

A Publication from UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital  
Fall 2009 – Volume 6, Issue 2

# Pediatric Update

## Rainbow Opens Technologically Advanced NICU



Patient room in  
38-bed NICU

**UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital's** new technically advanced neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) envelopes technology into an environment that mirrors the home, treating critically ill preemies in an atmosphere that provides safety and privacy for fragile infants and their families.

The new \$25 million Quentin & Elisabeth Alexander NICU has 38 beds with space for parents at the bedside of every infant, offering more privacy for families. The new diagnostic capabilities within each unit means many tests and procedures can be performed right in the infant's

room. The new facilities expand the NICU from 8,000 square feet to 30,000 square feet.

State-of-the-art monitoring systems instantly alert staff to changes in the baby's condition. Variable lighting changes as the baby's condition changes, and each room offers acoustic features and individually adjustable lights.

"We bring the highest technology available to the most critically ill babies in a homelike environment for their families," said **Michele Walsh, MD**, Co-Director of the Division of Neonatology. "This new NICU will set the standard in neonatology and push the field ahead 10 to 20 years."

### Some highlights of the new NICU include:

- ✓ World's first surgical bed designed specifically for neonatal and newborn surgeries. The Rainbow Flex was developed by Rainbow in collaboration with NeoForce and allows access to the infant on all four sides while still maintaining heat. It also allows real-time C-Arm imaging to check line placement and repairs without moving the infant.

- ✓ High-intensity procedure room on the floor.
- ✓ Enhanced imaging at baby's bedside for X-ray viewing.
- ✓ Vocera wireless communication devices to connect staff to family and infants (replaces loud auditory alarm buzzers).
- ✓ Baby cams on each incubator allow nurses to continuously visualize babies in their rooms.
- ✓ "Green" features include special paints, PVC-free scrims and millwork with formaldehyde-free substrates to provide a safe environment for critically ill infants.
- ✓ The NICU has patient pods with soothing themes that incorporate elements of nature – butterflies, flowers, sunshine and raindrops – and rooms with "living glass" in which plant materials are embedded to provide aesthetics as well as environmental bonuses.

"While the technology is vital to our care, it can also be frightening to our new parents," Dr. Walsh said. "We have softened the technology and created a healing environment that brings nature indoors through the use of materials that use real flowers and other materials.

See NICU  
Back Cover

### Rainbow: A Neonatology Pioneer

UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital has been at the forefront of newborn care since 1958, when Dr. Benjamin Spock began his groundbreaking child-rearing study, and continued through the 1960s when Rainbow insisted on allowing parents into intensive care units for fragile infants.

Rainbow researchers and physicians designed the jet ventilator in 1980 and helped pioneer the extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) center in 1987. Since the 1990s, neonatologists Avroy A. Fanaroff, MD, and Co-Director of the Neonatology Division Richard Martin, MD, together with NICU Medical Director Michele Walsh, MD, wrote and edited the definitive medical text books on newborn care, while many of the world's leading neonatologists trained at Rainbow.

Forty years ago, at the advent of neonatology, a baby weighing 2.25 pounds had a 10% chance of survival. Today, for the about 1,200 babies treated each year in the Rainbow NICU, the survival rate has improved to 96% – among the highest in the nation.

## Rainbow Ranks 2nd in Care of Newborns

**University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital** once again ranked second in the nation for care of newborns by *U.S. News & World Report*. Rainbow also ranked among the top 30 children's hospitals in the country in eight out of 10 medical specialties.

"We are pleased and proud to be ranked so highly among our peer pediatric institutions," said **Michael Farrell**, President of UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. "These rankings are an honor and tribute to the dedication of our talented and caring staff, and mean that children and their families

in Northeast Ohio have access to the highest quality of care in the United States. The outstanding NICU ranking is especially exciting for our team."

In addition to the neonatal care ranking, Rainbow ranked in the following specialties: cancer (#30), diabetes & endocrine disorders (#13), digestive disorders (#25), kidney disorders (#19), neurology and neurosurgery (#18), orthopedics (#13) and respiratory disorders (#10).

Rainbow recently opened the new **Quentin & Elisabeth Alexander Neonatal Intensive Care Unit**, a

\$25-million, state-of-the-art NICU. The new unit expands the NICU from 8,000 square feet to 30,000 square feet and has single private rooms where parents can be with their newborn 24 hours a day. The new facility also features the first surgical operating table designed by Rainbow staff and developed for preemies and newborns.

"Rainbow's neonatology program has long been revered as a pioneer in the specialty, with the best outcomes in the country for caring for premature and critically ill babies," said **Richard Martin, MD**, Co-Director of the Division of

Neonatology. "Our new NICU enhances our already storied program."

Rainbow is also known for its respiratory care (ranked #10) and is renowned for its treatment and clinical research in cystic fibrosis, resulting in the country's longest living patients. Rainbow also ranked highest in each of the eight categories for patient and family services.

A complete list of the children's hospital rankings was published in the August issue of *U.S. News & World Report*.

The rankings are available online at [www.usnews.com/childrenshospitals.com](http://www.usnews.com/childrenshospitals.com)

# A Message from The President

## Greetings,

It's hard to believe another summer has gone by us. As fall approaches, we are pleased to inform you about the exciting research and accolades our Rainbow team is celebrating.

UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital celebrated the opening of the new technically advanced neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), which will set the standard in neonatology and push the field ahead 10 to 20 years. The \$25 million **Quentin & Elisabeth Alexander NICU** provides 38 beds in a homelike setting that masks the technology installed to treat critically ill preemies. There is space for parents at the bedside of every infant, and new diagnostic capabilities allow many tests and procedures to be performed bedside.

Rainbow also is celebrating its ranking as second in the nation for care of newborns by U.S. News & World Report. Rainbow also ranked among the top 30 children's hospitals in the country in eight out of 10 medical specialties, including cancer (#30), diabetes & endocrine disorders (#13), digestive disorders (#25), kidney disorders (#19), neurology and neurosurgery (#18), orthopedics (#13) and respiratory disorders (#10). We are pleased and proud to be ranked so highly among our peer pediatric institutions.

The Department of Pediatrics of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine at Rainbow ranked third overall in NIH awards to pediatric departments of medical schools in 2008 (\$24.2 million), and eighth overall when funding to children's hospitals and medical schools are taken together. Faculty at Rainbow and CWRU are participating in research in basic sciences, translational and clinical research on a variety of diseases and conditions afflicting children.

Rainbow has been reverified as Northeast Ohio's only Level I pediatric trauma center by the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons. This achievement recognizes the trauma center's dedication to providing outstanding care for injured children. Last year our pediatric emergency department treated about 26,000 children – 5,000 of whom came to us with serious injuries. Rainbow also was recently ranked ninth in the nation in emergency and trauma care by *Parents Magazine*.

The congenital cardiac surgery service provides internationally recognized expertise for the surgical treatment of heart defects. Last year we recruited **Ross Ungerleider, MD**, to head this program and create a collaborative effort across multiple disciplines to care for children with congenital heart disease and those who present as young adults who need further surgery.

Another recruit is **Jonathan H. Ross, MD**, who was appointed Chief of the Division of Pediatric Urology. Dr. Ross places a strong emphasis on collaborative care of children with complex problems. He is leading a team making cutting edge minimally invasive surgical therapies available and accessible for patients. Rainbow's Center for Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery is educating physician in these pioneering surgical therapies on a global level through virtual web symposiums, bringing the latest techniques and research right to a surgeon's own desktop.

The Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology is elevating its national reputation as a leader in the field by installing a new team of specialists to treat pediatric cancer patients. Recruits including **Duncan Stearns, MD**, who will focus on treating patients with brain tumors; **Joseph Matloub, MD**, who will focus on the pediatric leukemia program; **Rachel Egler, MD**, who will enhance programmatic efforts for patients with solid tumors, as well as increasing opportunities for clinical trials and research; **Sanjay Ahuja, MD**, is an expert in hemophilia and thrombosis; **Alex Huang, MD**, who is heading Rainbow's Fellowship program and improving technology that will revolutionize the development of vaccines and immunotherapies for diseases; and **Kenneth R. Cooke, MD**, who is transforming the Pediatric Blood and Bone Marrow Transplantation Program.

We value our partnership with colleagues from around the country and invite you to contact us any time with questions, comments or referrals. Thank you for your dedication to our patients. We look forward to seeing the results of current and future collaborations.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Farrell

President, University Hospitals  
Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital  
MacDonald Women's Hospital



## Department of Pediatrics Remains Leader in Research Funding

The Department of Pediatrics of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital continues its tradition as a leader in pediatric research by attaining a prominent national ranking in research funding for 2008. The Department of Pediatrics ranked third overall in National Institutes of Health (NIH) awards to pediatric departments of medical schools (\$24.2 million), and eighth overall when funding to children's hospitals and medical schools are taken together.

Faculty members at Rainbow and CWRU are participating in broad-based research in basic science, translational and clinical research on a variety of diseases and conditions afflicting children. Nearly all divisions are engaged in research, with the Divisions of Pulmonology and Allergy/Immunology, Endocrinology, Neonatology and Hematology/Oncology leading the department with projects related to cystic fibrosis, diabetes, infant prematurity and childhood cancers, according to **Michael Konstan, MD**, (pictured above), Interim Co-Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, and Director of the LeRoy W. Matthews Cystic Fibrosis Center at Rainbow.

"Much of the research in the Department of Pediatrics is trans-

lational in nature, which means basic science discoveries made at the bench at Case Western Reserve University are then translated into clinical studies at Rainbow," Dr. Konstan said. Funding sources include the NIH, national foundations, pharmaceutical and biotech industry, as well as local support from philanthropic donations.

For the past 20 years, Rainbow researchers have developed treatments targeting the complications of cystic fibrosis (CF) that have become standard therapy, including high-dose ibuprofen to treat inflamed lungs. More recently researchers are at the national forefront in developing and testing drugs aimed at the basic cause of the disease – in effect, trying to cure CF. Two such drug approaches being tested at Rainbow are VX770 and PTC124.

PTC124 is directed at premature stop mutations in the CF gene to encourage complete protein synthesis. The goal is to make enough normal protein to correct the fundamental abnormalities in cell function that cause the clinical problems of CF. Initial studies conducted at Rainbow showed positive results, leading to an efficacy study now underway. PTC124 also has been tested in the most common form of childhood muscular dystrophy and also shows positive results.



VX770 is a protein-directed drug being studied as a potentiator to help the abnormal CF protein work better. Preliminary studies suggest improved functioning of cells, as well as improved lung function. Follow-up studies of this drug are now underway.

The results of these two drug studies indicate proof of concept that improved gene and protein function can be achieved by drug treatments. These particular drugs target only a limited number of CF patients, but other drugs are under development that will hopefully benefit the entire CF population. Rainbow's CF Center cares for more than 350 patients from more than 15 states, many of whom come to participate in the cutting-edge research performed at Rainbow.

**To contact Dr. Konstan regarding consultation, a physician referral appointment, or regarding clinical research at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, please call (216) 844-RAINBOW**

## Rainbow Pediatric Trauma Center Receives Reverification

The Pediatric Trauma Center at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital has been reverified as a Level I center by the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This achievement recognizes the trauma center's dedication to providing optimal care for injured children.

First verified in 1991, Rainbow is home to Northeast Ohio's only **Level I Pediatric Trauma Center**. Last year the pediatric emergency department staff treated about 26,000 children – 5,000 of whom presented with injuries. Rainbow was recently ranked ninth in the nation in Emergency and Trauma Care by *Parents Magazine*.

Verified trauma centers must meet the essential criteria that ensure trauma care, capability and institutional performance. Nationally, only 17 pediatric hospitals are ACS verified as Level I pediatric trauma centers.

"A number of years ago they began to see children are not just small adults. The standards for pediatric trauma recognize centers with special certification,"

said **Edward Barksdale Jr., MD**, Division Chief of Pediatric Surgery. (pictured right). "We are the only Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center in Northern Ohio. This national standard puts us in an elite corps of hospitals with trauma expertise."

The ACS Committee on Trauma's verification program provides confirmation that a trauma center has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest quality trauma care for all injured patients. There are four separate categories of verification in the COT's program. **Level I** verification represents the highest level of clinical care augmented by a commitment to professional education, research and public outreach.

Rainbow admits just under 500 patients annually to its trauma center, which covers about 13 counties and nearby states. **Laura R. Cizmar, BSN, RN**, Pediatric Trauma Program Manager, said Rainbow has transfer agreements with outlying hospitals and transporting agencies – along with its own helicopter – to ensure immediate trauma care for pediatric patients.



The other component that contributed to Rainbow's recognition of excellence was its commitment to injury prevention through community programming and education. About 51% of childhood deaths in the United States are related to trauma, which Rainbow considers a preventable disease, Dr. Barksdale said.

"This is about a more holistic approach to care of the traumatized patient, ensuring a smooth transition to follow-up care, ensuring a smooth transition back into their school system and ensuring families are mended as a result of trauma," Dr. Barksdale said. "We provide superb quality of care, offering a more holistic approach to the traumatized child."

## Book Highlights Trauma Care of Cliff Family



**Love, Blessings and Seatbelts**  
By Tricia Cliff

Available online at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)

The Cliff family's four children experienced **University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital Level I Pediatric Trauma Center** first-hand in December 2008. The North Carolina family was driving through Ohio headed to Michigan for Christmas celebrations when their van hit a patch of black ice. The van spun in front of another vehicle that hit the Cliff family, sending the van into a cement embankment at 65 miles per hour.

Three children in the family suffered severe injuries

including facial and internal injuries and broken backs. They received their care and treatment from Rainbow's Level I Pediatric Trauma Center. Today the children are home and doing well.

"We were able to care for four children in this facility and provide for the emotional, social and spiritual needs of this family during their stay in a holistic fashion," said Edward Barksdale Jr., MD, Division Chief of Pediatric Surgery. "We were able to have social workers, child life experts,

nursing, physical therapy and orthopaedic come together in a unified way. Their care was not finished when they left. We transitioned their care to local caregivers."

Tricia Cliff wrote "**Love, Blessings and Seatbelts**," a compilation of e-mails sent and received during the ordeal that captures her family's experience at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. Profits will benefit charities including the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland, where the Cliff family stayed while their children recovered.

# Congenital Cardiac Surgery Provides Integrated Approach

A renewed congenital cardiac surgery service at Rainbow Babies & Childrens Hospital provides internationally recognized expertise for the surgical treatment of pediatric heart disease.

In late 2008, Rainbow recruited **Ross Ungerleider, MD**, to head the surgical program. Dr. Ungerleider, Division Chief of Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery, has been a dedicated congenital heart surgeon since 1986. He helped develop techniques for cardiopulmonary bypass that improve the long-term brain protection for babies undergoing heart surgery, and he developed improved surgical options for young adults with a variety of congenital heart defects.

Dr. Ungerleider began his career at Duke University where he rose to the position of chief of the pediatric heart surgery program and where he helped to create a nationally respected heart surgery program. In 2001 he became chief of cardiac surgery at Oregon Health & Science University. During his time in Oregon, he continued to train pediatric heart surgeons and created a nationally acclaimed environment for education, learning and excellence in patient care.

## Dr Ungerleider's skills integrate with other Rainbow experts to enable the pediatric cardiac program to:

- ▶ Establish a reputation as a leader in applying heart lung machine technology to newborns and premature infants.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider and the perfusion team at Rainbow created miniaturized circuits that enable some infants to have heart surgery without blood transfusion.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider helped to create techniques that best protect the brains, lungs and kidneys of patients undergoing complex heart surgery.
- ▶ Become recognized for excellence in clinical outcomes.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider and his colleagues have published extensively on evaluating outcomes for congenital heart surgery programs. Rainbow will create processes to provide best practice, even for those infants with the most complex heart defects who might be refused surgery elsewhere.
- ▶ Rainbow will emphasize the multidisciplinary nature of best practice, which involves and engages specialists across various disciplines (such as cardiology, anesthesiology, critical care medicine, nursing, perfusion, etc.).
- ▶ Provide unique and new procedures that may not be available elsewhere.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider is experienced with certain forms of aortic valve replacement (such as the Ross operation which enables a patient to have their aortic valve replaced with a living, transplanted valve from the other side of their heart) and has developed techniques to improve long-term outcomes.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider pioneered techniques of postoperative management to improve the outcomes of infants who undergo reconstructions for a variety of complex forms of heart disease (Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome and other types of single ventricle), which elevates the risk for brain injury.
- ▶ Dr. Ungerleider's vast experience as a pediatric heart surgeon has created an



atmosphere of confidence and competence in the pediatric heart surgery program which now offers several new surgeries and techniques for treatment children and young adults.

Patients who come to UH Rainbow's congenital heart surgery program will benefit from experienced judgment and decision making, outstanding and unique surgical skills, and an environment that fosters collaboration and teamwork.

The pediatric heart surgery program uses a collaborative effort across multiple disciplines to care for children with congenital heart disease who present as young adults who need further surgery.

**To contact Dr. Ungerleider for consultation or patient referral, please call (216) 844-3058**



## Jonathan Ross, MD, Appointed Chief of Division of Pediatric Urology

at Cleveland Clinic, as well as a fellowship in pediatric urology at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. He most recently was head of Pediatric Urology at the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Ross' special interests lie in congenital and acquired abnormalities of the urinary tract and genitalia in children. He also is a leading authority on pediatric tumors of the genitourinary tract, particularly kidney and testicular tumors.

"Throughout his career, he has always placed a strong emphasis on the collaborative care of children with complex problems. He has a huge clinical practice and is held in the highest regard by his patients and his colleagues," said **Alan Cohen, MD**, Rainbow Surgeon-in-Chief.

Dr. Ross is a frequently invited

lecturer at regional and national scientific meetings and has been published in several professional journals, including the Journal of Urology, Journal of Pediatric Surgery, Urology, Contemporary Urology, Urologia Panamericana, American Family Physician, Dialogues in Pediatric Urology and Biochemistry. He also has contributed chapters to numerous medical texts and served as a guest editor for medical publications and journals.

"We'll build a culture of access and availability, working with families to take care of their children," Dr. Ross said. "Rainbow is really at the cutting edge of minimally invasive surgical therapy for children. I'm very excited about becoming a part of that and making that technology – laparoscopy and robotic surgery – available for patients.

blood loss and scars, providing infants, teens and young adults a speedier return to an active life.

"In the past, if a surgeon wanted to learn new ideas or techniques in their field they had to spend time and money flying across the country to courses," said **Todd Ponsky, MD**, Director of the Center for Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery. "Now surgeons can do it from their own office, and, because it's virtual, surgeons from across the world can communicate and share ideas.

"It allows for international collaboration."

The virtual CME program is attracting major surgical societies, including the International Pediatric Endosurgery Group and the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons, to partner on educational offerings.

"Rainbow offers a multidisciplinary approach for complex problems and complex congenital anomalies. With a very active obstetrics program at UH MacDonald Women's Hospital, we have the opportunity to see patients prenatally and be set up to take care of anything after the baby is born."

He is a member of the American Urologic Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Urology (where he chairs the Pediatric Urologic Oncology

Committee), the Society for Pediatric Urology, the American Association of Pediatric Urologists, the Society for Fetal Urology and the Children's Oncology Group. He also is a reviewer for Journal of Urology, Urology and Journal of Pediatric Urology.

**To contact Dr. Ross regarding urgent referral or consultation, please call (216) 844-5661 For patient appointments call (216) 844-7246**

**Jonathan H. Ross, MD**, pictured above, has been appointed University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Childrens Hospital Chief of the Division of Pediatric Urology.

Dr. Ross is a nationally recognized pediatric urologist. He is board-certified in urology and is an associate professor of surgery at Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Ross earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. He completed his residency in urology

## MIS Center Plays Global Role in Physician Education

**UH Rainbow Babies & Childrens Hospital's Center for Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery** is playing a global role in physician education of pioneering surgical therapies.

Rainbow is one of a handful of hospitals worldwide performing the most advanced minimally invasive surgeries on the smallest patients. Minimally invasive surgery is offered in all surgical specialties, including general surgery, neurosurgery, orthopaedic surgery, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, thoracic surgery and urology – all supported by a team of board-certified pediatric anesthesiologists.

The development of new technology and advances in research has helped Rainbow to be at the forefront of cutting-edge minimally invasive procedures being performed on children

of all sizes, including neonates and trauma victims.

The Center for Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery was celebrated in a gala opening in the spring, which showcased the clinical, research and teaching activities of the group. It was also an opportunity to recognize the Cleveland Foundation's \$1.5 million grant to support the Center's activities. The event reinforced the Center's mission – "less scar, less scare."

Rainbow physicians are sharing their discoveries and successes through ongoing virtual seminars that bring the innovations and technology to physicians on a world platform. National and international surgeons are able to watch pioneering surgical therapies that greatly reduce recovery times, pain, infection risk,

## Virtual Education Creates International Collaboration

The Minimally Invasive Pediatric Center at UH Rainbow Babies & Childrens Hospital presents the **2009 Series in Virtual Pediatric Surgery Education** in collaboration with the International Pediatric Endosurgery Group. The series of interactive web symposiums will focus on controversial issues in pediatric surgery.

**October 2, 2009**

**Pediatric Surgery for the Pediatrician ... When, What and Why!**

Designed for pediatricians, participants will be able to better understand the conditions treated by pediatric surgeons, identify when a pediatric surgical consultation is indicated and the acuity of that request, and initiate the management of conditions requiring pediatric surgical intervention. Topics will include undescended testes, hernias, anus problems, surgical issues related to constipation, reflux, abdominal pain, neck mass, CXR, inflammatory bowel disease, foreign bodies and abscesses.

**December 10, 2009**

**Testicular Disorders in Children: Controversies and Evolving Therapies**

Each web symposium will include brief didactics, debate panel discussions, live cases, surgical video demonstrations, audience participation, Q&A sessions and audience polling. These symposiums are also accredited for Continuing Medical Education credits.

**Of Special Note –**

In August, 2009, **Alan Cohen, MD**, Rainbow Surgeon-in-Chief and Division Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery presented a full-day course – **"Video Symposium: Masters of Neuroendoscopy"** – at the XIV World Congress of Neurological Surgery of the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies.

Hosted by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress focused on the latest research and technological advances in the field of international neurosurgery. Dr. Cohen's course featured 35 neurosurgeons from around the world, each an expert in minimally invasive neurosurgery.

**For more information on the Virtual Pediatric Surgery Education series, participating faculty or to register, visit us online at: <http://casemed.case.edu/cme> or email at [Rita.Rys@UHhospitals.org](mailto:Rita.Rys@UHhospitals.org)**

# Rainbow's Leadership Role Expands in Pediatric Cancer

The Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital is further cementing Rainbow's national reputation as a leader in hematology/oncology programs. A new team of specialists is in place, elevating the standard of care for pediatric cancer patients.

**Duncan Stearns, MD**, is a pediatric neuro-oncologist recruit who will lead a growing team focused on meeting the needs of pediatric patients affected by brain tumors. Dr. Stearns has established a recognized research program investigating the basic biology of medulloblastoma, the most common childhood brain tumor. He has devoted his career to developing new approaches to treat brain tumors and will oversee efforts to expand translational research and clinical programs in the Jennifer Ferchill Brain Tumor Center at Rainbow.

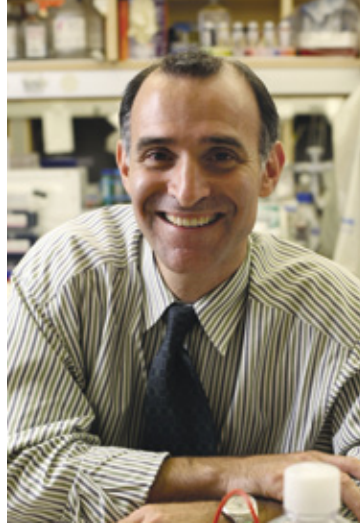
The expansion of clinical programs and services will be facilitated by the recent recruitment of **Joseph Matloub, MD**. Dr. Matloub has held several leadership positions within the Children's Oncology Group (COG) pediatric leukemia program and chaired the largest worldwide clinical study for the treatment of children with standard-risk acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Dr. Matloub is the lead author on manuscripts that will soon report on recently completed clinical trials that demonstrate a greater than 95% cure rate for pediatric ALL patients. Dr. Matloub is the first holder of the Angie Fowler Chair in Adolescent & Young Adult Oncology at Rainbow. In this role Dr. Matloub will work with the UH Ireland Cancer Center and community members to expand services devoted to the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) cancer community. Dr. Matloub aims to develop the nation's first fellowship program to train physicians who will devote their careers to meeting the special needs of the AYA cancer patient.

Rainbow's commitment to the AYA cancer initiative has also benefited from the recent recruitment of **Rachel Egler, MD**, who is

recognized as a member of the COG committee on germ cell tumors, the most common form of cancer in the AYA demographic. Dr. Egler will be working with the UH Ireland Cancer Center to enhance programmatic efforts devoted to patients with solid tumors and will focus on enhancing opportunities for clinical trials participation and research. Dr. Egler will serve as the Director of Hematology/Oncology outpatient services and as Director of Community Oncology. She will facilitate the division's efforts to regionalize our hematology and cancer services, improve access and enhance Rainbow's relationship with community physicians.

Rainbow also has a significant commitment to expand hematology services devoted to children with coagulation disorders, anemia, hemoglobinopathies and other nonmalignant blood disorders. In 2008, the division recruited **Sanjay Ahuja, MD**, a nationally recognized expert in hemophilia and thrombosis. Under his leadership, the Hemophilia Treatment Center of University Hospitals of Cleveland is developing improved standards for the pre- and post-operative care of patients with bleeding disorders and establishing outreach clinics to enhance access for patients with hemophilia and other benign hematologic conditions. The Center staff provides education and consultation to medical professionals to enhance the coordination and quality of services provided to patients. The goal is to expand the opportunities for patients to participate in research studies and clinical trials designed to improve the understanding and approach to the treatment of the diseases.

Rainbow is also recognized by the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology as a program devoted to training clinicians, physician-scientists and researchers. The division has significantly strengthened and expanded research efforts through its recruits, including **Alex Huang, MD**, who arrived in 2006 as Fellowship Director. Dr. Huang came to Rainbow from the National Institutes of Health, where



he conducted pioneering research focused on the development of a powerful imaging technology that allows for the direct visualization of immune cells in a living system. He captured \$800,000 in grant support to support cutting-edge research on the dynamic visualization of immune cell recruitment and activation at sites of inflammation and cancer. The technology promises to revolutionize the development of vaccines and immunotherapy for these diseases. Under Dr. Huang's leadership, the fellowship program now supports the training of six current fellows, with another two beginning in the 2010 academic year.

Rainbow also is recognized as a center of excellence in pediatric bone marrow and stem cell transplantation. Rainbow's Pediatric Blood and Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) Program is led by **Kenneth R. Cooke, MD**, an internationally recognized researcher in graft versus host disease, the major complication in transplants. Dr. Cooke was recently appointed to serve on the American Society of Hematology's Scientific Subcommittee on Stem Cell Biology, and he was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation as the Director of Laboratory Science. Dr. Cooke also was just inducted into the American Society of Clinical Investigation, a prestigious honor society of physician-scientists who translate findings in the laboratory to the advancement of clinical practice. Under Dr. Cooke's leadership, the BMT program has more than doubled the number of transplants performed in 2008 and 2009. The transplant program serves as a major referral center for northern Ohio and western Pennsylvania and is a destination center for international patients.

The new NICU is a major component of University Hospitals' Vision 2010 strategic plan. The NICU is named in recognition of an unprecedented \$10 million gift from The Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation, of which Quentin and Elisabeth Alexander have been longtime trustees. The Level III

unit is designated by the National Institutes of Health as a Neonatal Research Center.

**To contact the UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital Division of Neonatology call (216) 844-3387**

## Staff News



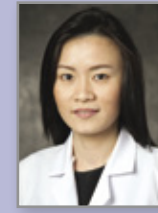
**Rachel Egler, MD**, joined the Division of Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Egler received her medical degree from Albany Medical College and completed her pediatric residency at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation. She served as a pediatric hematology/oncology fellow at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She most recently was at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Cancer Center.

**Blanca Gonzalez, MD**, will join the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases in November. Dr. Gonzalez received her medical degree from Universidad Central de Venezuela and completed her internal medicine and pediatrics training at Albert Einstein Medical Center. She completed a pediatric infectious diseases fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine. She most recently was at the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida.



**Shanna Kralovic, DO**, joined the Division of Developmental/Behavioral Pediatrics and Psychology after completing her pediatric residency and developmental/behavioral pediatrics fellowship training at Rainbow. She received her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Her focus is on autism spectrum disorder.

**Deforia L. Lane, MT-BC, PhD**, director of music therapy at the UH Ireland Cancer Center and University Hospitals, is the recipient of the Albert E. Dyckes Health Care Worker of the Year Award from the Ohio Hospital Association. Dr. Lane created a model music therapy program, as well as Toddler Rock, a music-based early education program that has helped more than 4,000 underserved preschoolers learn pre-literacy skills.



**Dararat Mingbunjerdasuk, MD**, joined the Division of Neurology. Dr. Mingbunjerdasuk received her medical degree from Mihidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, and completed pediatric residency at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. She completed her pediatric neurology fellowship at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford University School of Medicine, California.



**Kabita Nanda, MD**, recently joined the Division of Rheumatology after completing her pediatric rheumatology fellowship at Schneider Children's Hospital in New York. Dr. Nanda received her medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine and completed pediatric residency training at New York Medical College/Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.



**Jeffrey Solomon, MD**, joined the Division of General Academic Pediatrics after completing his internal medicine-pediatrics training at Rainbow and UH. He received his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University.

**Duncan Stearns, MD**, joined the Division of Hematology/Oncology as a physician-scientist. Dr. Stearns comes from St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia. He earned his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh, completed his pediatric residency training at Brown University School of Medicine and completed fellowship training at Johns Hopkins/National Cancer Institute.

**James Strainic, MD**, recently joined the Division of Cardiology after completing his pediatric cardiology fellowship training at Rainbow. Dr. Strainic received his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati and completed his residency training at Rainbow, including serving as Chief Resident.

### NICU

From Cover

"The most exciting piece in this new setting is that it supports parents' bonding with their babies while, as nurses, we can use the technology to treat babies more safely," said **Ann Reitenbach**, Clinical Manager of the NICU.

**Executive Vice President, University Hospitals President, University Hospitals Case Medical Center**  
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With locations throughout Northeast Ohio, University Hospitals serves the needs of patients through an integrated network of hospitals, outpatient centers and primary care physicians. At the core of our health system is University Hospitals Case Medical Center. The primary affiliate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, University Hospitals Case Medical Center is home to some of the most prestigious clinical and research centers of excellence in the nation and the world, including cancer, pediatrics, women's health, orthopaedics and spine, radiology and radiation oncology, neurosurgery and neuroscience, cardiology and cardiovascular surgery, organ transplantation and human genetics. Its main campus includes the internationally celebrated UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, ranked as one of America's Best Children's Hospital and No. 2 in the nation for the care of critically ill newborns; MacDonald Women's Hospital, Ohio's only hospital for women, and UH Ireland Cancer Center, which holds the nation's highest designation by the National Cancer Institute of Comprehensive Cancer Center. For more information, go to [www.UHhospitals.org](http://www.UHhospitals.org).

## The Rainbow Call Center

The Rainbow Call Center is one of the nation's largest pediatric nurse telephone triage call centers in the country. Specially trained Rainbow nurses now counsel the parents of patients of more than 900 subscribing physicians in Ohio, California, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Delaware. The staff, led by Medical Director **Drew Hertz, MD**, handles about 250,000 calls annually using Barton Schmitt, MD, After-Hours Computerized Pediatric Telephone Guidelines.

To reach a University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital nurse, call **(216) 844-RAINBOW**

For more information on the Rainbow Call Center, contact **Drew Hertz, MD, Medical Director**, at **(216) 844-7731**