

March 24, 2026



LSU Pediatrics Tuesday Tidbits

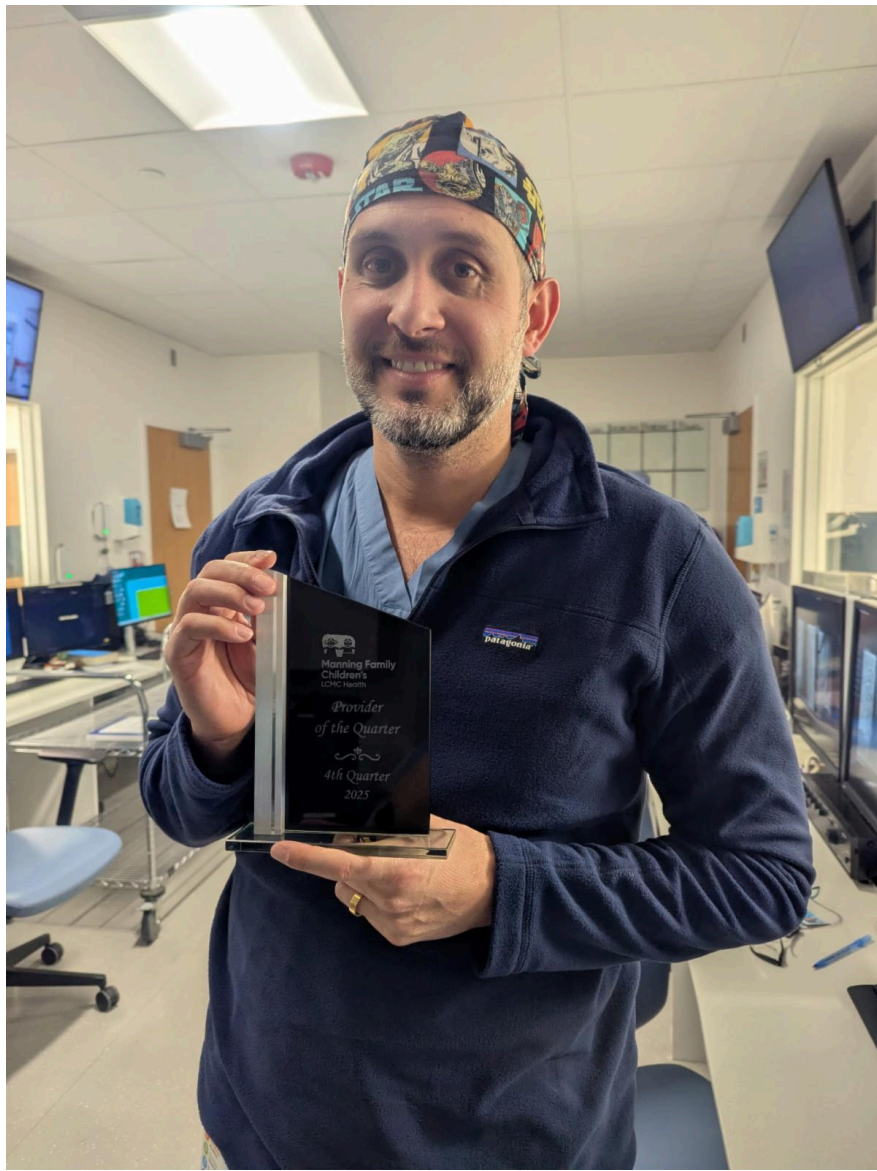
Welcome to the Department of Pediatrics' weekly email blast designed to deliver important department information straight to your inbox.

[Visit our website](#)

LSU Pediatrics Announcements

Physician of the Quarter!

Congratulations to Dr. Ernesto Mejia of the Division of Cardiology on being recognized as the Manning Family Children's Provider of the Quarter! 🎉



Residency Match Day

2026-2027 PEDIATRIC INTERNS



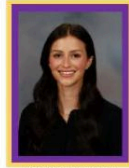
Claire Andry
VCOM-Louisiana



Sofia Cabrera
LSU New Orleans



Anne Caffery
LSU New Orleans



Molly Fontenot
University of Mississippi School of
Medicine



Aysha Gibson
LSU New Orleans



Emily Gioe
VCOM-Louisiana



Sophia Kamburis
VCOM-Auburn



Rachael Larkin
VCOM-Virgina



Lindsey Lauricella
Tulane University



Samantha Martinez
Wake Forest University
School of Medicine



Melissa Medina
State University of New York Upstate
Medical University



Keaton Ott
(Child Neuro)
Tulane University



Karina Patel
Mercer University School of
Medicine



Alyssa Rondinelli Kennedy
University of Mississippi
School of Medicine



Rachel Simoneaux
LSU New Orleans



Grace Tomeny
LSU New Orleans

Congratulations to our Pediatrics, Medicine/Pediatrics, and Pediatrics/
Emergency Medicine Residency Programs for successfully matching last week
for the 2026-2027 academic year! [You can view the composite of new interns
here.](#)

Latinos In Medicine



LATINOS IN MEDICINE

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

Rock 'N' Bowl

March 25th, 2026

5-6pm



Call For Abstracts

Just a reminder that abstract submissions for **the 14th Annual Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Forum** are now open! Submissions are open to students, residents, fellows, faculty, and staff from all LSUHSC schools. Abstract submissions for quality improvement and patient safety

projects will be accepted through **March 30**. Submitters will be notified of acceptance no later than April 15, 2026.

Please encourage your residents and fellows to submit to the forum. To submit abstracts and for more information about this year's forum, please visit the [QI Forum website](#).

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS
School of Medicine

The 14th Annual
Quality Improvement & Patient Safety Forum
Friday, May 29, 2026 | Noon – 5:00 pm | LEC 130

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
Submissions open to residents, students, and faculty of
all LSUHSC Schools

lsuh.sc/ms-qiforum

Submission Deadline: March 30

Medical Education Scholarship Community Opportunities

Are you interested in diving deeper into medical education research and scholarship? There are new opportunities to jump in. Whether you are curious to learn more, have a project in mind, or just want to connect with other educators, you are welcome in the LSU SoM community for medical education scholarship.

You're invited join as we build skills, spark new ideas, and get involved in projects that make a real difference for learners and faculty alike. The Office of Faculty Affairs invites you to collaborate:

April 8th 1pm - Zoom - **Writing accountability session** - After a brief introduction, we will dedicate time to writing. Bring a project in progress or data you've been meaning to develop into an abstract or manuscript. You can write independently or use breakout rooms for feedback and help with editing.

Contact Dr. Amy Creel acree1@lsuhsc.edu for calendar invites.

Check the [Faculty Development website](#) for additional dates and information.

Pediatric Research Day 2026

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**

**The 14th Annual Quality Improvement and
Patient Safety Forum**



The 14th Annual

Quality Improvement & Patient Safety Forum

Friday, May 29, 2026
Lions Eye Center, 1st Floor
12pm–5pm

“Joint Commission and National Quality Forum Key Initiatives”

presented by



Elizabeth Drye, MD, SM

*Chief Scientific Officer
National Quality Forum
Joint Commission*

A call for abstract submissions will be sent February 23

Link: https://www.medschool.lsuhschool.edu/medical_education/graduate/EQuIP/qi_forum.aspx

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

New video monthly

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

March Video: Clinical Teaching Simplified

As we continue our mission of providing excellent medical education, check out this video. It provides a simple, efficient and effective method of teaching medical students and residents in a variety of clinical settings. It addresses major concerns (TIME!) and provides practical tips, and there are great references for those who would like to learn more.

<https://vimeo.com/89625533>

Manning Family Children's Announcements

Grand Rounds

Please note that we have a new Zoom link:

<https://lsuhsc.zoom.us/j/97010003211>. You must have a Zoom login to enter the meeting; you will no longer be able to join using only the meeting ID.

Hybrid Pediatric Grand Rounds



Manning Family
Children's
LCMC Health

From the Clinic to the Capital: Pediatric Advocacy and the Role of the Louisiana AAP

Wednesday, March 25, 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/97010003211>

Meeting ID: 970 1000 3211:

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.



Dr. Katie Queen is a board-certified pediatrician and obesity medicine specialist dedicated to improving children's health through nutrition, prevention, and evidence-based care. She serves as Medical Director of the Weight and Nutrition Center at Our Lady of the Lake Children's Health and is a recognized leader in pediatric obesity at both the state and national level. Dr. Queen is passionate about supporting families and advancing care for children in underserved communities.

Natashia Y. Cheatham, MHSA, ACHE, is a dynamic healthcare executive and health equity advocate with extensive experience leading large-scale operations and transformational initiatives. She currently serves as Executive Director of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, where she advances pediatric health policy, strategic partnerships, and equitable care for children across the state. With a career spanning behavioral health, healthcare IT, and multi-state operations, Natashia is known for driving innovative, data-informed strategies that improve patient outcomes and organizational performance. Her leadership is rooted in cultural transformation, inclusivity, and a commitment to expanding access to high-quality care for underserved communities.

Dr. Joseph A. Bocchini, Jr. is a nationally recognized pediatric infectious disease expert with decades of experience in clinical care, research, and medical education. He has served in numerous leadership roles at the institutional, state, and national levels, including within the American Academy of Pediatrics, where he is a strong advocate for immunization and child health policy. Dr. Bocchini has delivered invited presentations across the country on vaccine-preventable diseases, emerging infections, and public health, and has authored extensive peer-reviewed research and publications focused on infectious diseases and immunization practices.

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

- Describe the role of the American Academy of Pediatrics and its state chapters in advancing child health through advocacy and policy.
- Explain how physician advocacy can influence child health policy at the state and national level.
- Identify opportunities for pediatricians and trainees to engage in advocacy through the Louisiana AAP.

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

How is parking reimbursed for a local conference?

Although Travel Priors are not required for local conferences, you must decide in advance whether you will be requesting reimbursement for parking. If parking reimbursement is requested, the conference will follow the same guidelines as an out-of-state conference, and an approved Travel Prior is required before any expenses are paid, including the conference registration fee. For conferences held in the New Orleans Metropolitan area, both the parking expense and the conference registration fee must be processed through the Travel Voucher reimbursement process. While the conference registration fee may be placed on a P-Card, if parking is being claimed, all related expenses must follow Travel Voucher guidelines, and the conference registration fee cannot be paid until the Travel Prior has been fully approved.

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
 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:

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.

Additional Resources

- 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

Sheri Russell-Cromwell, 12 years

Dedrick Moulton, 3 years

Devante Williams, 1 year

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

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