

TEXAS CHILDREN'S AT A
GLANCE

*June 16, 2009, 2:30 p.m. —
Dr. Mark Kline receives a
phone call from Mark A.
Wallace confirming his
appointment as Texas Children's
next physician-in-chief.*

A new era begins as Dr. Mark Kline steps into the role of a lifetime as Texas Children's next physician-in-chief.

Dr. Mark Kline Appointed New Physician-in-Chief

Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) announced June 16 that Dr. Mark Kline would be the next physician-in-chief of Texas Children's Hospital and chair of pediatrics of BCM. On July 1, 2009, the 52-year-old physician became the hospital's third physician-in-chief.

Kline served as chief of Texas Children's Retrovirology Service and head of the Retrovirology Section in the Department of Pediatrics from 1996 until assuming his new role. An infectious diseases expert and internationally renowned leader in HIV/AIDS, Kline founded the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative at Texas Children's Hospital (BIPAI) in 1997 and serves as its president.

Kline was selected from a pool of top-tier candidates in a year-long search. The selection criteria encompassed experience, reputation, leadership and commitment to excellence in patient care, education and research.

"Like his predecessor and mentor, the late Dr. Ralph D. Feigin, Dr. Kline exemplifies excellence and possesses a clear and dynamic vision for the hospital and the department—one that will further secure our positions as leaders in pediatric health care, research and academics," said Mark A. Wallace, Texas Children's president and CEO.

As a well-known and respected leader at BCM and Texas Children's, Kline is in a prime position to enhance the relationship between the hospital and the college—a connection that is integral to the success of both organizations.



"Being asked to lead pediatrics at Texas Children's and Baylor at this point in time is an incredible privilege and opportunity," Kline said. "The two institutions are poised for preeminence in pediatric medicine, driving innovation that will enhance the health care of millions of children locally, nationally and internationally over the coming years."

Kline received his medical degree from BCM in 1981 and completed his residency in pediatrics and postdoctoral fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at BCM and Texas Children's as the Auxiliary-sponsored Adeline B. Landa fellow. He has held a variety of national leadership positions and received numerous awards for his work in global child health care. For more about Kline turn to page 22.

On May 19, more than 200 guests gathered in the Herman P. Pressler Lobby of the Texas Children's West Tower to celebrate the unveiling of the new Heal Sick Children campaign donor wall. Campaign co-chairs Cynthia and Anthony Petrello and honorary campaign co-chairs Jan and Dan Duncan pulled open the curtains to reveal the 249 names of lead donors who have contributed at least \$100,000 to the campaign since its inception in 2003.

HEAL
SICK
CHILDREN



2009 Tops Off Vision 2010

Texas Children's ambitious, \$1.5 billion expansion plan is called "Vision 2010," but 2009 has proven to be a pivotal year. Not only did the first Vision 2010 project become a reality this year with the completion of the Feigin Center expansion, construction on all three brand-new facilities ramped up and reached some very important milestones.

◎ Texas Children's Hospital West Campus marked its topping out in July—commemorating the placement of the topmost beam of the structure and the completion of the framework. West Campus will be Texas Children's first inpatient facility outside of the Texas Medical Center, the first dedicated pediatric hospital in West Houston and one of the nation's largest suburban pediatric hospitals. The project is on target to open in fall of 2010.

◎ The Texas Children's Hospital Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute celebrated its topping out in late spring. The 13-floor complex, scheduled to open late 2010, will have capacity for 170 researchers and their teams, all dedicated to understanding the complex issues of a child's unique brain structure, development patterns and related disorders. The design will enable a new level of collaboration aimed at accelerating the translation of discoveries into patient therapies.

◎ The foundation for the new Maternity Center at Texas Children's Hospital was poured in early January and the facility is well on its way to topping out. The Maternity Center will offer Houston families comprehensive perinatal, obstetric and neonatal care from a broad range of renowned experts. The state-of-the-art 15-floor facility will have room for



Brightly colored ribbons, each representing the dream of a Houston area child, decorated a commemorative tree raised to the top of the new Texas Children's Hospital West Campus facility to commemorate its topping out. Six children were selected to help Texas Children's President and CEO Mark A. Wallace hoist the tree five floors into the air. The loblolly pine will be planted on the grounds of West Campus.

90 licensed beds and capacity for more than 5,000 births a year. It is scheduled to open in 2011.

Follow our progress online at www.vision.texaschildrens.org

Center Unites Experts to Fight Retinoblastoma

Doctors and researchers from four Texas Medical Center institutions have joined forces in the fight against retinoblastoma, a childhood cancer of the eye. The Retinoblastoma Center of Houston unites experts from Texas Children's Cancer Center, the Children's Cancer Hospital at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, The Methodist Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine.

The center will pioneer treatments and cures for retinoblastoma through groundbreaking research and the development of

Family-Centered Maternity Care

Although Texas Children's new Maternity Center won't open for another two years, the hospital is already bringing a new model of care to Houston mothers-to-be and their families—thanks to a partnership agreement to manage maternity services at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

A hallmark of the new program is "family-centered maternity care"—an evidence-based model of excellence for mother and baby care. Family-centered maternity care focuses on the mother and her family, involves them in every step of the labor/delivery and postpartum experience and helps them achieve their wishes for their child's birth. Instead of a cookie-cutter, one-size-fits all routine, families are given individualized attention, resulting in better communication between patients and caregivers and richer opportunities for family bonding.

Family-centered maternity care was fully launched at St. Luke's this spring and is the only program of its kind in the Texas Medical Center.





Clockwise from left to right: Patients and parents Casey Smith, Odaliz Ruvalcaba, Martiza Smith, Marianna Lassen, Jemima Ruvalcaba, Melody Ruvalcaba and Natalia Smith celebrate outside the new Project Medical Home practice, TCPA-Corinthian Pointe, located at 5505 W. Orem Dr.

Houston Business Journal has named Texas Children's Hospital the 2009 Best Place to Work among Houston companies with more than 500 employees. The announcement marks the fourth consecutive year Texas Children's has ranked in the top five and the first year in the number one spot. The rankings are based solely on employee feedback measuring a variety of job-related factors, including employee satisfaction, teamwork and leadership trust.



"I've always said Texas Children's is the best place to work, but it sounds even better when our own employees say so... four years in a row!"

— MARK A. WALLACE, *president and CEO of Texas Children's Hospital*

innovative therapies. It is the first program of its kind in the southwestern United States and the only one in the nation using gene therapy in clinical trials to treat and potentially find a cure for retinoblastoma.

"By joining forces, the Retinoblastoma Center will be able to deliver the highest quality patient care and conduct important research in the diagnosis and treatment of retinoblastoma," said Dr. Murali Chintagumpala, clinical co-director of the center, pediatric oncologist at Texas Children's Cancer Center and professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine. "This really just formalizes what we've been doing informally for a few years."

Retinoblastoma affects more than 300 infants and children in the United States each year and is the most common malignant tumor of the eye in children. It usually affects children between birth and 5 years of age and may occur in one or both eyes. It is often curable, but may result in the loss of the eye.

New Project Medical Home Opens its Doors

Texas Children's Hospital held an opening celebration May 14 for its newest Project Medical Home practice, located within the Corinthian Pointe subdivision in Houston's central southwest area. With the opening of TCPA-Corinthian Pointe, Texas Children's Pediatric Associates now operates five Project Medical Homes serving 12 of Houston's most medically underserved areas.

"Countless children in Houston and across the nation are unable to access pediatric health care because they lack insurance coverage or means to pay for medical services," said Mark A. Wallace, president and CEO of Texas Children's Hospital. "We founded Project Medical Home in 1999 to provide affordable, convenient, quality pediatric health care services to children who may otherwise go without."

The practices offer a full range of services including sick-child visits, immunizations and physicals, plus support programs such as family wellness education and literacy coaching. On-site licensed social workers assist families in identifying and applying for financial and medical aid and connect them with other vital community resources.

Corinthian Pointe is a 234-acre, \$174 million master-planned subdivision that offers quality, affordable homes for low-to-middle income families. Senior Pastor Kirbyjon Caldwell of Windsor Village United Methodist Church founded the community based on his conviction that a neighborhood could serve as a catalyst for revitalization. An integral part of that vision was providing affordable, accessible, quality pediatric health care to the children of the community, so Caldwell partnered with TCPA to bring a new practice to the area.

"Texas Children's Project Medical Home is an essential and welcome addition to our community," said Caldwell. "It provides families with convenient access to top-quality health care for their children—which in turn helps us build a strong, healthy and empowered community."



**Nurse-Family Partnership
Brings Hope to New Mothers**

A new team at Texas Children’s Health Plan is providing help—and new hope—to local women through a nurse home-visitation program based on an evidence-based model that has drawn high praise. The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program pairs a registered nurse with a low-income, first-time expectant mother to improve prenatal care, child health and development.

Clinical studies have found NFP benefits include better prenatal care, increased education and employment rates for the mothers and fewer childhood injuries, while other analyses have found favorable economic returns.

“As these young mothers pursue a healthy prenatal care regimen with their nurse-partners, many feel empowered to set new educational and career goals, while others are ending negative behaviors like smoking and abusive relationships,” said Texas Children’s NFP nurse-manager Adrian McKinney.

Funded by a state grant under the Healthy Family Initiative, Texas Children’s NFP is expected to meet its goal of 100 clients by September 2009, one year after the Texas Nurse-Family Partnership was implemented statewide.

Pregnant women are eligible for the program if they meet Medicaid requirements. For more information about this program, please visit www.nursefamilypartnership.org.

Employees Recognized for Exemplary Service

The 21st Annual Texas Children’s Hospital Employee Recognition Celebration was held on Feb. 26 at the Houston Marriott Medical Center. The event honored more than 200

employees who received 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 year service awards in 2008, as well as Super Star and Service with HEART recipients.

The theme of this year’s celebration was “A Voyage of Preeminent Possibilities” emphasizing the journey to excellence that Texas Children’s has been on for more than 55 years.

President and CEO Mark A. Wallace thanked the honorees, stating, “You make us an extraordinary organization. You are the heart and soul of the culture we hold dear. You come to Texas Children’s, and you stay here because it is your *calling* to do so.”

Texas Children’s Confronts H1N1

As news of an unpredictable new strain of the flu began to surface last April, Texas Children’s Hospital landed on the front lines of the battle to contain the spread of the H1N1 virus.

Under the direction of a senior medical team led by Dr. Jeffrey Starke, medical director of infection control, and the hospital’s executive leadership group, the organization was able to mobilize quickly and face the challenge of keeping patients and staff safe.

The loss of a Texas Children’s patient, the first H1N1-related death in the United States, thrust the hospital into the international media spotlight. Texas Children’s held a press conference April 29 to confirm the fatality, offer condolences to the family and detail the measures being taken to ensure the safety of all patients, families and staff.

In response to a large influx of visits to the Emergency Center, a temporary, outdoor triage area (Mobile Pediatric Emergency Response Team) was created to help manage patient flow effectively and identify and isolate suspected cases of H1N1 quickly.

Eye-catching “bubble” displays are popping up all over campus as part of the hospital’s HY5 hand-hygiene campaign. The signage recently received a Best of Category Award and The People’s Choice Award during the 23rd Annual Graphic Excellence Awards Gala. A replica of the project is on exhibit at the Museum of Printing History in downtown Houston through the end of the summer.



The Texas Association of Hospital Volunteers has presented The Auxiliary’s Caring for the Caregivers Initiative with its Past Presidents’ Award of Excellence. Members of the Caring for the Caregiver committee were encouraged to submit the program for this distinction after giving a memorable presentation at the organization’s annual luncheon.

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The Center for Vaccine Awareness and Research recently published a book called Vaccine-Preventable Disease: The Forgotten Story in response to increased media attention on vaccines. In this publication, individuals and families share personal and compelling stories of how their lives were affected by vaccine-preventable illnesses. To order copies please visit www.vaccinebook.texaschildrens.org.

Meet some of Texas Children's experts in vaccines and infectious diseases:

Interviews with Texas Children's experts, including Starke and Dr. Joan Shook, chief safety officer and chief of Emergency Medicine, appeared in national newspapers and on local television.

After approximately one week—as it became increasingly clear that cases of the disease in the U.S. and Houston were milder than originally feared—public anxiety and media attention began to fade and a sense of normalcy resumed.

Summer is Time to Remember Vaccines

Immunizations are a critical part of every child's health, and Texas Children's Hospital is doing its part to ensure that children are properly vaccinated. The Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Awareness and Research (CVAR) and Texas Children's Immunization Project are conducting several important projects aimed at improving immunization coverage in the Houston area and beyond.

The Immunization Project is currently conducting its annual summer "recall" project to alert parents if their child's vaccinations are overdue. Reminding parents to update their children's immunizations before school begins

in the fall is a proven method of increasing immunization coverage. As an added benefit, the program often results in more families coming in for routine, well-child visits.

This year the recall project focuses on the new vaccine requirements for kindergarten and middle school students. Children entering kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year will now be required to have two doses of both Hepatitis A and MMR. Students entering the seventh grade are now required to have one dose of meningococcal vaccine, one dose of Tdap and a second dose of the varicella vaccine. For more details on each of these vaccines, visit www.vaccine.texaschildrens.org.

CVAR specialists are involved in several active research projects. The center is collaborating with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to assess the effectiveness of the two rotavirus vaccines currently available. Rotavirus is the leading cause of severe diarrhea and vomiting in children under the age of 5. Children who seek care in the Texas Children's Hospital Emergency Center for acute gastroenteritis will be offered participation in this important project.



Dr. Carol Baker
Center for Vaccine Awareness
and Research (CVAR)
Executive Director



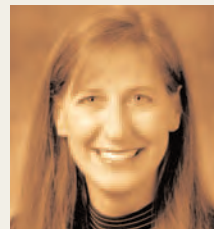
Dr. Julie Boom
Immunization Project
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Dr. Mary Healy
CVAR Director of
Adolescent and Young Adult
Immunization



Dr. Sheldon Kaplan
Section Head, Texas
Children's Infectious
Diseases Center



Dr. Amy Middleman
CVAR Director of
Vaccinology and Maternal
Immunization



Dr. Jeffrey Starke
Medical Director of
Infection Control



Texas Children's Hospital was one of only 10 hospitals in the country to receive a special Honor Roll designation.

America's Best Children's Hospitals

U.S. News Media Group names Texas Children's as one of the nation's top children's hospitals—Texas Children's ranked as leader in all 10 of the subspecialties surveyed.

For the 10th consecutive year, Texas Children's Hospital has been named one of the "best of the best" of America's children's hospitals. In U.S. News Media Group's 2009 edition of America's Best Children's Hospitals, Texas Children's was recognized as a leader in every subspecialty surveyed and was ranked in the top 10 in nine out of 10 categories. The hospital was one of only 10 hospitals in the nation to achieve elite Honor Roll status.

"We are thrilled by these results. This is a well-deserved honor for our subspecialty programs and for the incredible work that's making our hospital an increasingly well-respected leader in pediatric health care," said Mark A. Wallace, president and CEO of Texas Children's Hospital.

For the first time, U.S. News this year did not provide an overall ranking of pediatric hospitals; instead they focused only on individual subspecialties. Texas Children's rankings included:

- Kidney Disorders #1
- Respiratory Disorders #2
- Heart and Heart Surgery #3
- Cancer #4
- Digestive Disorders #4
- Neurology and Neurosurgery #5
- Neonatal Care #7
- Diabetes and Endocrine Disorders #9
- Urology #9
- Orthopedics #14

The Honor Roll designation, new to the 2009 results, is reserved for those hospitals that ranked in all 10 of the subspecialties surveyed. Texas Children's Hospital was the only hospital in Houston and one of only two in the Southwestern United States to be included on the Honor Roll.

"This recognition underscores the success of our collaborative programs," said Dr. William Butler, interim president and CEO of Baylor College of Medicine. "The partnership between Baylor and Texas Children's Hospital advances the missions of patient care, education and research to provide the highest quality of care for children, train tomorrow's physicians and find new treatments for childhood diseases."

The 2009 methodology weighed a three-part blend of reputation, outcome and care-related measures such as nursing care, advanced technology, credentialing and other factors. The hospitals were judged based on a combination of opinions from pediatric specialists about the hospitals they would recommend for the sickest children and data gathered by the hospitals themselves.

"The objective of the Best Children's Hospitals rankings is to help children with uniquely challenging medical needs, and for these special patients, it is essential they seek treatment at pediatric facilities with deep expertise. With this year's rankings, we're providing important information on the best of the best," said U.S. News Health Rankings Editor Avery Comarow.

The 2009 list of America's Best Children's Hospitals is published in the August issue of *U.S. News & World Report*. 📖

—by EDEN KERR-PERKINSON