

Fourth Year Fellows



Jyothsna Akam-Venkata, M.B.B.S

Pediatric Cardiology Advanced 4th Year Program – Imaging

Education:

M.B.B.S., P.S.G Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (PSG IMSR), India, 2011

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, Children's Hospital of Michigan / Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, 2013–2016

Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship, Children's Hospital of Michigan / Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, 2016–2019

Publications:

1. **Akam-Venkata J**, Franco VI, Lipshultz SE. [Late Cardiotoxicity: Issues for Childhood Cancer Survivors](#). *Curr Treat Options Cardiovasc Med*. 2016 July; 18(7):47. PMID: 27230282
2. **Venkata JA**, Jones KL. [Benefits of newborn screening for cystic fibrosis in Shreveport, Louisiana, Cystic Fibrosis Center](#). *J La State Med Soc*. 2011 Nov-Dec;163(6):316-9. PMID: 22324090
3. **Venkata JA**, Panicker AS. [Prevalence of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in primary school children](#). *Indian J Psychiatry* 2013 Oct;55(4):338-42. PMID: 24459303



Daniel Castellanos, M.D.

Pediatric Cardiology Advanced 4th Year Program - MRI

Education:

M.D., Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Miami, FL, 2013

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, 2013–2016

Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship, Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX, 2016–2019

Publications:

1. **Castellanos DA**, Ocampo EC, Gooden A, Wang Y, Qureshi AM, Heinle JS, Mery CM, Hill GD, Ghanayem NS. [Outcomes associated with unplanned interstage cardiac interventions following Norwood palliation](#). *Ann Thorac Surg*. 2019 Aug 7. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31400339.
2. **Castellanos DA**, McKenzie ED, Morris SA. [Fetal and postnatal echocardiographic imaging of transposition of the great arteries with the aortic valve posterior to the pulmonary valve](#). *Echocardiography*. 2019 May;36(5):1005-1008. PMID: 30801777
3. Nunez-Gallegos F, **Castellanos DA**, Imamura M, Kyle WB. A 9-year-old Girl with Weakness and Facial Droop after Seizure. Accepted on 11/2/18 as an Index of Suspicion article in *Pediatrics in Review*.
4. Aggarwal V, **Castellanos D**, Becker JA, Edwards LA, Morris SA. [Idiopathic congenital right atrial dilation: Fetal presentation](#). *J Clin Ultrasound*. 2018 Oct;46(8):553-554. PMID: 29701295
5. Lasa JJ, **Castellanos DA**, Denfield SW, Dreyer WJ, Tume SC, Justino H, Qureshi AM. [First Report of Biventricular Percutaneous Impella Ventricular Assist Device Use in Pediatric Patients](#). *ASAIO J*. 2018 Sep/Oct;64(5):e134-e137. PMID: 29240626
6. **Castellanos DA**, Herrington C, Adler S, Haas K, Ram Kumar S, Kung GC. [Home Monitoring Program Reduces Mortality in High-Risk Sociodemographic Single-Ventricle Patients](#). *Pediatr Cardiol*. 2016 Dec;37(8):1575-1580. Erratum in: *Pediatr Cardiol*. 2017 Jan 19. PMID: 27554255
7. **Castellanos D**, Travelli FC, Reyhan I, Votava-Smith JK, Ramanathan A, Bar-Cohen Y. [Acute Aortic and Mitral Valve Perforations Caused by Granulomatosis With Polyangiitis](#). *Circulation*. 2015 Jun 16;131(24):e527-9. PMID: 26078373

8. Splinter A, Castellanos D, Lupi C. [Eric Smith - A Renal Physiology Case-based Learning Exercise](#). *MedEdPORTAL*, 2013 Nov 18.



Eric Mittelstaedt, M.D.

Pediatric Cardiology Advanced 4th Year Program – Interventional Catheterization

Education:

M.D., Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, Chicago Medical School North Chicago, IL, 2013

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, Children's Hospital of Michigan/Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, MI, 2013–2016

Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship, Children's Hospital of Michigan/Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, MI, 2016–2019

Third Year Fellow



Yousef Arar, M.D.

Education:

B.A., UT Austin, 2010

M.D., UT School of Medicine at San Antonio, TX, 2014

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, TX, 2014–2017

Publications:

1. **Arar, YM**, Andrews, TG, and Aune, GJ. Cardiotoxic Equivalence Amongst Anthracyclines. *The World Journal for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery (WJPCHS)*. Feb 2017.
2. Furmaga W, Cohn S, Prihoda TJ, Muir MT, Mikhailov V, McCarthy J, **Arar Y**. [Novel markers predict death and organ failure following hemorrhagic shock](#). *Clin Chim Acta*. 2015 Feb 2;440:87-92. PMID: 25444751
3. Hassan SF, Cohn SM, Admire J, Nunez-Cantu O, **Arar Y**, Myers JG, Dent DL, Eastridge BJ, Cestero RF, Gunst M, Markowski H, Keric N, Liao L, Mueller DL. [Natural history and clinical implications of nondepressed skull fracture in young children](#). *J Trauma Acute Care Surg*. 2014 Jul;77(1):166-9. PMID: 24977773

Research Projects:

- Radiation-Free Heart Catheterization using MRI
- A Staged Neonatal Hybrid Approach for Coarctation of the Aorta
- 3D Advanced Imaging Overlay for Congenital Heart Disease Intervention with Rapid Registration
- Effects of Chronically Elevated Fibroblast Growth Factor 23 on the Heart

Second Year Fellows



Mehar Hoda, M.B.B.S.

Education:

M.B.B.S., Aga Khan University Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan, 2013

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Amarillo, TX, 2015–2018

Publications:

1. **Hoda M**, Verma A, Alapati S, Alapati S, Yarrabolu TR. [Diagnostic paradox: Ruptured aneurysm of sinus of Valsalva simulating tricuspid valve endocarditis.](#) *Echocardiography*. 2017 Mar;34(3):465-467. PMID: 28213924
2. **Hoda M**, Abuhantesh A, Alapati S. Infective endocarditis in two patients with congenital heart disease: A review of guidelines for prophylaxis. *Panhandle Health*. Winter 2017.
3. **Hoda M**, Haque A, Aijaz F, Akhtar MI, Rehmat A, Amanullah M, Hasan BS. [On-table Extubation after Open Heart Surgery in Children: An Experience from a Tertiary Care Hospital in a Developing Country.](#) *Congenit Heart Dis*. 2016 Jan-Feb;11(1):58-62. PMID: 26010520
4. Salam RA, **Hooda M**, Das JK, Arshad A, Lassi ZS, Middleton P, Bhutta ZA. [Interventions to Improve Adolescent Nutrition: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.](#) *J Adolesc Health*. 2016 Oct;59(4S):S29-S39. PMID: 27664593
5. Das JK, Hadi YB, Salam RA, **Hoda M**, Lassi ZS, Bhutta ZA. [Fly control to prevent diarrhoea in children.](#) *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2018 Dec 17;12:CD011654. PMID: 30556598
6. Haque A, Siddiqui NU, Kumar R, **Hoda M**, Lakahni G, Hooda K. [Cost of care in a paediatric intensive care unit of a tertiary-care university hospital of Pakistan.](#) *J Pak Med Assoc*. 2015 Jun;65(6):651-4. PMID: 26060165
7. Haque A, Siddiqui NR, Jafri SK, **Hoda M**, Bano S, Mian A. [Clinical profiles and outcomes of children admitted to the pediatric intensive care unit from the emergency department.](#) *J Coll Physicians Surg Pak*. 2015 Apr;25(4):301-3. PMID: 25899201
8. Haque A, Sher G, **Hoda M**, Moiz B. [Feasibility of pediatric plasma apheresis in intensive care settings.](#) *Ther Apher Dial*. 2014 Oct;18(5):497-501. PMID: 24674133
9. Atiq M, **Hoda M**, Aslam, N. [Effect of intravenous gamma globulin on short- and mid-term clinical outcome in acute viral myocarditis in children.](#) *World Journal of Cardiovascular Diseases (WJCD)*. 2014 Feb;4(2):39-44.
10. Fatimi SH, Khawaja A, Ali Khawaja RD, **Hoda M**, Bhimani SA. [Benign granulomatous polyp obstructing the bronchus.](#) *J Coll Physicians Surg Pak*. 2013 Jul;23(7):519-21. PMID: 23823964

Book Chapter:

Das JK, Lassi ZS, **Hoda M**, Salam RA, Bhutta ZA. (2015). Feasible, acceptable and cost-effective models of service delivery for neonates and young infants aged 0-59 days with possible serious bacterial infections: a systematic review. In MK Bhan (Ed.), *Guideline: Managing Possible Serious Bacterial Infection in Young Infants When Referral Is Not Feasible* (pp. 1-28). Geneva: World Health Organization.

Research Project (Residency):

Establishing a baseline measurement in a sample population and assessing the sensitivity of critical congenital heart disease screening when measuring the peripheral perfusion index in addition to pulse oximetry. Principal Investigator – Dr. Mubariz Naqvi



Ravi Vamsee, M.B.B.S.

Education:

M.B.B.S., Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Karnataka, India, 2009

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, Sri Ramachandra Medical University, Chennai, India, 2011–2013

Pediatric Residency, St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ, 2015–2016

Pediatric Residency, Oregon Health and Sciences University, Portland, OR, 2016–2018

Research Projects (Residency):

- Does the Sano modification predispose to dyssynchrony in children with hypoplastic left heart syndrome? A prospective study using Speckle echocardiography.
- Early onset and predominant hematological presentation of PI3KCD mutation

First Year Fellows



Stephen Spurgin, M.D.

Education:

B.S., Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, 2010

M.D., UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX, 2016

Postdoctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, UT Southwestern/Children's Medical Center, Dallas, TX, 2016–2019

Publications:

1. Kusminski CM, Holland WL, Sun K, Park J, **Spurgin SB**, Lin Y, Askew GR, Simcox JA, McClain DA, Li C, Scherer PE. [MitoNEET-driven alterations in adipocyte mitochondrial activity reveal a crucial adaptive process that preserves insulin sensitivity in obesity.](#) *Nat Med.* 2012 Oct;18(10):1539-49. PMID: 22961109
2. Kusminski CM, Chen S, Ye R, Sun K, Wang QA, **Spurgin SB**, Sanders PE, Brozinick JT, Geldenhuys WJ, Li WH, Unger RH, Scherer PE. [MitoNEET-Parkin Effects in Pancreatic \$\alpha\$ - and \$\beta\$ -Cells, Cellular Survival, and Intraisular Cross Talk.](#) *Diabetes.* 2016 Jun;65(6):1534-55. PMID: 26895793
3. Shao M, Ishibashi J, Kusminski CM, Wang QA, Hepler C, Vishvanath L, MacPherson KA, **Spurgin SB**, Sun K, Holland WL, Seale P, Gupta RK. [Zfp423 Maintains White Adipocyte Identity through Suppression of the Beige Cell Thermogenic Gene Program.](#) *Cell Metab.* 2016 Jun 14;23(6):1167-1184. PMID: 27238639
4. Stone KP, Wanders D, Calderon LF, **Spurgin SB**, Scherer PE, Gettys TW. [Compromised responses to dietary methionine restriction in adipose tissue but not liver of ob/ob mice.](#) *Obesity* (Silver Spring). 2015 Sep;23(9):1836-44. PMID: 26237535
5. Sun K, Kusminski CM, Luby-Phelps K, **Spurgin SB**, An YA, Wang QA, Holland WL, Scherer PE. [Brown adipose tissue derived VEGF-A modulates cold tolerance and energy expenditure.](#) *Mol Metab.* 2014 Apr 5;3(4):474-83. PMID: 24944907
6. Vishvanath L, MacPherson KA, Hepler C, Wang QA, Shao M, **Spurgin SB**, Wang MY, Kusminski CM, Morley TS, Gupta RK. [Pdgfr \$\beta\$ + Mural Preadipocytes Contribute to Adipocyte Hyperplasia Induced by High-Fat-Diet Feeding and Prolonged Cold Exposure in Adult Mice.](#) *Cell Metab.* 2016 Feb 9;23(2):350-9. PMID: 26626462
7. Ye R, Wang M, Wang QA, **Spurgin SB**, Wang ZV, Sun K, Scherer PE. [Autonomous interconversion between adult pancreatic \$\alpha\$ -cells and \$\beta\$ -cells after differential metabolic challenges.](#) *Mol Metab.* 2016 May 10;5(7):437-448. PMID: 27408770



Courtney Rothrock Ochoa, M.D., M.S.

Education:

B.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 2006
M.S., University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL, 2010
M.D., University of South Alabama College of Medicine, Mobile, AL, 2016

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, UT Southwestern/Children's Medical Center, Dallas, TX, 2016–2019

Publications:

1. Audia JP, Lindsey AS, Housley NA, **Ochoa CR**, et al. [In the absence of effector proteins, the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* type three secretion system needle tip complex contributes to lung injury and systemic inflammatory responses.](#) *PLoS One*. 2013 Nov 27;8(11):e81792. PMID: 24312357
2. Moon YA, **Ochoa CR**, Mitsche MA, Hammer RE, Horton JD. [Deletion of *ELOVL6* blocks the synthesis of oleic acid but does not prevent the development of fatty liver or insulin resistance.](#) *J Lipid Res*. 2014 Dec;55(12):2597-605. PMID: 25281760
3. Fernando NT, Koch M, **Rothrock C**, Gollogly LK, D'Amore PA, Ryeom S, Yoon SS. [Tumor escape from endogenous, extracellular matrix-associated angiogenesis inhibitors by up-regulation of multiple proangiogenic factors.](#) *Clin Cancer Res*. 2008 Mar 1;14(5):1529-39. PMID: 18316578
4. Yoon SS, Stangenberg L, Lee YJ, **Rothrock C**, et al. [Efficacy of sunitinib and radiotherapy in genetically engineered mouse model of soft-tissue sarcoma.](#) *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2009 Jul 15;74(4):1207-16. Erratum in: *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2010 Aug 1;77(5):1607. PMID: 19545786
5. Lee YJ, Koch M, Karl D, Torres-Collado AX, Fernando NT, **Rothrock C**, et al. [Variable inhibition of thrombospondin 1 against liver and lung metastases through differential activation of metalloproteinase *ADAMTS1*.](#) *Cancer Res*. 2010 Feb 1;70(3):948-56. PMID: 20103648
6. Yoon SS, Duda DG, Karl DL, Kim TM, Kambadakone AR, Chen YL, **Rothrock C**, et al. [Phase II study of neoadjuvant bevacizumab and radiotherapy for resectable soft tissue sarcomas.](#) *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2011 Nov 15;81(4):1081-90. PMID: 20932656
7. Lee YJ, Karl DL, Maduekwe UN, **Rothrock C**, Ryeom S, D'Amore PA, Yoon SS. [Differential effects of VEGFR-1 and VEGFR-2 inhibition on tumor metastases based on host organ environment.](#) *Cancer Res*. 2010 Nov 1;70(21):8357-67. PMID: 20978198
8. Saxena V, Ramdas S, **Ochoa CR**, Wallace D, Bhide P, Kohane I. [Structural, genetic, and functional signatures of disordered neuro-immunological development in autism spectrum disorder.](#) *PLoS One*. 2012;7(12):e48835. PMID: 23239965



Gianna Romano, M.D., M.P.H.

Education:

B.S., University of Denver, Denver, CO, 2007
M.P.H., Colorado School of Public Health, Aurora, CO, 2011
M.D., University of Arizona College of Medicine, Phoenix, AZ, 2016

Post-doctoral Training:

Pediatric Residency, UT Southwestern/Children's Medical Center, Dallas, TX, 2016–2019

Publication:

1. Ayub S, Kanner J, Riddle M, **Romano G**. [Influenza-Induced Mania.](#) *J Neuropsychiatry Clin Neurosci*. 2016 Winter;28(1):e17-8. PMID: 26844965