

Pediatrics Committee News

By Ronald M. Laxer, MDCM, FRCPC

The CRA Pediatrics Committee, comprised of all CRA pediatric rheumatologists and trainees, is a large, diverse and active community within the CRA. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all in myriad ways, and I am proud of how our members responded by educating their colleagues on COVID-related hyperinflammation in the pediatric population through hosting a CRA webinar, as well as collaborating with the Canadian Pediatrics Society on a Practice Point to assist pediatric colleagues with the diagnosis and initial management of patients with possible pediatric inflammatory multisystem syndrome (PIMS)/multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C).

Despite the personal and professional challenges posed during this ongoing pandemic, our dedicated committee members still managed to make significant headway on many of our 2020 goals, including development of the following:

- Uveitis Guidelines, led by Drs. Deb Levy and Bobbi Berard with the help of CRA pediatric members, ophthalmologists and patient/family representatives. The group is working through an “adoption”¹ process of the ACR Uveitis Guidelines, published in 2019, to provide a Canadian context and incorporate patient values, preferences and equity. The goal is to publish a manuscript by year’s end with endorsement from both the CRA and the Canadian Ophthalmological Society.
- Pediatric Choosing Wisely Recommendations, led by Dr. Nadia Luca and a working group comprised of pediatric rheumatologists and patient/parent representatives. After completing three rounds of Delphi Surveys and identifying the top 15 items for consideration, a survey was sent to CRA members to rate their agreement with and the impact of each item. Once the data and literature review are concluded, a manuscript will be submitted with the top five recommendations.

Keep an eye out for these publications as well as updates on other pediatric initiatives, to be highlighted in a future *CRAJ* article.

We also want to extend our warmest wishes to Janet Ellsworth on the occasion of her retirement. Janet has been a giant in our field, having created successful academic programs in both Halifax and Edmonton, and has left a wonderful legacy. We wish her safe travels on her new journey!



Pediatrics Committee members at the last in-person meeting in Victoria, BC, in February 2020.

To close, I would like to leave you with a photo of those members who attended the Pediatric Committee meeting at the 2020 CRA Annual Scientific Meeting in beautiful Victoria, BC. (photo above). Little did we know it would be our last in-person event! Thanks to all for your hard work and leadership.

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References

1. The “GRADE-ADOLOPMENT” approach to guideline production combines adoption, adaptation, and, as needed, de novo development of recommendations. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2016.09.009>