



Please take time to peruse this month's issue and learn more about the exciting work and accomplishments of our faculty, from research on biofilms and protocols to avoid surgery, to the latest on the development of a clinical-stage gene therapy for spinal muscular atrophy in pediatric patients. - **John Barnard, MD, President, The Research Institute**

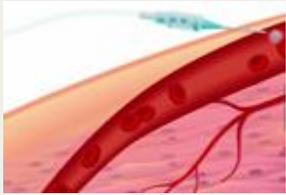


### **Researchers Develop Effective Strategy for Disrupting Bacterial Biofilms, Cause of Many Chronic and Recurrent Diseases**

The laboratories of Lauren Bakaletz, PhD, director of the Center for Microbial Pathogenesis in The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and Steven Goodman, PhD, principal investigator in the Center for Microbial Pathogenesis, are co-developers of an innovative therapeutic that targets an integral component of extracellular DNA, which is universally found in biofilm matrixes in the vast majority of chronic and recurrent bacterial diseases, as reported in a recent study published in the journal *EBioMedicine*.

### **Clinician-Researcher Team Develops Protocol that Allows Patients to Receive Specific Surgical Interventions or Avoid Surgery Altogether**

Marc A Levitt, MD, surgical director of the Center for Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction at Nationwide Children's, is senior author of an article published in *Current Opinion in Pediatrics* that offers a protocol for GI specialists and surgeons to follow that matches constipation diagnoses with the surgical interventions that will be most beneficial. Read more in the *Pediatrics Nationwide* article.



## **AveXis Receives FDA Breakthrough Therapy Designation for Spinal Muscular Atrophy Type 1**

AveXis, Inc., a clinical-stage gene therapy company developing treatments for patients suffering from rare and life-threatening neurological genetic diseases, announced in July that the U.S Food and Drug Administration has granted Breakthrough Therapy Designation for AVXS-101, based on preliminary clinical results from an ongoing trial conducted in collaboration with The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's and The Ohio State University.

## **Recent Publications**

View recent publications from investigators and clinicians affiliated with Nationwide Children's Hospital.



## **Faculty Contribute to Psychosocial Standards of Care for Children with Cancer and Their Families**

After a three-year-long process, experts have identified 15 evidence-based standards that are essential for youth cancer patients and their families. Authors from Nationwide Children's include Tammi Young-Saleme, PhD, director of Psychosocial Services and Program Development in the Division of Hematology/Oncology/BMT; Cynthia Gerhardt, PhD, director of the Center for Biobehavioral Health in The Research Institute; and Stacy Flowers, PsyD, psychologist in Neuro-Oncology, Pediatric Psychology and Psychosocial Services.

## **Gary Smith, MD, DrPH, and Huiyun Xiang, MD, MPH, PhD, Receive 2016 American Public Health Association Awards**

Dr. Smith received the Distinguished Career award and Dr. Xiang received the Excellence in Science award, both from the American Public Health Association's Injury Control and Emergency Health Services Section. Learn more in this news announcement.



## **Dean Lee, MD, PhD, to Lead Cell Therapy Programs at Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Dr. Lee has been named the director of the Cellular Therapy and Cancer Immunotherapy Program for the Division of Hematology/Oncology/BMT and the Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases at The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's, and will also serve as the director of Cellular Therapy at the OSUCCC.

## Videos from First TEDx Event Now Online

Our first TEDx-inspired event was held on June 15, showcasing ten presenters sharing their “story behind discovery” here at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Visit the DISCOVERYx website to view or share any of these videos.



### Events Calendar

Visit the Research Events Calendar for a listing of weekly seminars and upcoming events at The Research Institute.

## New FDA Regulations for Compassionate Use of Investigational Drugs

With an increasing number of requests for compassionate use (also known as expanded access use) for treatment of patients with serious or immediately life-threatening diseases or condition, the FDA has provided a more streamlined approach to gaining access to these potentially life-saving experimental drugs. View the announcement to learn more about these changes.



### Clinical Studies

For a listing of studies at Nationwide Children's that are currently recruiting participants, visit our clinical research studies website.

## ANCHOR Faculty Resources Page for Research Faculty

The Center for Faculty Development at Nationwide Children’s Hospital is dedicated to supporting the professional development of all faculty. Visit the new Faculty Development ANCHOR page for a comprehensive listing of resources for research faculty at The Research Institute and clinician-researchers at Nationwide Children’s.



## Tiasha Letostak, PhD, Clinical and Research Communications, Featured on Nationwide Children's Hospital Tumblr

Nationwide Children's Hospital Tumblr endeavors to increase visibility and awareness of all roles and experiences among our 10,000-employee staff, all of whom uniquely shape the care we provide for our patient families. Together, we can foster a strong sense of inclusion and pride, because every one of our employees is critical to the hospital's mission.

## Research News Room

To keep up with more of the latest Nationwide Children's research news, visit the Research News Room. To be notified when our news release section is updated, please [sign up to receive e-mail updates](#) or stay connected with our RSS feeds.

To submit content for consideration in Research Now, or to give feedback, email [ResearchNow@NationwideChildrens.org](mailto:ResearchNow@NationwideChildrens.org)

**The next issue will be distributed on September 6, 2016. The deadline to submit content is Tuesday, August 30, 2016.**

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