") Kim, MD**

Hello! I am an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh Medical School/UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. I am the Director of our IBD Program and also serve as an Associate Fellowship Director.

Within the Department of Pediatrics, I am the co-chair for the Wellness Burnout Taskforce and Co – chair of the Biorespository Core.

I am a diehard alum of the University of Michigan (I was a graduate of the Inteflex Integrated Pre-med/medical school program). I completed my residency and peds GI fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital and a research post-doctoral fellowship at the University of North Carolina Center for GI Biology and Disease. My lifelong clinical, research, quality improvement and advocacy efforts have centered on inflammatory bowel diseases, with a focus/interest in the GI microbiome (during my NIH-funded basic/translational research days), adolescent transitioning of care, QI, and patient advocacy. I currently am completing leadership roles in the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation (past chair of Pediatric Affairs and current soon to be outgoing chair of Government Affairs/Advocacy on the National Scientific Advisory Committee), and Improve Care Now (current chair of Clinical Practice and incoming chair for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee).

I do have a life outside of the hospital, Zoom/Microsoft Teams conference calls, and my home office (contrary to popular belief amongst my family, friends, and the peds GI fellows at CCHP!). I love exploring the 'burgh with my minidoodle Lexie and Bill (the calm one in my life), being a foodie, listening to music... and am vowing to use my Peloton more in 2021.

### **Christine K. Lee, MD**

Dr. Lee received her undergraduate and medical degree from Brown University. She then went on to complete her pediatric residency, gastroenterology fellowship and transplant hepatology fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital/ Harvard Medical School. At Boston Children's Hospital, she holds numerous positions in medical education as the program director for transplant hepatology fellowship, the associate program director for gastroenterology fellowship and gastroenterology clerkship director for Harvard Medical School. Her interest in training has also led her to involvement in NASPGHAN as past co-director of The Teaching and Tomorrow Program and current Chair of the Training Committee and the AASLD Pediatric Special Interest Group education committee.

Dr. Lee spends much of her clinical time as a member of the liver, intestine, multivisceral transplant team, acting as both a transplant hepatologist and the medical director of the intestine/multivisceral transplant program. Dr. Lee's other clinical areas of expertise involved directing the Fatty Liver Interdisciplinary Program and the Fontan Liver Disease program. Her research interests involve non-invasive assessment for liver fibrosis, using transient elastography to further define liver fibrosis, steatosis and portal hypertension in children.

Interests- Outside the hospital, I am busy spending time with my husband and our 2 children (ages 13 and 10). When I can, I enjoy binge watching TV shows and NOT exercising.

### **Jenifer Lightdale, MD, MPH**

Dr. Lightdale is Division Chief of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center, where she is also Vice-Chair of the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Lightdale is board certified in Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. She is a graduate of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, NY, and completed residency at the University of California in San Francisco, a Post-Graduate Fellowship at the Institute for Health Policy Studies at the University of California, and fellowships in Pediatric Gastroenterology and Health Services Research at Harvard University. Dr. Lightdale received her Master's degree from the Harvard School of Public Health, and is a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts.

Dr. Lightdale has an active clinical practice evaluating and treating infants and children with a broad range of gastrointestinal disorders, especially feeding difficulties, abdominal pain, constipation, GERD and food allergies. She also has advanced expertise in endoscopy. Dr. Lightdale's overarching professional goal has been to promote quality in the fields of clinical research and pediatric gastroenterology. Her scientific focus has been on improving the safety of procedural sedation for pediatric procedures, including gastrointestinal endoscopy. She has received NIH funding to investigate patient safety and pediatric sedation and has also received awards from the Risk Management Foundation and the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy for her work. Dr. Lightdale has served on and chaired many national committees, and lectures extensively. Currently, she is the Past-Chair of the executive committee of the Section on Gastroenterology Hepatology and Nutrition (SOGHN) of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and President-Elect of the North American Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN). The focus of much of her work with both the AAP and NASPGHAN has been on identifying opportunities to educate and empower her pediatric colleagues to treat children with common gastrointestinal conditions.

Dr. Lightdale is married to a pediatric cardiologist. She and her husband have a daughter who is a freshman in college this year, a son who is a junior in high school, and a dog named Tuukka, who is the only member of the family who hasn't had to adjust to being more homebound this year.

### **Brian McFerron, MD**

I am an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Director and Division Education Director at Riley Hospital for Children/Indiana University School of Medicine. I am originally from Oklahoma and received my undergraduate degree from the University of Tulsa followed by medical school at the University of Oklahoma. I moved to Indianapolis for residency, stayed for fellowship and became a proud faculty member in 2013. I love the pancreas! A truly fascinating organ that does it all. I am lucky enough to be a Co-PI within the INSPPIRE consortium which is where I dedicate much of my research time. Outside of work I spend my time with my wife Nancy who I met on a blind date in my second year of residency (setup by residency classmates)

and our 7-year-old son Benjamin. We are fierce Butler University basketball fans and have season tickets at historic Hinkle Fieldhouse (have you seen the movie Hoosiers?). I view both mental and physical health to be equally important in maintaining resiliency each one requiring a consistent effort to enhance and maintain. Integrating your work life and personal life is a full-time job that takes practice! Start now! I am passionate about patient care, the pancreas, fellowship training, mental health and fostering resilience in physicians and physicians in training. I am more than happy to discuss any of these topics anytime day or night!

#### **Elizabeth Mileti, DO, MAS, FAAP**

Hello everyone! I am a pediatric gastroenterologist at Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition Associates (PGNA) in Las Vegas, Nevada. My medical training journey started with medical school at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in California. I then went on to do pediatric residency training at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center and finally completed fellowship training at the University of California, San Francisco. While at UCSF, I was also fortunate enough to obtain a Masters in Advance Studies for clinical research – this was an exceptional educational experience that I highly recommend!

My research focus during fellowship was in autoimmune hepatitis. After fellowship, I moved back to Las Vegas and joined PGNA, where I have now been a partner for the last 5 years. My favorite parts of my job include my patients/clinical care and teaching residents and medical students. I am adjunct faculty at Touro University Nevada. I am also involved with the Pediatric Peer Review Committee at Sunrise Children's Hospital and participate in ImproveCareNow, through my practice.

I am married and have 2 children (ages almost 3 and almost 6 years old) and also 3 senior rescue dogs (old, older and oldest). I love spending time with family (biggest reason for move back to Las Vegas), love cooking and love a good TV series! I have also really loved working in the community I grew up in.

#### **Ericka Montijo Barrios, MD, PhD**

Dr. Ericka Montijo received her Medical Degree from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, with Mention of honor. Completed her Pediatric Residency and her Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at Instituto Nacional de Pediatría in Mexico City. She has a master in Medical Science Research, and a Master in Pediatric Nutrition at the Universidad de Granada in Spain.

Dr. Ericka is board-certified in Pediatrics and Pediatric Gastroenterology.

She is currently doing a specialty in therapeutic Endoscopy. And working in the gastroenterology department at the Instituto Nacional de Pediatría. She is an assistant professor of the pediatric gastroenterologist fellowship.

Her clinical and research interests include *H. pylori* and therapeutic endoscopy. She has published many gastroenterology journal articles and book chapters.

In the last years, she has been working for NASPGHAN in the International committee and now she is working in the Endoscopy Committee, as well last year she was nominated as Mexican council.

Her husband is a lawyer in Mexico City. She has three daughters, one in high school and two in elementary.

#### **Deborah A. Neigut, MD**

I grew up in Texas and following graduation from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, I did my internship and residency in Pediatrics, and my Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship in Cincinnati, Ohio at the Children's Hospital Medical Center. I have always been in academic medicine.

I joined the University of Pittsburgh faculty as an assistant professor, caring for patients with general GI disorders, IBD, liver disease, and liver and intestinal transplant patients. I subsequently moved to San Antonio, Texas for family reasons, and joined the Pediatrics Department as a solo member of the GI section. During my 14 years there, I consulted at three different hospitals, and worked with the pediatric transplant surgeon to develop the liver transplant service. I was very involved with education and was a Co-Director of the second-year medical student curriculum, in charge of the pediatric aspects of the systems-based course. I was mentor and advisor to Pediatric Residents and enjoyed teaching in the classroom as well as at the bedside. At NASPGHAN meetings I have run into former medical students who have joined our ranks, which they attribute to their time spent with me on service.

I have been in Colorado, a member of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, on staff at Children's Hospital Colorado for almost 13 years. I have overseen students and residents who have rotated through our section and have strived to personalize every learner's experience with us. I am also a member of the IBD Center, caring for patients and running quality of life studies and focusing on transition of care. During the COVID pandemic I have honed my skills in telehealth and have also been rounding virtually with an APP at our Colorado Springs Hospital.

I run a program in our section called "Faculty Friend" in which we match each fellow with an attending. This program has been successful, and it provides discussion time for our fellows for any topic, either work or personal issues.

I am still married to my first husband, who I met in medical school, and he is a Radiologist, Chair of the department at the University of Colorado Medical School and Hospital. We have four children; the oldest son is currently applying to Pediatric residency programs (much to his father's chagrin) and plans to do a gastroenterology fellowship. Our second son is an attorney in Albuquerque, our daughter is in college studying sustainability, and our youngest son is in the jewelry business.

Now that my children are out of the house, I have spent my time breeding and raising horses for dressage, and currently have a mare who is competing to be on the Olympic team in Japan this year. I also garden and do needlework. The biggest dilemma I have currently is deciding when to retire. People keep asking, but because I love my work so much, it is impossible for me to imagine not working with pediatric patients!

### **John Pohl, MD**

Dr. John F. Pohl received his Medical Degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas, completed his Pediatric Residency at Phoenix Children's Hospital / Maricopa Medical Center, and completed his Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. He was on the faculty at Texas A&M University Health Science Center for 8 years until taking a faculty position at the University of Utah in 2009 where he is currently working. Dr. Pohl is board-certified in Pediatrics and Pediatric Gastroenterology.

He is currently a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Utah and is director of clinical operations for the division of pediatric gastroenterology. He staffs the pediatric cystic fibrosis clinic at Primary Children's Hospital. He is the pediatric gastroenterology fellowship director for the University of Utah.

His clinical and research interests include pancreatitis and cystic fibrosis. He has NIH funding through the INSPPIRE (INTERNATIONAL Study group of Pediatric Pancreatitis: In search for a cuRE) Consortium. He has published many gastroenterology journal articles and book chapters. He is an editor for a gastroenterology journal (Practical Gastroenterology) and is the chief editor for the textbook "Pediatric Gastroenterology: A Color Handbook" (Taylor & Francis Publishing).

Dr. Pohl is very involved in NASPGHAN and has been chair of both the Professional Education Committee (overseeing the NASPGHAN post-graduate course) and the Technology Committee (overseeing social media and web platforms for NASPGHAN). He has taught at both the 1st and 2nd year NASPGHAN Fellows Conference. His spouse, Susan, is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Utah. He has two daughters – Virginia who is a junior at Fordham University in New York City and Marie who is a senior in high school.

### **Norberto Rodríguez-Báez, MD**

¡Hola! I am Dr. Norberto Rodríguez-Báez. I was born and raised in Puerto Rico. I am the oldest of 5 children. My passion for the medical field began when I was a young child and saw my mother, who was a nurse, working with patients.

I am Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (UTSW) in Dallas, TX. I completed my pediatric residency at the University of Puerto Rico where I also served as Chief Resident. I completed my gastroenterology fellowship at Stanford University Medical Center / Lucile Packard Children's Hospital in 2001. Teaching is my passion. I truly enjoy teaching students, residents, fellows, peers and supportive staff. When teaching, I like to use innovative techniques. I have developed teaching tools and presentations using the format of popular TV shows such as "Jeopardy", "Who want to be a millionaire?", "The weakest link", "Hollywood Squares", and "Are you smarter than a 5th grader?" I have been the director of the Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program at UTSW for 18 years. I have been faculty of the three NASPGHAN Fellows Conferences and the



Teaching and Tomorrow Program. I am also actively involved with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at UTSW where I serve as faculty advisor for Latino and African American medical students. I spend approximately 40% of my time in administrative work related to medical education.

Besides teaching, I am also passionate about pediatric liver diseases. My clinical practice is hospital-based that includes general gastroenterology and a special focus on hepatology and liver transplantation. Currently, I am participating in NIH-sponsored studies on viral hepatitis and acute liver failure. I spend approximately 55% of my time in clinical practice and 5% in research activities. I have been actively involved with NASPGHAN and have served as chair of the International Committee (2009-12), member of the Nominations Committee (2013), Councilor and member of the Executive Committee (2013-16), chair of the Training Committee (2016-19) and Secretary-Treasurer (2020—2023).

I have been married for 23 years. My wife is a general pediatrician in private practice. I enjoy traveling around the world with my wife and 3 children. I also like to dance and watch my kids playing sports.

### **Jason Silverman, MD, MSc, FRCPC**

I am an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta (although I recently was promoted to Associate Professor effective July 2021!) and work clinically at the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. I am the local Program Director as well. Originally from Toronto, I did my medical training all over Canada with medical school in Ottawa, residency in Halifax (Dalhousie University) and fellowship in Calgary before landing in Edmonton. Before medical school I worked as a clinical dietitian and this has informed my clinical interests in intestinal failure and cystic fibrosis. My academic work is largely in medical education.

Beyond working with trainees and running a fellowship program, I have been extensively involved in free online-access medical education (#FOAMed) resources, most recently co-creating and co-hosting Bowel Sounds: The Pediatric GI Podcast. I am also really interested in leveraging social media for medical education and academic opportunities, and I just took over as Social Media Editor at JPGN.

Outside of work I am kept busy with my family including two young boys (5 and 7) who keep me on my toes and who find anything to do with bodily functions hilarious. I'm a travel junkie (toned down since having young kids, see above) and I am itching to get back to exploring once it's safe to move around the world again.

### **Arvind Srinath, MD, MS**

Dr. Arvind Srinath is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Associate Vice Chair for Education for Fellowship Training, and Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Director at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. He received his Bachelors from Johns Hopkins University (2002), MD from University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (2006), completed residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital (2009), and fellowship at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (2012).

During fellowship, Dr. Srinath had the opportunity to pursue his interest in functional gastrointestinal symptoms through joining a psychiatrist and examining the effects of psychological and psychosocial functioning on gastrointestinal symptom perception in pediatric patients with IBD. His group's work helped highlight the importance of psychological symptoms in abdominal pain perception in pediatric patients with IBD, and how behavioral therapy affects physical health and overall healthcare utilization in those with this organic condition. He later was awarded a research fellowship grant from the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America to further understand the underpinnings of functional abdominal pain perception in pediatric patients with Crohn's disease. This grant helped support Dr. Srinath for the first two years as faculty at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. In 2014 while faculty, Dr. Srinath re-evaluated his mission, vision, and values, and namely realized that although he appreciated the incredible opportunities and learning from his research experience, his true passion was in medical education. He approached his division chief and conveyed these thoughts, namely with one goal of being fellowship program director. To optimize his ability in this potential educational role, Dr. Srinath requested and was approved to pursue his Masters of Science in Medical Education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Dr. Srinath completed his masters while faculty in December 2017 and during that time transitioned into his role as a clinical educator. While pursuing this degree, Dr. Srinath was promoted to co-direct the Pediatric Gastroenterology fellowship program in 2015, to direct the Pediatric Gastroenterology fellowship program in 2017, and then was additionally named the Associate Vice Chair for Education for Fellowship Training in 2018. Throughout this time Dr. Srinath's areas of interest have been in curricular development and fostering self-efficacy and metacognition in trainees.

From a personal standpoint, Dr. Srinath lives with his wife, 8-year old and 3-year old sons, and two papillons (in theory, though there may be Pomeranians and Tibetan Spaniels in the mix). He enjoys teaching tennis and learning about how the mind works with his older son (whose current favorite show is “Brainchild”), and going for walks on the streets to watch cars, buses, and the occasional blimp on the main roads with his younger son, and decompressing by chatting at/with his wife (he can’t stop talking...) and walking/carrying his dogs up and down the Pittsburgh hills.

#### **Sofia Verstaete, MD**

Dr. Sofia Verstaete is a gastroenterologist specializing in inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) — both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease — in children. She performs diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, including colonoscopies and other endoscopies, and cares for hospitalized patients as well as those visiting the clinic. Her special interests include IBD that develops at an early age, the ways in which rare conditions of chronic immunodeficiency relate to IBD, liver disease in patients with IBD and how to safely transition IBD patients to other providers' care.

Verstaete is a strong advocate for diversity. As a native Spanish speaker, she can evaluate treat patients who speak only Spanish, bringing particular value to medically complex cases where language and cultural barriers pose challenges. She is co-director of the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital's Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Program and leads its clinical, research and quality improvement teams. She is passionate about improving remission rates among IBD patients at UCSF by offering a support group, hosting educational events, connecting patients with resources and creating subspecialty clinics to address the needs of patients who have other conditions along with IBD.

One focus of Verstaete's current research is how medical professionals classify IBD in pediatric patients. Her research also investigates how ethnicity impacts the condition's characteristics. In addition, she is active in clinical trials of cutting-edge medications for pediatric IBD.

After earning her medical degree from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Verstaete completed a residency in pediatrics at the University of Miami Health System. She then completed a master of advanced studies degree in epidemiology and biostatistics as well as a fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition at UCSF.

Verstaete belongs to the American Academy of Pediatrics; North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition; American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases; Crohn's & Colitis Foundation; and American Gastroenterological Association. She is a John A. Watson Faculty Scholar at UCSF, an honor that has allowed her to dedicate time to research and caring for underserved populations. She also manages the educational programs that give UCSF medical students and residents an opportunity to expand their knowledge of pediatric gastroenterology.

#### **Karyn Wulf, MD, MPH**

Karyn L. Wulf MD, MPH is a general pediatrician, with 18 years of clinical practice as a generalist in emergency medicine. She currently serves as the Medical Director of Pediatrics at Abbott Nutrition.

Before working at Abbott, Dr. Wulf as the Director for the Center for Faculty Development at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH where she developed and launched a formalized mentoring program for faculty.

Dr. Wulf graduated with honors from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine with a dual degree in Medicine and Public Health in 1999. She completed her internship and residency in general pediatrics at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in 2002. After completing residency she worked in a community pediatric emergency room for five years before joining the faculty at Baylor College of Medicine in 2007. At Baylor, Dr. Wulf cultivated her passion for teaching by participating in a two-year Educational Scholars Fellowship Program while teaching medical students and residents. In 2009, she joined The Ohio State University College of Medicine Faculty as an attending physician in the Department of Pediatrics, section of Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Her research interests include pediatric malnutrition, nutrition screening, communication strategies in medical education, mentorship, women in medicine and science and faculty development.

#### **Des Yacob, MD**

My name is Desale Yacob but I go by Des. I am an associate professor of pediatrics at the Ohio State University School of Medicine and have been an attending physician at Nationwide Children's Hospital for 11 years. I currently direct Nationwide Children's Center for Neurogastroenterology and Motility Disorders. I also serve as the director of the advanced fellowship program in Neurogastroenterology and Motility disorders. I attended the University of Virginia for both my undergraduate and graduate education. My pediatric residency was done at Eastern Virginia Medical School/ Children's Hospital of King's Daughters in Norfolk, Virginia and my pediatric GI fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

Both my clinical and academic interests are in neurogastroenterology and motility disorders. I am also actively involved in our collaborative work with our colorectal surgery colleagues. My other interest is education and I continue to be heavily invested in sharing my passion for motility and functional GI disorders with trainees and colleagues. I have been an active member of NASPGHAN and a member of the AGA.

I enjoy running, painting and having conversations with friends and colleagues.