

# NORTH DAKOTA PEDIATRICIAN


## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Pros update</i>	2
<i>New Pediatricians</i>	3
<i>Judicial Referee</i>	4
<i>Vice President's Message</i>	4



**Fall 2003 Meeting**

Date: September 26th, 2003  
Location: Best Western Ramkota Inn,  
800 South 3rd Street  
Bismarck, North Dakota  
Phone: 701-258-7700



\*\*\*\*Catch the Spirit of Lewis and Clark \*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*Nationally famous keynote speaker , Dr Perri Klass\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*Come witness the Fall beauty of Bismarck\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*Sept. 26, 2003\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*Ramkota Inn \*\*\*\*  
**(With Giant \$1 million dollar water slide)**  
There is a block of rooms reserved for the  
NDAAP. These rooms must be reserved by Wednesday, August 27,  
2003 or they will be released..

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER  
BERNARD J. HOGGARTH, MD, FAAP**

Election results are in from the AAP. I was very impressed with the candidates you chose. North Dakota had the highest percent of voters in our district. I have confidence in our leadership and look forward to working with them. We have much work to do at the national and state level for the children of this nation. A big issue will be protecting the funding of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Please visit the NDAAP web site for all the latest information on this topic.

Over 40% of Medicaid mothers reported using tobacco while pregnant according to a recent North Dakota Department of Health report. A significant association was found between maternal tobacco use and child hospitalization for respiratory disease. We need to work with several agencies and especially our obstetric partners to address this issue.

Todd Twogood, Kylie Behm and I will be attending the chapter forum this September. If you have any issues you would like addressed please let us know. The forum is an excellent mechanism for grass roots issues to be expressed.

Newborn metabolic screening has been expanded. The state health officer has designated a group to look at pediatric concerns. Please let me know if you have any issues with the program and I will make sure that the committee addresses these. We anticipate periodic updates in our newsletter.

Dr Myra Quanrud and Dr Lois Freisieben have applied for catch grants. The next issue will have an update on these.

The Pediatric Research in Office Settings (PROS), the AAP's practice-based research network, includes 614 practices and more than 1700 practitioners who focus on projects meaningful to the practicing clinician.

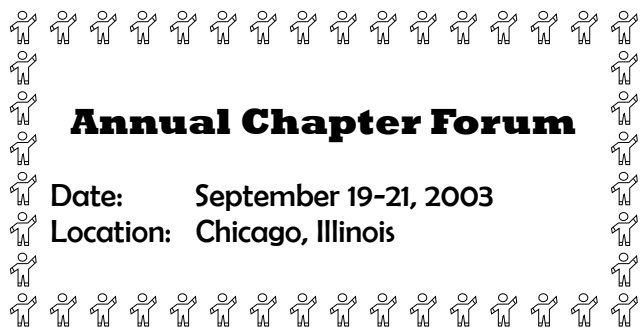
Presently, PROS is conducting two important new national studies of interest to its members, Safety Check and the Child Abuse Recognition Experience Study (CARES.) A task we do that can be difficult is recognizing and reporting child abuse. CARES seeks to describe how experienced practitioners approach this challenging task. This study will identify the resources that help practitioners make these difficult decisions. It will give us a better understanding of the barriers that primary care physicians encounter. All volunteering practitioners will complete a brief questionnaire about their experiences with childhood injuries. Each will also record a limited amount of information about forty patients during a four-week period. Selected practitioners will complete an additional questionnaire and participate in a telephone interview about their study experiences with childhood injuries. No identifying information about patients will be submitted to the PROS office and the American Academy of Pediatrics. All information about individual practitioners will be confidential. Practitioners from Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot will be participating in this study.

Anticipatory guidance is among the core activities that we do as pediatric providers. However, do we know if our good counsel actually works? It is a practical question and one that the PROS network is tackling with the project "Safety Check." Pediatricians will test some new, brief screening and counseling tools for violence prevention and reading promotion. At the conclusion of the visit, both the provider and the patient will complete a one-minute questionnaire. The project involves minimal paperwork and typically lasts 2-4 weeks. The research team will also re-administer the questionnaire to the parents one and six months after the visit. The study's results will lead to new recommendations on how we as pediatricians provide guidance on these and other safety and developmental issues.

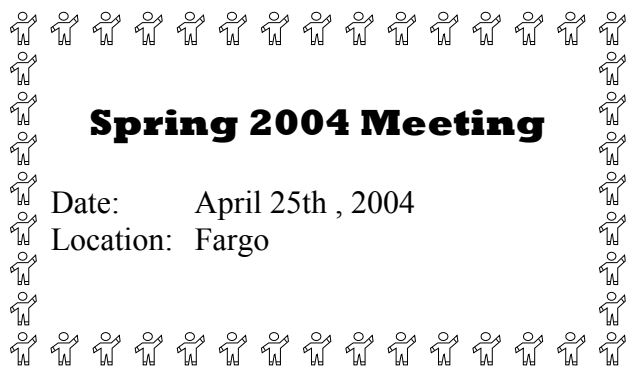
Lori Sondrol MD  
PROS Coordinator

## UPCOMING EVENTS


  
**Fall 2003 Meeting**
  
**Date:** September 26th, 2003
   
**Location:** Ramkota Inn, Bismarck


  
**Annual Chapter Forum**
  
**Date:** September 19-21, 2003
   
**Location:** Chicago, Illinois




  
**Spring 2004 Meeting**
  
**Date:** April 25th, 2004
   
**Location:** Fargo

**NEW ND PEDIATRICIANS  
STEPHEN J. TINGUELY, MD**

The North Dakota Pediatrician has been profiling new pediatricians to our state and chapter over the past few issues. A number of new pediatricians have recently joined clinical practices in Fargo. Two of these new pediatricians are Chris Tionson and Brenda Thurlow.

Dr. Chris Tionson was raised in Grand Forks, ND and attended Georgetown University as an undergrad and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He graduated in 1993 from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences and completed a general pediatric residency program at the Children's Mercy Hospital/University of Missouri in Kansas City. He was appointed chief resident in 1996. Chris then practiced general pediatrics in Sioux Falls, SD until joining MeritCare in 2002.

The Tionson family has a strong tradition in the medical profession. Chris has a brother who is an Emergency Department physician and another brother who practices as a Med/Peds physician. Chris' father is a retired psychiatrist.

Chris enjoys golf and is a guitar player. In addition he coaches his daughter's baseball team. He is married to Lori Tionson and they have two children, Emily Rose and Eric Benjamin.

Dr. Brenda Thurlow's hometown is Fargo, ND. She attended the University of North Dakota as an undergrad and her major was Russian Studies. She also received her medical degree from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences. The Mayo Clinic was the site of Dr. Thurlow's pediatric and adolescent residency training. She extended her training program an additional six months to focus on pediatric diabetes. Much of Dr. Thurlow's medical practice will focus on the care of children and adolescents with diabetes. Dr. Thurlow joined the MeritCare Medical Group on December 31, 2002.

Dr. Thurlow enjoys needlework, reading, cooking, and family activities. She resides in Fargo with her husband and two children.

Dr. Thurlow has expressed a real interest in the activities of the North Dakota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and will soon be joining the chapter's executive board.

**Stephen J. Tinguely, M.D.**  
Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatrics, UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences

**2003 NDAAP Spring Meeting**

A successful Spring Meeting in Fargo! The day started out with a great turn-out for the Board Meeting at 10 am. At the Board Meeting, Michael Severson, MD, FAAP, District VI Alternate Chairman gave an update on District VI. Also discussed was that although no one was sent to the Legislative Conference this year, it is hoped that someone will be able to go next year. Jean Fahey is moving and will no longer be the CATCH coordinator, if anyone is interested please speak with Dr. Hoggarth, Kylie Behm, or a Board member.

CME lectures followed the board meeting. Speakers included Dr. Rodrigo Rios ("Healthy Kids. What's Happening in Fargo), Dr. Cathy Breedon (Hot Topics in Pediatric Nutrition), Dr. Terry Dwelle (Healthy North Dakota Kids and the State), Karen Oby (Newborn Metabolic Screening), and Dr. Stephen Nelson (Ethical Issues with Genetic Testing in Pediatrics including Newborn Screening). The Spring Meeting concluded with the evening meal and a NDAAP meeting.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the meeting such a success — can't wait to see everyone at the 2003 Fall Meeting in September!

Kylie Behm  
Executive Director

Dr Indu Agarwal has recently been reappointed to the Committee on Native American Child Health (CONACH) for a period of 2 years effective July 1, 2003.

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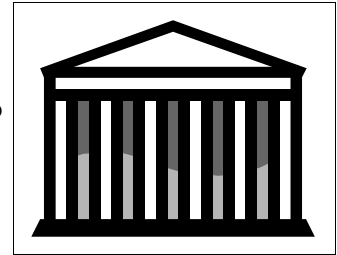
Our spring NDAAP meeting was a great success and we look forward to our fall meeting in Bismarck on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The pediatricians of Bismarck look forward visiting us during this meeting. It looks to be great. See you there.

## JUDICIAL REFEREE PERSPECTIVE

As our caseload of deprived children—those whose parents cannot or will not provide appropriate care for them—has grown, I have become increasingly convinced that the bench does not hear enough from pediatricians. I hasten to say we hear frequently from psychiatrists and especially psychologists.

Yet it is pediatricians who should truly be the advocates for children. Why the silence? I leap to the conclusion that it is largely due to pediatricians' reluctance to come forward and offer their opinions to a court.

I know that our court experiences can be unpleasant and time consuming. But I also know pediatricians would generally find a courteous and respectful reception. Your opinions are given considerable weight. We need to hear from you. The Children need to count on you.



Janice B Johnson  
 Judicial Referee, East Central Judicial District  
 Fargo, ND  
 Wife of George M. Johnson, MD

### VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: THE BURNING ISSUE TODD TWOGOOD, MD

#### The Burning Issue

In today's society it is not always easy to understand why bad things happen to children. The even harder thing to recognize is the work and dedication of some to make a difference, and change a bad outcome to a good one. I am referring to us as pediatricians. Work and a dedication to children is what we are all about, and I wanted to let you know that our efforts have paid off. The good outcome also has a lot to do with the wonderful families of North Dakota. Hard working, good morals, and kindness all come to mind when I think of North Dakota people. We should be proud and here is why.

There has been a recent publication sent out by the National AAP, that is a look at state profiles of child well-being. It is the Kids Count data book and it compares all states on several issues with concerns of children and their well-being. It is data looking back on the years 1990 – 2000, but ranks states as of the year 2000. Here is where we stand in the rankings.

Overall, out of the 50 states, ND ranks as the SEVENTH best states for children's well being (one of the top ten). We are number one in the nation, when it comes to low percentage of teens that are high school dropouts. Third best in the nation with a low number of teen births, seventh when it considers our low percentage of teen deaths by accidents, homicide and suicide. As a matter of fact we are in the top ten best for child death rate, and ninth best in the country for percent of families with children not headed by a single parent. The list goes on and on.

We do have some statistics that are not such good news. The demographics reflect an overall 8% loss in the total amount of kids in ND. The median income of families with children (year 2000) was \$43,600 and the national average is \$50,000. Despite this we have more working mothers than most states. The percent of children in ND under the age of 6 in paid childcare while parents work is 41% where the national average is only 26%.

The bottom line is we as pediatricians, parents and families of North Dakota should take pride in our achievements and our top ten rank overall in the nation for our children's wellness. I will bring the data book to the fall meeting. I hope to see you all at the fall meeting here in Bismarck on Sept, 26<sup>th</sup>. Mark you're calendars, and I will see you soon.

Todd Twogood, MD