**Division Introduction**

The Division of Child Neurology represents an academic practice with commitment to patient care, teaching and research.

Formed in the 1980s as part of the Department of Neurology, the Division maintained a successful academic and training program through the 1990s. Dr. Susan Iannaccone became the Division Chief in 2004, and the Division joined the Department of Pediatrics in 2006.

Under Dr. Iannaccone’s direction, the Division provides comprehensive diagnosis and management for children at Children’s Health™ from newborn to late adolescence who have disorders of the brain, spinal cord, nerve, or muscle. Faculty members specialize in providing neurological care, consultations, and second opinions for children afflicted by virtually any neurological disorder.

Division faculty conduct a variety of neurologic bench/basic research and clinical studies, including clinical trials. Current studies are focused in five areas:

- Metabolic disorders of the nervous system
- Neuromuscular disease clinical trials
- Anti-epileptic drug trials
- Clinical trials in pediatric stroke
- Clinical studies in the autism spectrum

It is a priority in the Division to maintain a competitive Pediatric Neurology (PN) Training Program that will supply high-quality faculty for many years to come. Together with the Department of Neurology, the division offers:

- a three-year Pediatric Neurology Residency Program,
- fellowship training in pediatric neurology subspecialties,
- an integrated six-year program for training in pediatric neurodevelopment,
- a five-year program is available for medical students who wish to complete both their pediatric and pediatric neurology training at UT Southwestern.

Each year, in collaboration with the Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology and Neurotherapeutics at UT Southwestern, Children's Health™, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Division presents the Carrell-Krusen Neuromuscular Symposium for muscular dystrophy clinic directors, case managers, nurses, and members of interdisciplinary care teams. The Symposium is directed by Dr. Iannaccone, and most residents and fellows from the Division of Child Neurology and from the Department of Neurology and Neurotherapeutics present at the Symposium.

**Faculty**

The Division has 14 faculty, two with a major commitment to research and 11 focused on clinical and teaching responsibilities. They represent a mix of young and mature individuals, each of whom brings special talents and experience that promise to contribute to further growth and development of the Division.

Drs. Saima Kayani and Jennifer Thomas joined the faculty in 2015.
Saima Kayani, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics and Neurology & Neurotherapeutics

M.B.B.S.
King Edward Medical University, Lahore, Pakistan, 2005

Postdoctoral Training
Internship and Residency, Pediatrics
Texas A&M University, 2006-2009
Residency, Child Neurology
UT Southwestern, 2009-2012
Fellowship, Medical Genetics
UT Southwestern, 2012-2014

Dr. Saima Kayani is a Child Neurologist with additional training in Medical Genetics. Her advanced training helps her better understand the clinical and basic molecular mechanisms of neurogenetic diseases. She is board certified in pediatrics and neurology. Throughout her fellowships at UT Southwestern, she worked seeing complex patients in Child Neurology and Medical Genetics and the Rare Brain Disorders Clinic at Children’s Medical Center, and also scientifically collaborated in the rodent lab to understand the underlying genetic and physiological components of several rare disorders currently under study.

Dr. Kayani is passionate about helping children with rare disorders and finding better ways to treat these children. She is devoted to research, not only the clinical research to understand the natural history of rare disorders but also translational research to bring cutting edge therapies to our patients.

Jennifer Muncy Thomas M.D.
Instructor, Pediatrics and Neurology & Neurotherapeutics

B.A.
Miami University of Ohio, Oxford, OH, 2005

M.D.
UT Health Science Center at Houston, McGovern Medical School, 2009

Postdoctoral Training
Residency, Pediatrics
Phoenix Children’s Hospital/Maricopa Medical Center, 2010-2012
Residency, Child Neurology
UT Southwestern, 2012-2015

Dr. Jennifer Thomas, a Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics, Neurology and Neurotherapeutics, received her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. She completed her Pediatric training at Phoenix Children’s Hospital/Maricopa Medical Center and Child Neurology residency training at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She is board certified in Child Neurology. Her special interests include prenatal counseling of neurologic disorders and neonatal neurology.
**Honors / Awards**

**Michael Dowling**
- Best Pediatric Specialists 2015, *D Magazine*

**Patricia Evans**
- Promotion to Professor

**Sailaja Golla**
- Texas Super Doctor, *Texas Monthly Magazine*

**Susan Iannaccone**
- Texas Super Doctor, *Texas Monthly Magazine*

**Muna Khan**
- Texas Super Doctor, *Texas Monthly Magazine*

**Rana Said**
- Best Pediatric Specialists 2015, *D Magazine*

**Invited Lectures**

**Diana Castro**
- Mexican Association of Pediatric Neurology, Guadalajara, Mexico, May 2015
  - “Advances in Duschenne Muscular Dystrophy”

**Susan Iannaccone**
- ISIS Pharmaceuticals Investigator Meeting for CS4 Protocol: Phase 3 Pivotal Trial for SMA Type 2, (CHERISH), Barcelona, Spain, February 2015
  - “PedsQL™ Generic Scale and Neuromuscular Module”

**Rana Said**
- American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2015
  - “Type II Cortical Dysplasia in Dominant Frontal Lobe Presenting as Gelastic Epilepsy”

**Abstract, Oral & Poster Presentations**

**Michael Dowling, Deepa Sirsi and Rana Said**
- Abstract: “Type II Cortical Dysplasia in Dominant Frontal Lobe Presenting as Gelastic Epilepsy”
  (Thodeson D, Dubey D, **Dowling M**, **Sirsi D**, Arnold ST, **Said RR**)
  - Texas Neurology Society Meeting, Austin, TX, February 2015
  - American Academy of Neurology Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2015
Education and Training

Dr. Rana Said is Director of the Pediatric Neurology Residency Program. The Division of Pediatric Neurology offers a fully-accredited, 3-year training program and a combined 5-year program in pediatrics and pediatric neurology based at Children’s Health™ Children’s Medical Center Dallas. The program accepts two to four child neurology residents each year. The Division also offers a fully accredited 4-year program in neurodevelopmental neurology, and a combined 6-year program in pediatrics and neurodevelopmental disabilities. Graduates are eligible for boards in pediatrics, adult and pediatric neurology, and neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Dr. Evans serves as full time NDD program director as well as NDD residency director. The NDD residency is a four year core residency program, of which there are only 8 nationally.

Research Activities

Division faculty conduct a variety of neurologic bench/basic research and clinical studies, including clinical trials. Current studies are focused in five areas:

- Metabolic disorders of the nervous system
- Neuromuscular disease clinical trials
- Anti-epileptic drug trials
- Clinical trials in pediatric stroke
- Clinical studies in the autism spectrum

Faculty research projects include:

- Susan Arnold is involved in multiple industry-sponsored clinical research trials. In 2015, she was the site-principal investigator for an epilepsy clinical trial sponsored by UCB Pharma and co-investigator for studies sponsored by Lundbeck and Insys. She has served as a consultant for neurology-related studies ongoing in Psychiatry and in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and was a faculty sponsor for IRB-approved clinical research projects for two residents and fellows in 2015.
- Michael Dowling is involved in clinical research in the areas of stroke in children, Sturge-Weber syndrome, and neurologic complications of sickle cell disease.
- Patricia Evans is an active participant in translational research, both for the disorders of autism spectrum disorders and fragile X syndrome. She is participating in a range of studies, including the genetics of autism spectrum disorders, neurodevelopmental outcomes in children after extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation, and mechanisms of fragile X syndrome cognitive deficits.
- Sailaja Golla is involved with multiple grants including Industry funded, federal funded and unfunded projects. She is part of the NIH trial for circulatory support in pediatric heart failure patients using the Infant Jarvik 2000 to assess long term neurodevelopmental outcomes. In 2015, Dr. Golla submitted a grant proposal to The Pediatric Epilepsy Research Foundation (PERF) to describe the correlation of clinical features of autism with EEG abnormalities and epilepsy.
- Rana Said is involved in multiple industry-sponsored clinical I research trials. Currently she is the site principal investigator for three studies assessing efficacy and safety of synthetic cannabadiol (CBD) for children with refractory epilepsy and Dravet syndrome and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, and she is involved in a phase-3 trial with INSYS Therapeutics.
- Deepa Sirsi is involved in a range of clinical research studies concerning EEG & autism, yield of EEG & imaging in complex febrile seizures, and industry funded anti-seizure medication studies. She collaborates with other clinicians and basic scientists in research involving treatment of sodium channelopathies and other genetic causes of epilepsy such as GLUT1 disorder.
Clinical Activities

The Pediatric Neurology multidisciplinary teams include board-certified pediatric neurologists, pediatric nurse practitioners, physician assistants, licensed pediatric nutritionists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech therapists. Our teams offer accurate diagnosis and comprehensive management plans as well as access to state-of-the-art clinical trials. Pediatric Neurology faculty treat:

- Brain tumors
- Cerebrovascular disease and stroke
- Developmental delay
- Neurobehavioral disorders and Autism
- Neuroimmunologic disorders, such as Multiple Sclerosis
- Neurologic complications of Sickle Cell Disease
- Neurometabolic, neurogenetic and complex/rare diseases
- Neuromuscular disorders, such as Muscular Dystrophy and Myasthenia Gravis
- Urgent epilepsy for new onset afebrile seizures

2015 Patient Statistics

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<th>Metric</th>
<th>December-15</th>
<th>Dallas</th>
<th>Plano</th>
<th>Southlake</th>
<th>THD</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Patients %</td>
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<td>22%</td>
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<td>Patient Satisfaction - Rate Provider (% 9 &amp; 10 Only)</td>
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<td>Provider Consultations (% 6 wks) as % of Camp Appts</td>
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Volume - Dallas & Plano

Volume - Southlake & THD
Current Grant/Contract Support

Susan Arnold

**Grantor:** Unfunded Research Project  
**Title of Project:** Study team member for Feasibility study of fluoxetine (Prozac) for the cognitive impairments of Down Syndrome  
**Role:** Assist in study design and provide interpretation of electroencephalograms for the study  
**Dates:** 2015 – present

**Grantor:** UCB Pharma  
**Title of Project:** A Multicenter, Double-blind, Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of Lacosamide as Adjunctive Therapy in Subjects with Epilepsy greater or equal to 1 month to less than 4 years of Age with Partial-onset Seizures  
**Role:** Site Principal Investigator  
**Dates:** 2015 – present

**Grantor:** Lundbeck Research USA  
**Title of Project:** Multi-site, prospective, open-label, long-term, flexible dose, interventional study to evaluate the safety and tolerability of clobazam as adjunctive therapy in paediatric patients aged ≥1 to ≤16 years with Dravet Syndrome 14362B  
**Role:** Co-Investigator  
**Dates:** 2014 – present

**Grantor:** Lundbeck Research USA  
**Title of Project:** Multi-site, prospective, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, interventional study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of clobazam as adjunctive therapy in paediatric patients aged ≥1 to ≤16 years with Dravet Syndrome  
**Role:** Co-Investigator  
**Dates:** 2014 – present

**Grantor:** Unfunded Fellow Research Project  
**Title of Project:** Study: Pediatric Anti-N-Methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor Encephalitis- A Review of EEG Findings in our Pediatric Patient Cohort  
**Role:** Principle Investigator/Faculty Sponsor  
**Dates:** 2013 – present
Diana Castro

Grantor: NIH/NINDS
Title of Project: NeuroNEXT SMA Biomarker Protocol Development
Role: Site Principal Investigator (Ohio State University); Susan Iannaccone, Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2012 - Present

Contractor: PTC Therapeutics
Title of Project: A Phase 3 Efficacy and Safety Study of PTC124 in Subjects with Nonsense-Mutation-Mediated Duchenne and Becker Muscular Dystrophy
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2013 – Present (extension study)

Contractor: Sarepta Therapeutics
Title of Project: A Phase 2 Safety Study of Eteplirsen to Treat Early Stage Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2015 – Present

Contractor: Eli Lilly and Company
Title of Project: A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Trial of Tadalafil for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2013 – Present

Contractor: ISIS Pharmaceuticals
Title of Project: An Open-label Safety and Tolerability Study of ISIS SMNRx (CS12) in Patients with Spinal Muscular Atrophy Who Previously Participated in ISIS SMNRx-CS2 or ISIS SMNRx-CS10
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2012 – Present

Contractor: ISIS Pharmaceuticals
Title of Project: A Phase 3 Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of ISIS-SMN Rx (CS4) in Patients with Later-onset Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2015 – Present

Contractor: ISIS Pharmaceuticals
Title of Project: A Phase 3 Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of ISIS-SMN Rx (CS3b) in Infants with Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Role: Site Co-Principal Investigator
Dates: 2015 – Present

Contractor: Quiontiles/Biogen Idec
Title of Project: Phase 2 Study of ISIS 396443 (BIIB058) for Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Role: Principal Investigator
Dates: 2015 – Present
Michael Dowling

Grantor: NIH/NINDS – R01  
Title of Project: VIPS: Vascular Effects of Infection in Pediatric Stroke  
Role: Site Principal Investigator (Fullerton H, DeVeber G)  

Grantor: NIH/NHLBI - K23  
Title of Project: Investigation of Prognostic Factors in Childhood-Onset AIS: Role of stroke Subtype and Biomarkers of Hypercoaguability  
Role: Co- Principal Investigator (Bernard T)  
Dates: 2010 - 2015

Susan Iannaccone

Grantor: Children’s Research Institute/NIH  
Title of Project: Center for Research Translation of Systemic Exon-Skipping in Muscular Dystrophy  
Role: Principle Investigator  
Dates: 2015 - Present

Contractor: INC Research/ISIS Pharmaceuticals  
Title of Project: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, Sham-Procedure Controlled Study to Assess the Clinical Efficacy and Safety of ISIS 396443 Administered Intrathecally in Patients with Infantile-onset Spinal Muscular Atrophy  
Role: Site Principal Investigator  

Contractor: INC Research/ISIS Pharmaceuticals  
Title of Project: A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, Sham-Procedure Controlled Study to Assess the Clinical Efficacy and Safety of ISIS 396443 Administered Intrathecally in Patients with Later-onset Spinal Muscular Atrophy  
Role: Site Principal Investigator  

Contractor: Sarepta Therapeutics  
Title of Project: 48-Week Study of Eteplirsen in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy  
Role: Principle Investigator  
Dates: 2015 - Present

Rana Said

Contractor: Insys  
Title of Project: A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, interventional study to assess the safety and efficacy of pharmaceutical Cannabidiol Oral Solution as an adjunctive therapy for treatment of subjects with inadequately controlled Dravet Syndrome (INS011-14-025)  
Role: Principle Investigator  
Dates: 2014 – present

Contractor: Insys  
Title of Project: A multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, interventional study to assess the safety and efficacy of pharmaceutical Cannabidiol Oral Solution as an adjunctive therapy for treatment of subjects with inadequately controlled Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (INS011-14-024)  
Role: Principle Investigator  
Dates: 2014 – present
Deepa Sirsi

**Contractor:** Quintiles  
**Title of Project:** Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled, Parallel-Group Study of Clobazam as Adjunctive Therapy in Pediatric Pts 1-16 yrs with Dravet Syndrome  
**Role:** Principle Investigator  
**Dates:** 2015 - 2017

**Contractor:** Quintiles  
**Title of Project:** Open Label, Long Term, Flexible Dose Study of Clobazam as Adjunctive Therapy in Pediatric Pts 1-16 yrs with Dravet Syndrome  
**Role:** Principle Investigator  
**Dates:** 2015 – 2020

**Peer-Reviewed Publications**


