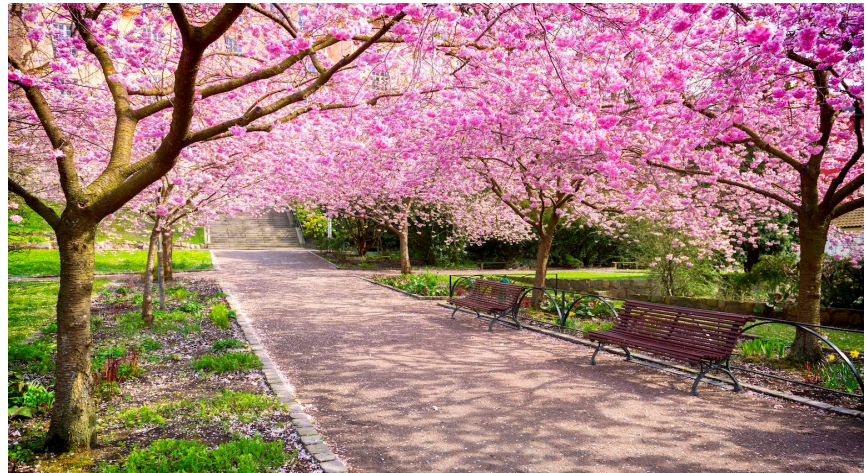




## Special points of interest

- AI In Medical Education (Part II)
- E-Recognitions
- Trainees & Faculty Scholarship
- CME News
- Medical Education Staff Recognitions
- State Legislative Advocacy
- Faculty in the Spotlight



## From the Editor

### Productive Spring for Medical Education

This issue of *Milestones in Medical Education* marks the beginning of spring. During this time, the academic year is well on its way. This is the time that trainees begin looking for jobs, anticipating the next fellowship phase of training, or looking forward to putting another post-graduate year behind them. This is the time where most of the trainees' scholarly work begins to take shape and many of which gets submitted and/ or presented. In other words, spring time in medical education is blooming with hope, achievements, and anticipation.

This is particularly a critical time as we are awaiting the results of the 2026 Match, preparing for the incoming academic year and planning the end of the current year. This is a time where our annual CME conference is held and when we prepare for our Board Re-

view Course and our Annual Scholarship Week. As we enter this part of the academic year, I am always filled with pride for the continued achievements of our trainees at the national stages in disseminating their scholarly work, the diligence of our faculty mentors, and the milestones achieved by our GME and CME programs.

In this issue of *Milestones in Medical Education*, we continue to highlight the many milestones achieved in the past two months by our faculty and trainees:

- ◆ Trainees continue to receive e-Recognitions from patients, colleagues, students, and staff for their dedication and professionalism
- ◆ The NCH Pediatric Residency Program partici-

pates in legislative advocacy at FL Children's Week.

- ◆ Medical Education departments nationally celebrate the **THANK-A-RESIDENT/FELLOW Day**.
- ◆ Medical Education is preparing for its upcoming CME Annual Conferences.
- ◆ Nicklaus Children's Hospital CME Program recognized by ACCME for its outstanding achievement of re-Accreditation With Commendation

I hope that you enjoy reading this issue. We look forward to a productive rest of the academic year. Happy reading.

Rani S. Gereige, MD, MPH,  
FAAP - DIO

## Inside this issue:

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*"AI won't  
replace  
people,  
people who  
know how to  
use AI will  
replace  
people"*



## Milestones in Faculty Development

# Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Medical Education: Benefits, Dangers, & Ethical Guardrails (Part II)

In this issue, we discuss part II of AI in Medical Education particularly in terms of use in clinical & supervision as well as Research/ Publications/ and Scholarship.

### 3– Clinical & Supervision

#### Uses & Benefits:

- ◆ As **scribe** for improving efficiency and allowing more face time with the patients
- ◆ Automating **case and procedure** logs
- ◆ Assessing clinical reasoning of learners
- ◆ **As a tutor** - Teaching a clinical approach e.g. Motivational Interviewing (MI). In this scenario, AI can act as a Simulated Patient and using the MI rubric, interact with the learners and give the learner feedback. Then reverse the role whereby the learner acts as the patient and the AI Bot as the pediatrician modeling the appropriate use of MI.

#### Dangers:

- ◆ Depending on when AI is introduced, there is a risk of **Automation Bias, De-skilling** (Loss of acquired skills), **Never-skilling** (Failure to develop essential skills), or **Mis-skilling** (Reinforcing incorrect behaviors)
- ◆ In a study of participants, those with higher reliance on AI showed reduced engagement in independent problem-solving and analytical reasoning and greater dependence on AI tools with lower critical thinking scores.

It is recommended that clinical supervisors incorporate the **DEFT-AI Framework** in embedding AI in clinical supervision:

- ◆ **D– Diagnosis, Discussion, Disclosure:** Probe

learner for commitment about a diagnosis, and disclosure of AI use

- ◆ **E– Evidence:** Probe for supporting and opposing evidence
- ◆ **F– Feedback:** Guided self-evaluation & self-reflection
- ◆ **T– Teaching:** Teach a general principle, reinforce the clinical reasoning
- ◆ **AI– Engagement Recommendation:** Promote foundational skills in AI literacy and encourage ongoing practice.

### 4– Research/ Publications/ & Scholarship:

#### RESEARCH

**AI** can have a role in research in the following aspects:

- ◆ Search tool
- ◆ Formulating early research questions
- ◆ Improved efficiency through helping write the protocols (beware of hallucination)
- ◆ Data analysis and analysis of datasets (Beware of not using PHI)
- ◆ Language support for informed consent writing and simplifying complex concepts

#### PUBLICATIONS & SCHOLARSHIP

- ◆ Regardless of AI use, researchers remain accountable for the transparency and accuracy of the information they report with appropriate citations and references
- ◆ AI does not meet the 4 ICMJE authorship criteria: (1) Substantial contribution in conception, design, and acquisition (2) Drafting and critical review if intellectual content (3) Final approval and (4) Accountability for all aspects of the work
- ◆ AI cannot be considered

authors and should be listed in **Acknowledgement, Materials & Methods, or Disclosure** sections (depending on the journal's instructions to authors)

- ◆ Check and follow the journal's policy
- ◆ Doublecheck all references for authenticity

### Final Thoughts

- AI technology is here to stay (should be integrated in Med Ed)
- AI is a "tool" that can enhance medical education functions (*Administration, Clinical Supervision, teaching/ Assessment, and Research/ Publication/ and Scholarship*)
- Teacher & learner AI education (*Curriculum & Faculty Development*)
- Better prompting gives better outputs
- Beware of AI Hallucination for newly developed content by AI
- Learn the variety of tools available
- AI in publication – Not a co-author (acknowledgement) – Check journal policy on disclosure
- Beware of data security and PHI
- Always use ethically
- Use your institution's secure AI platforms (if available)
- Use AI to:
  - ◇ Brainstorm ideas
  - ◇ Augment your own creativity
  - ◇ Save time
    - ⇒ Initial literature review
    - ⇒ Summaries
    - ⇒ Organizing
- Take ownership of anything you use from AI
- Policies re. safe and ethical use, guardrails, and data privacy are needed.

Milestones in Resident/Fellows Celebration

# Nicklaus Children’s Hospital Celebrates the Thank-A-Resident/Fellow Day

**February 27, 2026** was the **Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society National Thank-A-Resident/Fellow Day**. Nicklaus Children’s Hospital Medical Education participated in the festivities to cele-

brate, appreciate, and thank our trainees. Faculty, and staff participated in the celebrations. The trainees were treated to a special luncheon and a special gift on the 4th floor terrace of the Griffin Surgical Tower.

**THANK YOU** to our Residents & Fellows and to all trainees everywhere. Below are some pictures from the celebrations. We love our residents & fellows!!!



## Milestones in Humanism and Professionalism

## NCH Trainees Compliments and e-Recognitions



**Monica Ramirez Mendizabal, MD (PGY3)**

**Dr. Monica Ramirez Mendizabal** received an e-Recognition from Ms Evelyn Maldonado (Patient Rep - Patient & Guest Services) for her display of the iCREATE value of **Amazing Patient Care**. Ms Maldonado commented: *"Monica was recognized by a parent: "I want to recommend and acknowledge Dr. Monica Ramirez, one of the PICU residents/fellows. She is an exceptional doctor with excellent bedside manners. She is attentive, proactive in her care, and, most importantly, an excellent listener. I felt that she truly listened to my concerns and worked with us to address them. She represents the ideal qualities of a doctor, and I wish we had more like her. I hope you can relay this feedback to her superiors." Thank you, Monica, for providing excellent care to your patients! We truly appreciate all you do!"*. Congratulations Monica on your display of the iCREATE NCHS Values.

**Skyler Brandfon, DO (PGY2)**



**Dr. Skyler Brandfon** received a recognition from Manette Ness-Cochinwala, MD (PICU Attending) for her

**Excellent Performance.** Dr. Ness-Cochinwala commented: *"I worked with Skyler for the majority of last week and was very impressed with her knowledge of her patients and drive to go above and beyond for them. She clearly spent a lot of time not only learning her patients through the charts but also dedicated time and effort to developing relationships with them in person or over the phone as well. Her notes were very clear and concise"*. Congratulations Skyler for a job well-done!!!



**Marien Govea, MD (PGY2)**

**Dr. Marien Govea** received an e-Recognition from Ms Evelyn Maldonado (Patient Rep - Patient & Guest Services) for her display of the iCREATE value of **Amazing Patient Care**. Ms Maldonado commented: *"Kudos to Dr. Govea! During rounding in the 2North Unit, I had the opportunity to meet with a patient and their parent who expressed heartfelt gratitude for Dr. Govea's excellent care. They shared how reassuring and compassionate she was, making the patient feel truly special. Thank you, Dr. Govea, for your kindness and for going above and beyond to provide exceptional care!"*. Congratulations Marien!!!

**Gabriel Lins, DO (PEM Fellow)**



**Dr. Gabriela Lins** received an e-Recognition from Ms Pricila Sanchez (Assist Nurse Manager, ED) for her **Excellent Performance**. Ms. Sanchez commented: *"I just want to take a*

*moment to recognize the incredible effort everyone put in during a hard situation during today's shift. Thank you for showing up, supporting one another, and giving your best"*. Congratulations Gabriela on your commitment to excellent teamwork.



**Charissa Lake, MD (Ped Surgery Fellow)**

**Dr. Charissa Lake**, along with her faculty supervisor **Dr. Calisto**, was recognized in a Google review by a parent who she cared for their child. The parent commented: *"No parent ever wants to hear that their child is sick let alone find out he is born with a disease, its heart braking and your world comes to a stop, yet Dr. Calisto & Charissa who performed the surgery answered every question we had (and we had a lot). Was there every step of the way and kept checking on us as if our son was his. Even after the surgery he kept in contact with us to make sure everything was ok and Amanda coordinator at his office also showed us so much love and support with everything that was happening with our son. Truly thank you so much for your service and so much more for the love you have shown not to just us but to our son. Thank you all of the surgical team and nurses at Nicklaus children's Miami hospital thank you"*. Congratulations Charissa on a job well-done.



## Milestones in Medical Education Staff Recognition

### Medical Education Staff Recognitions

**Ms Adelynn Torres (Fellowship Coordinator)** received an e-Recognition from Ms Nancy Vega, C-TAGME (Fellowship Coordinator) with **“Kudos: Your Great Work is Appreciat-**

**ed!”**. Ms Nancy Vega commented: **“I want to express my gratitude to Adelynn for her dedication, kindness, and leadership. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly**

**fortunate to have you as part of our team”**. Congratulations Adelynn on a job well-done. It is great to have you part of the Medical Education Team!!!



## Milestones in CME News

### Nicklaus Children’s Featured by ACCME as a CME Provider Re-Accredited with Commendation for the 3rd Consecutive Cycle



On **January 8th 2026**, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education featured the CME program at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital in its ACCME Newsletter **“Real Outcomes”**. This segment of the ACCME Newsletter features CME Providers who continue to achieve **Accreditation With Commendation**

**based on demonstrating a link between their CME programs and real outcomes at the patient, community, or population health levels. The following is an excerpt from the newsletter featured article:**

**“Improving Healthcare Quality**

**Nicklaus Children’s Hospital (NCH) is the primary pediatric provider for close to 70 percent of children in the Miami metropolitan community. Rani S. Gereige, Executive Director of Medical Education, credits ACCME’s Commendation Criteria with pushing his team to**

**greater innovation. During their most recent application for Accreditation with Commendation, Nicklaus Children’s Hospital was able to demonstrate the many ways their CME program helped improve patient access to care...”**. To read the full featured segment, click below: [Real Outcomes: Nicklaus Children’s Hospital - ACCME](#)

Nicklaus Children’s Hospital is proud to have achieved ACCME **Accreditation With Commendation** as a CME provider for the past 3 cycles over the past 15 years.

## Milestones in Faculty Spotlight

### Medical Education Faculty in the Spotlight

**Announcing the St. Georges University Pediatric Clerkship Director at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital**



The Department of Medical Education at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Alexis Kowalski, MD (PEM Faculty)** to serve as the Director of the Pediatric Clerkship for the Med III St. Georges’ University students at Nicklaus Children’s

Hospital. In her role, Dr. Kowalski will work with the University to oversee and lead the Med III Pediatric experience of students rotating at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital Main Campus and in Broward. Congratulations Dr. Kowalski for your new medical education role!!

**NCH Faculty Named President of MDCMA**

**Dr. Julie Kantor, MD (General Pediatric Faculty and FIU Associate Clerkship Director)** was named **President of the Miami-Dade County Medical Association (MDCMA)** for 2026 -2027 term. Congratulations Dr. Kantor on your leadership role!!





**Herbert Wertheim  
College of Medicine**

### Milestones in Honorable Mentions of Trainees' Teaching

## Several NCH Trainees Received Honorable Mentions by FIU Medical Students for Teaching Skills

Florida International University (FIU) Med III Students who completed their pediatric Clerkship at Nicklaus Children's Hospital provided the following NCH Trainees (Residents & Fellows) with "Honorable Mentions" toward nomination for consideration for the HWCOC Resident/Fellow Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award:

#### I. Rotation #4 (9/15/25-10/24/25):

- ◆ Sara Solano Zevallos, MD (x2)
- ◆ Dianelis Hernandez, MD

- ◆ Maya Hadeed, MD
- ◆ Nicolas Benelli, MD
- ◆ Camila Gallegos Caicedo, MD
- ◆ Pamela Castillo Rocha, MD
- ◆ Kristen Valdes, MD
- ◆ Dana Mysler, MD
- ◆ Dana McCarney, MD

#### II. Rotation #5 (10/27/25-12/05/25)

- ◆ Samantha Shear, DO

- ◆ Samantha Tano, MD
- ◆ Jessie Limonta, MD

#### III. Rotation #6 (12/8/25-1/30/26):

- ◆ Natalia Figueroa-Ramos, MD
- ◆ Jennifer Basart, MD
- ◆ Kendal Allen, DO
- ◆ Skyler Brandfon, DO
- ◆ Luisa Vasquez Reyes, MD

### Milestones in Pediatric Specialty Highlights

## FIU Medical Students Pediatric Interest Group Visits and Tours Nicklaus Children's Hospital

On **January 26, 2026**; Nicklaus Children's Hospital hosted the FIU medical Students members of the Pediatric Interest Group in an evening meal, tour, and discussion. The students met with the FIU Clerkship Directors, the FIU Pediatric Interim Chair, the Nicklaus Children's Hospital

DIO and Residency Director as well as a group of residents and the chief residents. They toured the hospital and got to know more information about the specialty of Pediatrics.



### Milestones in Trainees & Faculty Scholarly Activities

## NCH Trainees & Faculty Continue to Disseminate Their Scholarly Work in Print and on National Stages

**Dr. Bala Totapally (PICU Faculty)** published a book chapter titled: that their abstract titled: "**Totapally, B.R. (2025). Addressing Socioeconomic Disparities in Healthcare Outcomes of Children in the United States of America. In: Faintuch, J., Faintuch, S. (eds) Business Ethics in the Healthcare Industry. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-07649-6\\_40](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-07649-6_40)**" Congratulations!!!

**Dr. Paul Khalil (PEM Faculty)** and his co-authors published their manuscript titled: "**Testicular Point-of-Care Ultrasound Utilization for Pediatric Patients**" in the Winter 2026 Issue of *The Florida Pediatrician* (The official journal of the Florida Chapter of the AAP). Congratulations!!

**Drs Keith Meyer & Bala Totapally (PICU Faculty)** published their manuscript titled: "**Neonatal and Pediatric Transport: A Contemporary Review**" in *Children*, 2026, 13, 175. <https://doi.org/10.3390/children13020175>. Congratulations!!!



PUBLICATIONS



Milestones in State Legislative Advocacy

# NCH Residents & Faculty Participate in FCAAP Children's Week

Nicklaus Children's Hospital Pediatric Residents **Ivan Rosales Brito, MD (PGY2)** and **Maria Nova Patino, DO (PGY1)** (as part of their Advocacy/ Community Health rotation) along with General Pediatric Faculty preceptor **Joanna Perdomo, MD, MPH** joined Pediatric Residents and Pediatricians from across the State of FL on February 23-24, 2026 in Tallahassee for the Florida Chapter of the AAP (FCAAP) Children's Week Legislative Advocacy events. The attendees received legislative advocacy training and got a behind-the-scenes view of the State Legislature. They also applied what they learned by meeting with FL representatives to advocate for our pediatric patients. Pediatricians from every corner of the state shared with policymakers the dangers of expanding non-medical vaccine exemptions to Florida's longstanding school entry requirements. Thank you Ivan, Maria, and Dr. Perdomo for representing Nicklaus Children's Hospital on the legislative advocacy stage along with other State residency programs.





## Medical Education Birthdays

March	
Lucila Servitje Azcarraga	3
Jessica Pollow	3
Maraida Serrant Hernandez	4
Beatriz Maderal	13
Carolina Gonzales	16
Daniela Vasquez	24
Calila Gallegos Caicedo	24
Anushree Malhotra-Hans	25
Karina Delgado	25
Cydne Hastings	26
Andres Vargas-Espana	28
Hafsah Shireen	29



April	
Daniela Ramirez Duque	4
Kathryn Forbes	7
Charissa Lake	9
Gabriella Noveck	9
Stephanie Gomez Taborda	11
Nicole Narayan	12
Marcello Immediato-Scuotto	17
Chiara Pavon	21
Janelle Torres	27
Andrea Goreti Martinez Sanchez	28



**Alumni Network**  
MIAMI CHILDREN'S • NICKLAUS CHILDREN'S  
SINCE 1962



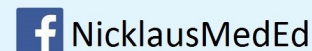
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