

February 3, 2026



## LSU Pediatrics Tuesday Tidbits

Welcome to the Department of Pediatrics' weekly email blast designed to deliver important department information straight to your inbox.

[Visit our website](#)

### LSU Pediatrics Announcements

#### Welcome Dr. Michelle Sykes



The LSU Department of Pediatrics welcomes Dr. Michelle Sykes as Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the LSU Division of Pediatric Cardiology. Dr. Sykes will also serve as Medical Director of Manning Family Children's Pulmonary Hypertension Center which she will help build and implement.

Dr. Sykes earned her medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and a Ph.D. in Bioengineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, followed by residency training in Pediatrics at UT Southwestern in Dallas. She completed Pediatric Cardiology fellowship at Harvard Medical School / Boston Children's Hospital and an Advanced Fellowship in Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension at Stanford University.

Dr. Sykes served as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Service at the University of Kentucky where she established and developed a comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinical and academic program. She has co-authored over 14 peer-reviewed publications, including in *The Lancet Digital Health*, *JAMA Network Open*, *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine*, and *Pulmonary Circulation*. Her contributions to NIH-funded multicenter studies such as the MUSIC and CHARMS trials have directly shaped our understanding of pediatric inflammatory syndromes and post-COVID cardiovascular outcomes.

Dr. Sykes brings a strong commitment to clinical innovation, scholarship, education, and service to the department. Welcome to LSU Pediatrics, Dr. Sykes!

---

## LSUHSC Protégés

Dr's Shannon Palombo, Amy Prudhomme, Amanda Messer, and Leslie Reilly hosted a dinner for the proteges program for all students interested in pediatrics.

"LSUHSC Protégés is a volunteer program comprised of LSUHSC faculty, staff, and residents who have taken an interest in making themselves available to students for professional and personal mentoring. LSUHSC Mentors aims to enrich and individualize students' experiences at LSU School of Medicine.



---

**Faculty, Volunteer! -SSPR Practice Session**

How often have you received detailed constructive feedback on your presentations? Take part in providing this valued experience to our trainees! Please consider volunteering 1 hour of your time on the afternoon of Monday Feb 23 to provide feedback for trainees preparing SSPR presentations. Email Julie Gallois [jgall3@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:jgall3@lsuhsc.edu) or Luke Wall [lwall@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:lwall@lsuhsc.edu) to sign up. Your contribution is much appreciated!

---

## Interested in Promotion? Deadline Approaching!

Faculty Affairs Associate Dean Dr. Stephanie Taylor announced recently that CVs for faculty planning to apply for promotion will be due for review in the dean's office on **April 1, 2026**. Therefore, the process for faculty interested in academic promotion for the upcoming cycle (effective July 2027) is now underway, a few months earlier than usual. All faculty who intend to seek promotion this cycle must declare their intent. Please inform Dr. Brian Barkemeyer, Pediatric Promotions Committee Chair, at [bbarke@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:bbarke@lsuhsc.edu) of your interest/ intentions by **February 2, 2026**. Please expect to meet with Dr. Barkemeyer around this time frame to further discuss your candidacy.

All faculty interested in promotion should be familiar with the most updated promotion information available on the LSUHSC School of Medicine faculty affairs website at:

[https://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/faculty\\_affairs/promotions\\_and\\_tenure.aspx](https://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/faculty_affairs/promotions_and_tenure.aspx)

Quoting from these guidelines, *"Typically, it takes 5 – 6 years for faculty to accrue the academic qualifications necessary for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. LSU System Bylaws also specify that faculty should hold the rank of Associate Professor for a minimum of five years to be eligible for promotion to the rank of Professor. Typically, it takes 7–8 years for faculty to accrue the academic qualifications necessary for promotion from Associate to the rank of Professor."* As this upcoming promotion cycle becomes effective in July 2027, new faculty hired at the Assistant Professor level by July 2022 or earlier may be considered for promotion.

---

## Latinos In Medicine

We are excited to announce the formation of our new Latinos in Medicine Committee, an initiative created to support, uplift, and advocate for Latino physicians and trainees within our institution. Our first meeting will be held **Wednesday February 4th at Taqueria Corona at 5pm**.



# LATINOS IN MEDICINE

Celebrate the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of  
Hispanic and Latinos in medicine with the  
Latinos in Medicine Committee

**Taqueria Corona**  
February 4th, 2026  
5-6pm



---

## Call for Proposals: Pediatrics from the Parishes 2026

The Louisiana AAP Invites you to submit a proposal for the 2026 Pediatrics from the Parishes conference! The submission form has all of the details to guide you in planning your session.

[Submit your Proposal](#)

This year, all regular sessions will be 30 minutes and there is a limit of no more than two speakers for each session.

Proposals are due in about one month on **Monday, February 9 by 5:00 PM Central Time.**

Notifications are expected to go out the first week of May.

Please share this call for proposals with your network! Having many high-quality proposals helps us make the best conference line up possible.

Email at [CME@laaap.org](mailto:CME@laaap.org) with questions.

---

## **Pediatric Research Day - Call for Abstracts Due February 26th**

**[Submit Abstracts Here](#)**

# Pediatric Research Day



## 2026 Pediatric Research Day

Join Manning Family Children's, LSU Pediatrics, and Tulane Pediatrics as we celebrate Pediatric Research Day on Friday, May 15th from 8 am - 5 pm in Worley Hall. Faculty and trainees of all levels will be invited to share their research.



Friday, May  
15, 2026



8:00 am -  
5:00 pm



Submit Abstract

<https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/80710/submitter>

## Call for Faculty Submissions: Pediatric Research Day 2025 Oral Presentations

Faculty are invited to submit proposals for **oral presentations of recently published pediatric research** at **Research Day 2026** the morning of **May 15, 2026**. Exact presentation times and durations will be determined based on the number of submissions and interest.

### Why Present?

- **Inform the Community** about the impact of your pediatric research.
- **Teach Others** about valuable resources and methodologies.
- **Showcase Opportunities** for collaboration or further research.
- **Gain Recognition** for your contributions to the field of pediatric research.

**Submit your proposal by February 26, 2026 using this [link](#).** Be sure to select Faculty Presentation as the presentation method.

## **Review and Submit Publications for Pediatric Research Webpage**

We are currently in the process of updating the Pediatric Research webpage to better highlight and recognize the research conducted within our department. As part of this effort, we want to ensure that the list of publications featured on the webpage is complete and up to date.

We kindly ask that you take a few moments to review the current publications listed on the webpage and notify us of any publications that may be missing or not yet included. At this time, we are only seeking to add publications from the last five years. Your contributions are essential to ensuring accurate representation and recognition of our department's scholarly work. To allow us to finalize this update in a timely manner, we ask that any additions or corrections be submitted by February 11th.

You may view the current publications page here:

[https://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/pediatrics/selected\\_publications.aspx](https://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/pediatrics/selected_publications.aspx)

If you would like to submit publications for inclusion on the webpage or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by email at [ashala@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:ashala@lsuhsc.edu) or [dwil77@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:dwil77@lsuhsc.edu). We are happy to assist.

Thank you very much for your time and support.

---

## **Get Involved in Pediatric Research Day May 15, 2026**

Dear Faculty,

We are excited to announce that Pediatric Research Day will be held on Friday, May 15, 2026. Last year's event was a big success, and we are looking forward to continued growth this year. There are many ways to contribute, and we would love to have your participation! Please review [this form](#) and let us know how you would like to get involved. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Julie Gallois at [Jgall3@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:Jgall3@lsuhsc.edu) or Tamara Bradford at [tbra11@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:tbra11@lsuhsc.edu). Thank you in advance for helping us showcase the incredible research happening at our own institution!

---

## **You're invited to take a creative, on-brand headshot**

Why take a branded headshot? Our culture is rooted in our people—it's personal, it's fun, and it's unique. We use these photos for features and provider profiles on our website.

What to wear? Business-casual attire preferred. Come camera ready!

For immediate headshot needs, questions or additional information, please contact Amelia Hatheway at [Amelia.Hatheway@lcmhealth.org](mailto:Amelia.Hatheway@lcmhealth.org) or Corinne

Stephens at [corinne.stephens@lcmchealth.org](mailto:corinne.stephens@lcmchealth.org).

## Manning Family Children's Wednesday, February 25

Worley Hall

7:30-10:30 am

**Sign-Up**

---

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

*New video monthly*

For questions or comments regarding Faculty Development,  
please contact [Amy Creel](#).

### February Video:

Let's focus on making our bedside rounds more educational. This short video (**2 minute 4 seconds**) highlights ways we can make bedside rounds more effective for teaching. Improve your teaching toolbox in less time than a commercial break.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiqB-eQcbT8>

## Manning Family Children's Announcements

Grand Rounds

# Hybrid Pediatric Grand Rounds



Manning Family  
Children's  
LCMC Health

## “Initial Management Prior to Neurology Clinic”

Wednesday, February 4th, 2026

Hospital Large Conference Rooms, Noon

You may join Pediatric Grand Rounds from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

Zoom link: <https://lsuhsc.zoom.us/j/96795644737>

Meeting ID: 967 9564 4737

Register for this session by visiting <https://manningchildrens.cds.affinityced.com/>

You will login to the same site to claim your CE at the conclusion of the activity.



**Rashmi Rao, MD** is an Associate Professor of Neurology in the Division of Pediatric Neurology at LSU Health Sciences Center and serves as Assistant Director of the Pediatric Headache Program at Manning Family Children's Hospital. She is board-certified in Child Neurology and UCNS-certified in Headache Medicine, with a clinical and research focus on pediatric and adolescent migraine. Dr. Rao is an active educator, researcher, and nationally recognized speaker in pediatric headache medicine.

**Objectives:** At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- To accurately recognize first-time seizures (including febrile seizures), migraine, and tic disorders, distinguish them from neurological emergencies or mimics, and identify red flags that require urgent intervention
- To provide appropriate initial management—including acute treatment and reassurance—to stabilize the patient, reduce symptom burden, and prevent complications while awaiting neurology evaluation.
- To initiate indicated baseline investigations, educate patients and caregivers on diagnosis-specific safety and expectations, and ensure timely, well-coordinated referral to neurology with adequate clinical documentation.

**Intended audience:** This activity is specifically directed towards the pediatric provider, but it is open to all interested physicians, residents, medical students, nursing, and allied health professionals.

**Accreditation** Manning Family Children's is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**Designation** Manning Family Children's designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**CNE statement:** LCMC Health Nursing Education Committee is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by Louisiana State Nurses Association - Approver, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. LSNA Provider No. 4002636

**ADA Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special accommodations are needed, please notify Catherine Mooney at 504-896-9431.



## We have a new management system for CE Credits

Registration is required for Pediatric Grand Rounds. You may register for Grand Rounds up until 5pm of the day of the activity – this is to allow you time to register and evaluate after the session if participating virtually. Use [this link to access the CE Center](#) and bookmark it for easy access. The link is also available on the flyer.

At the end of the session, you will have to login to the CE Center to claim your credit. A QR code/link will be provided at the end of each Grand Rounds to help with this.

For the instruction guide click [here](#). This will help walk you through creating an account and registering for a session.

## Travel/Reimbursement Corner

### Required Documentation for Direct Payment (DP) Reimbursement Requests

When requesting a reimbursement the following documentation must be included:

1. Documentation of the purchase, such as:
  - Itemized receipts OR
  - Detailed email or website receipts
  - AND
1. Proof of payment, which may include (but is not limited to):
  - A credit card statement
  - A receipt showing the last four digits of the credit card successfully charged
    - Common Allowable Items
  - Professional organization dues
  - Local conference registration fees
  - Periodical subscription renewals
  - Books or copyrighted materials
  - Employee license fees
  - Supplies

If you have any questions about whether an item meets the criteria for reimbursement, please contact me at [tforr2@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:tforr2@lsuhsc.edu).

## Department Wellness

CHNOLA's childcare center open for children of providers/staff working at Children's Hospital ([flyer](#))

LSU Pediatrics Wellness Resources ([information](#))

---

## Other Announcements

***Latest Edition of The Pulse*** ([link](#))

### ***Resident Education***

- Resident Participation in Research ([information](#)) - complete a shared spreadsheet with a brief description of the project you are looking for collaboration or assistance with.

### ***Department Biostatistician***

- Department Biostatistician, Dr. Zhide Fang, is available to provide biostatistical support to faculty, fellows, and residents. Please see below for revised scheduling procedures:
  1. Email Zhide Fang at [zfang@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:zfang@lsuhsc.edu)
  2. Provide brief explanation of the service you need and, if applicable, times you are able to meet
  3. Dr. Fang may request additional information depending on the nature of your request

4. Asking simple, direct questions through email is welcome at any time, but appointments are preferred

### **Administrative Reminders**

- Importance of Time Certification ([information](#)) - learn more about why we certify time each month!
- Use of Non-LSUHSC Email ([information](#))
- Download the Department Composites for the 2025-2026 academic year! ([Resident](#), [Fellow](#), [Faculty](#), and [Admin Staff](#)).
- The Tulane Resident Composite for the 2025-2026 school year is available [here](#).
- LSU travel policy and procedures ([information](#))
- Department Poster Printing

At least 3 business days before a poster is needed in hand, send the following to Ashley Pate, [apat30@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:apat30@lsuhsc.edu):

1. PowerPoint file
2. Size you would like the poster to be printed
3. Day you need the poster printed by
4. Is a travel tube needed?

The poster author will be copied on all correspondence with the LSU Printing and Graphics Dept. Once Ashley sends the PowerPoint file to the printer, the office will respond (usually quickly) and ask for the author's approval of the PDF proof. Please be on the lookout for an email; the author must approve before the Graphics Dept can print. Ashley will send you an email once the poster has been delivered to her office.

- Download the new Clinical [Handbook](#) and Pediatric Clerkship [Objectives](#) for Faculty, Residents, and Fellows.
- Grant Support is available through an LSU/Hanover [collaboration](#) - more information is available [here](#).
- [LSUHSC Library Research Resources](#)
- [EQUIP project proposal form](#)

## Department Anniversaries

---

### Share Your News!

The department wants to highlight your success! Please send any news to include in *Tuesday Tidbits* to [Ashley Pate](#).



Submit information to the next Tuesday Tidbits

---

Looking for old newsletters?  
View the *Tuesday Tidbits* archive on the department's website. ([link](#))

Department of Pediatrics | LSUHSC

---

LSU Pediatrics | 200 Henry Clay Ave | New Orleans, LA 70118 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!