



CHOC Children's residents, attending physicians and visiting medical students look forward to Dr. Arrieta's "Friday Morning Report." (story on page 6)

INSIDE

USC ENT professor
joins CHOC at
Mission staff

[page 3](#)

fellowship-trained
pediatric neurologists
expand CHOC
programs

[page 4](#)

in the spotlight:
Antonio Arrieta, M.D.

[page 6](#)

CHOC Children's is advancing

Change is in the air, both on the world stage and here at home. Our hospitals have new names and medical staff leadership. Our affiliation with UC Irvine is redefining the way pediatric services are delivered in Orange County. Operationally, advances in technology are literally transforming the way we prepare certain medications and communicate with each other.

Soon, we will be breaking ground for a new state-of-the-art, seven-story patient care tower.

We eagerly anticipate the possibilities and opportunities these changes will bring. They will undoubtedly further our mission to nurture, advance and protect the health and well-being of the children we serve.

Some things, however, never change.



VIJAY DHAR, M.D.
President
CHOC Children's
Medical Staff

"My goal is to ensure that the upcoming affiliation with UCI clinical faculty happens in a seamless,

complementary and efficient blending of the two cultures. We have completed most of the credentialing process, which has gone well. We now have some outstanding clinicians from the UCI faculty who are on the CHOC medical staff. I look forward to working in conjunction with these national and international experts in caring for the infants and children here at CHOC. I see it as my duty to work with hospital administration in order to build the intellectual manpower necessary to serve these children.

Patient safety continues to be an important goal, and we recently passed mandatory immunizations for DTaP and influenza vaccines for all medical staff. Additionally, we are looking at the development of a medical staff blog to enhance the exchange of ideas amongst the staff, and a HIPAA-compliant electronic medical record that can be used in the hospital and community pediatrician offices."

GARY GOODMAN, M.D.
Chief of Staff
CHOC Children's
at Mission Hospital



"I see my role as advocate — being the voice of the medical staff in all matters related to improving the quality of care and the practice of medicine at CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital.

In early April, we received a surprise visit from The Joint Commission. The result: zero findings, which I think reflects well on the medical and hospital staff, alike. These results clearly show that CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital has been doing the right things all along, and just how robust our quality improvement program really is. The Joint Commission also complimented us on the excellent physician turnout for the emergency Medical Staff Executive Committee meeting called the first evening of the survey.

Going forward, CHOC Mission now has 24-hour inpatient neurology coverage, thanks to the expansion of PSF neurology services from CHOC Orange. We are working on an electronic communications tool to enhance communication between the hospital and all physicians on staff, and proceeding with the implementation of some environmentally green initiatives."

(continued from page 1)

CHOC Children's installs new medical staff leadership

Where would we be without the dedication and commitment of our medical staff leadership? Physicians at CHOC Children's Hospital and CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital serve two-year terms as Secretary/Treasurer and then as President-Elect or Chief of Staff Elect prior to being installed as President or Chief of Staff, respectively.

CHOC Children's Hospital Medical Staff

President: **Vijay Dhar, M.D.**
President-Elect: **Gurpreet Ahuja, M.D.**
Secretary/
Treasurer: **David Gibbs, M.D.**
Immediate
Past President: **Michael
Muhonen, M.D.**

CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital

Chief of Staff: **Gary Goodman, M.D.**
Chief of
Staff-Elect: **Stephen Hanten, M.D.**
Secretary/
Treasurer: **John Morris, M.D.**
Past Chief
of Staff: **Vinh Lam, M.D.**

We are tremendously grateful to Michael Muhonen, M.D., and Vinh Lam, M.D., who recently completed their terms. We are fortunate to have so many physicians giving generously of their time.

Drs. Anas, Kavianian Appointed To New Physician Leadership Positions

CHOC Children's recently announced the creation of two physician leadership positions.

As the hospital's first Pediatrician in Chief (PIC), **Nick Anas, M.D.**, will serve as CHOC's representative in evaluating, coordinating and overseeing the pediatric medical subspecialty services, including development and implementation of the hospital's strategic and master campus plans. Dr. Anas joined the CHOC staff in 1984, and has been medical director of the PICU since 1991.



Additionally, **Ali Kavianian, M.D.**, has been appointed as the first Surgeon-in-Chief (SIC), and will serve as liaison between CHOC

administration and surgical medical staff members. Dr. Kavianian has been a member of the CHOC medical staff since 1983, and chaired the department of surgery from January 2003 through December 2006.

USC ENT professor joins CHOC at Mission staff

One of the West Coast's leading academicians in pediatric otolaryngology-head and neck surgery has opened a full-time private practice in south Orange County. Dennis M. Crockett, M.D., formerly an associate professor at the USC Keck School of Medicine, USC University Hospital and Children's Hospital Los Angeles, has joined Head and Neck Associates, in Mission Viejo.

While full-time at USC, Dr. Crockett helped train more than 90 otolaryngology-head and neck surgeons in current practice. He is particularly known for surgical excision of difficult head and neck tumors in children, working with neurosurgeons, oral surgeons and plastic surgeons. Dr. Crockett maintains a voluntary faculty position at USC, and is still involved in teaching residents.

Clinical Specialties:

- Pediatric and adult head and neck tumors
- Pediatric and adult head and neck cancer and thyroid/parathyroid surgery
- Pediatric and adult airway reconstruction, including laryngeal /tracheal stenosis repair
- Pediatric and adult sinus surgery
- External ear (microtia) reconstruction

Head and Neck Associates of Orange has offices located in Mission Viejo, Laguna Hills and San Clemente. For more information, call (949) 364-4361 or go to www.hnaoc.com.

The "Go-To" ENTs in South Orange County.

Dennis M. Crockett and John Supance are two of the most highly qualified pediatric otolaryngologists on the West Coast. Dr. Crockett recently joined the CHOC Children's at Mission medical staff after 21 years of academic teaching and private practice at the USC Keck School of Medicine. Dr. Supance, a former Chief of Staff at CHOC Children's at Mission, is particularly renowned for his expertise in pediatric airway disorders.

Dennis Crockett, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.A.P.

Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellowship:

Boston
Children's
Hospital
and Harvard
Medical
School

Residency/ Internship/ Medical Degree:

USC Keck School of Medicine

A fellow of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, American College of Surgeons and American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Crockett has published more than 50 peer review papers and book chapters in medical literature. He was voted one of Castle-Connolly's "America's Top Doctors" and "America's Top Doctors for Cancer."



John Supance, M.D.,
F.A.C.S., F.A.A.P.

"We welcome Dr. Crockett's academic and surgical expertise, which is unparalleled and needed in this young and growing community," says pediatric otolaryngologist John Supance, M.D. "His experience and knowledge will serve south Orange County very well."

fellowship-trained pediatric neurologists expand CHOC programs

“We are very pleased to have Drs. Moorjani and Morkous join our Division of Neurology. These important recruitments expand our capacity to provide general neurology and advanced epilepsy care for children.”

IRA T. LOTT, M.D., DIVISION CHIEF OF PSF NEUROLOGY AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF NEUROLOGY AT CHOC CHILDREN'S

Two fellowship-trained pediatric neurologists with clinical interests in neonatology, critical care and intractable seizures have joined the CHOC Children's staff. They are seeing patients at both CHOC Children's Orange and Mission Viejo campuses. For more information or to arrange a referral, please call (714) 532-7601.

Bhagwan Moorjani, M.D., F.A.A.P., F.A.A.N.

Fellowship: Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit

Pediatric and Pediatric Neurology

Residency: Cleveland Clinic, Ohio

Board Certifications: Pediatric, Child Neurology, Clinical Neurophysiology

Dr. Moorjani provides care for the full range of pediatric neurological conditions, with a special emphasis in seizure disorders and epilepsy. He is working with the hospital epilepsy surgery program in identifying and evaluating patients whose intractable seizures may be better controlled by epilepsy surgery.

“My role is to make sure these children fit the necessary criteria to have the seizure focus removed,” Dr. Moorjani said. He is also working with CHOC staff to re-establish the ketogenic diet as an option for patients who are not candidates for epilepsy surgery.

Dr. Moorjani joined CHOC from Children's National Medical Center, in Washington, D.C.,

where he directed the Evoked Response Laboratory. Prior to that, he was assistant professor of neurology and pediatrics and program director at Children's Hospital of Michigan, Wayne State University College of Medicine, in Detroit, for pediatric neurology.

Sameh Morkous, M.D.

Adult and Child Neurology Fellowship: Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Pediatric Residency: Tod Children's Hospital, North Eastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, Youngstown

Board Certifications: Pediatrics, Child Neurology

Dr. Morkous' clinical interests focus on neonatal neurology and seizures, including headaches, autism, developmental delay, microcephaly and macrocephaly.

“My goal is to implement a critical care program, especially a formal neonatal neurology program,” he said. “We're also working on expanding general child neurology services.” Dr. Morkous is teaching at UC Irvine, and providing nurse and parent education at CHOC.



Dr. Bhagwan Moorjani



Dr. Sameh Morkous

adolescent oncology unit opens



CHOC patients can enjoy a variety of toys and games, and create works of art in the new Playroom.

“Adolescence is such an important and healthy stage of life. For teens and young adults whose lives have been derailed by cancer, we are trying to recreate and provide an environment in which they can survive, gather strength, and transition into adulthood.”

LEONARD SENDER, M.D., MEDICAL DIRECTOR
THE CHOC CHILDREN'S CANCER INSTITUTE

It's goodbye to jungle animals and pastel colors. The new Anaheim Ducks Wing on the CHOC Children's oncology unit is sporting a far more mature vibe.

The Anaheim Ducks Wing, which opened in March, gives teens a place to hang out. The hallway features life-size graphics of the Anaheim Ducks in action. The Teen Room, open to patients age 13 or older, has Anaheim Ducks memorabilia, a flat-screen television and Ipod docks. Posters of Justin Timberlake, Gwen Stefani and other popular entertainers who have performed at Honda Center adorn the walls.

The Teen Room is part of the CHOC Children's Cancer Institute Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Program — one of the only programs of its kind in the nation — which provides innovative medical treatment and follow-up, access to aggressive protocols and clinical trials, and psychosocial services to help these patients address issues related to self image, relationships, mental health, fertility and more.

The Anaheim Ducks Wing also has:

- Playroom
- School Room
- Staff lounge and storage space
- Family lounge

Three AYA patient rooms with a total of six beds will open later this summer. Each room will feature individual TVs and PlayStations, in addition to the usual patient amenities. Also planned are a Hope Room and a large conference room for multi-disciplinary treatment planning.

“The AYA program is about treating the adolescent and young adults in the way they should really be treated,” says Melanie Patterson, M.H.A., R.N., clinical director of The CHOC Children's Cancer Institute. “Our entire team is undergoing psychosocial training on AYA curriculum so we are better able to deal with teen issues and responsibilities as patients transition into adulthood.”

Dr. Sender, medical director of the CHOC Children's Cancer Institute, poses with CHOCO the bear and the Anaheim Ducks' mascot, Wild Wing, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 16.





in the spotlight:

Antonio Arrieta, M.D.

“When I trained in infectious diseases, most of the infections we dealt with were community acquired infections. Nosocomial infections have become increasingly important in recent years, particularly in children with such underlying debilitating diseases as cancer, prematurity and cystic fibrosis.”

ANTONIO ARRIETA, M.D., PSF DIVISION CHIEF, INFECTIOUS DISEASES
AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR, INFECTION CONTROL

Antonio Arrieta, M.D., fully expected to return to his native Peru after completing an infectious diseases fellowship at UCI-Miller Children’s Hospital in Long Beach. Then he learned about an opportunity to work with pediatric HIV patients at CHOC Children’s.

Dr. Arrieta joined the CHOC staff in 1991, and helped develop Orange County’s first and only CCS-certified pediatric HIV clinic. CHOC is still the only recognized center for the evaluation and treatment of children who are infected with or affected by HIV.

Currently, approximately 15 newborns exposed in-utero to HIV are referred into the program every year. In the last two years, only one has tested positive for the actual infection. A recent disturbing trend, though, has been the rising number of adolescents with sexually transmitted HIV.

“There has been a shift in the population we manage,” Dr. Arrieta said. “Our team has had to rapidly adapt to treating adolescents.”

An Outstanding Teacher

Dr. Arrieta helped develop the CHOC residency program, and continues to participate in the training of residents. For his role, Dr. Arrieta has been chosen “Teacher of the Year” several times, most recently in 2003. Medical students and residents come from different places around the country and abroad to spend a month training with CHOC’s Infectious Diseases division.

“I don’t think of teaching as a job because I enjoy it immensely,” Dr. Arrieta says. “I have also tried to assimilate CHOC residents into research activities. Over the years, we have published about 15 posters in national and international meetings, including several at the most important infectious diseases conference in the United States: Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC).

Dr. Arrieta and his associates, Jasjit Singh, M.D., Negar Ashouri, M.D. and Felice Adler-Shohet, M.D., expect to present data about *Staphylococcus aureus* blood stream infections in young children at this year’s ICAAC meeting in San Francisco this fall. In June, Dr. Arrieta and Dr. Ashouri traveled to Brussels to present three posters at the European Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Arrieta and his team are available for consultation at CHOC Children’s Orange and Mission Viejo campuses. For more information, please call (714) 532-7982.

Robotic IV Dispensing System Enhances Safety, Efficiency

It may sound like something out of science fiction, but it's true: CHOC Children's has a robot in the basement preparing certain syringes and IV bags.

In December, CHOC became the first hospital in the world to use RIVA (robotic intravenous automation), a self-contained robotic unit that reduces errors and waste. This system is also allowing CHOC pharmacists to spend more time in patient care units rounding with physicians.

RIVA is linked to the pharmacy's computer system, which specifies the drug, concentration, dose and volume. Currently, the system is dispensing eight medications, which account for about 20 percent of all IV doses.

"We are already seeing a significant decrease in waste," says Rita Jew, executive director of Pharmacy Services. "The ratio of pharmacists to pharmacy technicians is 1:2. Automating this process allows CHOC pharmacists to spend more time on the patient care units providing drug consults, especially on the medical surgical unit, instead of supervising technicians in the basement."

She added the system continues to be fine-tuned. RIVA has a double-checking system, and a CHOC pharmacist also checks each dose before it goes to the patient.

For more information about the RIVA robotic intravenous automation system, please contact Rita Jew, Pharmacy Services, at (714) 532-8345.



Rita Jew, executive director of Pharmacy Services poses next to CHOC's new state-of-the-art robotic unit, RIVA.

UCI Specialty Clinics Begin Transition to CHOC

In March, 11 UC Irvine sub-specialty physicians and their patients began transitioning to the CHOC Children's campus in Orange for outpatient care in the following areas:

- Genetics
- Metabolic
- Neurology
- Nephrology
- Allergy
- Cardiology
- Endocrine

"We anticipate a transition of 1,100 to 1,800 patients to CHOC with an estimated volume impact of 4,800 additional visits each year," says Kathy Kolodge, executive director of

CHOC Children's Ambulatory Services.

"Our first collaborative clinic with UCI began in 2001 with the development of a joint Asthma Chronic Lung Disease Center. We are fortunate to be able to replicate this model in other specialty areas."

Earlier this year, UC Irvine transferred most pediatric inpatients to CHOC as part of the affiliation agreement between both facilities. However, UC Irvine continues to provide pediatric emergency services, burn care, trauma services requiring immediate surgery, neonatal intensive care, newborn nursery care, and child and adolescent psychiatry.

For more details, please contact the appropriate specialty physician or Kathy Kolodge at (714) 532-8578.

CHOC is pleased to announce the Physician Affiliation Agreement between the Pediatric Subspecialty Faculty and the Department of Pediatrics, UC Irvine, was signed on June 8, 2009. Operations as described in the agreement are scheduled to begin on July 1, 2009. This integration is part of CHOC and UCI's strategic affiliation, which has been in effect since early this year. More details to come in the Fall 2009 issue of *Physician Connection*.



455 S. Main Street
Orange, CA 92868-3874

CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital
27700 Medical Center Road
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 416
ORANGE, CA

CHOC Children's receives prestigious CAPE award

CHOC Children's recently earned the Silver Level CAPE Award from the California Council of Excellence — the only children's hospital in California to ever earn this distinction.

The CAPE Program is the highest recognition in the state for performance excellence. It uses the same rigorous criteria as the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award to recognize organizations that demonstrate continuous improvement and superior performance in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement knowledge management, human resources, process management and business results.



(Third and fourth from left): Mustafa Kabeer, M.D., member of the CHOC Children's Board of Directors, and Kimberly Cripe, CHOC Children's President and CEO, are presented the Silver Level CAPE Award by the California Council for Excellence at the awards ceremony on April 17, 2009.