

Pediatrics Committee News

By Ronald M. Laxer, MDCM, FRCPC

The CRA Pediatrics Committee is a diverse and dynamic group of 92 (and counting) pediatric rheumatologists, trainees, and researchers. The Pediatrics Executive Committee oversees the work of several subcommittees including Human Resources (HR), Community Rheumatology, Education, and Choosing Wisely.

These subcommittees have been very busy and productive over the last year, producing a number of manuscripts, guidance materials and educational offerings. Here's a snapshot of some of their incredible work:

- Publication of seven **Choosing Wisely recommendations** for Pediatric Rheumatology, developed by a working group under Nadia Luca's leadership.
- The Education Subcommittee offered two accredited National Grand Rounds webinars, and the CANAC¹ steering committee offered two Canadian Autoinflammatory Case Rounds Zoom presentations for pediatric members and invited guests. Topics for both offerings included JAK inhibitors featuring Dr. Hermine Bruner, pediatric rheumatologist at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center; Juvenile Myositis featuring Dr. Adam Huber, Pediatric Rheumatologist at IWK Health Centre; Familial Mediterranean Fever with Dr. Dilan Dissanayake, Pediatric Rheumatologist from The Hospital for Sick Children; and PFAPA² with Dr. Herman Tam, Pediatric Rheumatologist from Stollery Children's Hospital.
- The Community Rheumatology Subcommittee continues to grow membership and introduced a Journal Club

- Herman Tam, Nadia Luca and others collaborated with the Therapeutics and Guidelines Committees on updating the **COVID-19 Vaccination Decision Tool** to include guidance for pediatric patients.
- Annual HR surveys were sent to both academic and community members to keep a finger on the pulse of pediatric rheumatology in Canada.
- Uveitis Guidelines have been developed and will likely be published by the time this article appears in print. This was a collaborative effort with the CRA Guidelines Committee and Ophthalmology colleagues, led by Deb Levy and Bobbi Berard.

Ron Laxer is stepping down as Chair in 2022, and will be replaced by Bobbi Berard, with Nadia Luca as Vice Chair and Julie Barsalou as Secretary. Thank you to Deb Levy, Past Chair who has made invaluable contributions not only to the Pediatrics Committee but to the CRA at large through her active engagement and leadership. The Pediatrics Committee is in great hands going forward and we're excited for new and expanded initiatives in 2022!

1 CANAC: CANadian Autoinflammatory Case rounds

2 PFAPA: Periodic fever, aphthous stomatitis, pharyngitis, adenitis

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