Le Bonheur, Child Advocacy Center collaborate

Beginning June 1, Le Bonheur Children’s will collaborate with the Memphis Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to provide timely, sensitive forensic medical exams and treatment to children who have experienced sexual abuse. “We plan to build on the many strengths of the current system, including the strong history of Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center, to enhance services to children and families,” said Susan Steppe, director of Social Work at Le Bonheur Children’s.

Le Bonheur will establish an outpatient clinic solely devoted to conducting forensic medical examinations for alleged child victims at the CAC. In emergency situations, children will be treated in Le Bonheur’s Emergency Department by medical professionals who are trained and certified to conduct forensic medical examinations. While the clinic is developed, forensic medical exams will be conducted on the Le Bonheur campus in collaboration with other members of the investigative team housed at the CAC.

Le Bonheur will devote the services of Dr. Karen Lakin, University of Tennessee Health Science Center physician and Medical Director of Le Bonheur's Child Assessment Program, to this effort, and will supply additional nurse practitioners as needed.

Physicians who believe a child in their care may require these services are asked to follow the standard protocol for reporting suspected abuse to law enforcement officials. Law enforcement officials will consult with child welfare authorities to determine if a forensic medical exam is necessary.

Physicians urged to Speak Now for Kids

Le Bonheur parents are speaking out about children’s health care as part of a national effort to make sure kids are included in health care reform legislation. The National Association of Children’s Hospitals has launched a Web site – speaknowforkids.org – to ensure that the health care needs of children are adequately represented in the health care reform debate now underway.

Several Le Bonheur parents have already voiced their concerns ranging from coordination of care among a large medical team to insurance caps for chronically ill children. Tim Flack, father of a 3-year-old heart patient and member of the Family Partner's Council, asked Congress to address is insurance options for chronically ill children. “We have private insurance and our daughter Madeline has a lifetime cap of $1 million,” Tim said. “Most people would never meet that cap, but when you have a chronically ill child who is frequently hospitalized you see how quickly that can add up. What will we do when Madeline reaches that cap?”

To have a voice in upcoming health care reform, go to speaknowforkids.org to share your concerns. For more information, contact Maureen O’Connor at 901-287-6718 or oconnorm@lebonheur.org.

Le Bonheur Director of Public Policy Maureen O’Connor, right, recently appeared on WREG’s Live at 9 with former patient Madeline Flack to educate the community about Speak Now for Kids.
MacDonald named Audiology medical director

Bruce MacDonald, MD, was recently announced as the medical director of the Audiology department at Le Bonheur Children’s.

In his new role, MacDonald will help oversee quality, safety and regulatory operations within the department as well as helping to facilitate planning and business development.

“We're delighted to have Dr. MacDonald on board,” said Le Bonheur Audiologist Cindy Gore. “His expertise in the field of otolaryngology – particularly working with cochlear implants – will be an asset to the continued growth and development of the audiology program.”

MacDonald received his medical degree and completed an otolaryngology residency at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, and he completed a neurotology fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh. He serves as Associate Professor and Clinical Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and is board certified by the America Board of Otolaryngology.

Hospital adds pediatric fellowships

Le Bonheur Children’s and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center will add two new pediatric fellowships this summer.

A new pediatric radiology fellowship program has been added, just months after Harris Cohen, MD, was named chief of the Le Bonheur program.

“The creation of a pediatric radiology fellowship will help us build a more academic vision while we maintain fine clinical services,” Cohen said. “This is an opportunity that, as we build a new hospital, will hopefully help recruit residents to stay on as attending physicians and attract attending physicians looking for teaching opportunities.”

A new pediatric pulmonary fellowship also will be added, giving the institutions the chance to train a new generation of pediatric pulmonologists.

“The beneficial effect of having a fellowship is a subtle one: the organization necessary to have a fellowship is a lot of work, but it forces us to have a better formal teaching and evaluation program,” said Dennis Stokes, MD MPH, chief of the pediatric pulmonary medicine programs at Le Bonheur, UTHSC and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. “Obviously we also hope to keep good fellows around as junior faculty after their training to help address the difficulty of recruiting new pulmonologists.”

Clarke honored by Patients’ Choice

Le Bonheur Children’s Neurologist Dave Clarke, MD, recently received a Patients’ Choice Recognition Award. Out of 720,000 active physicians nationwide, fewer than 5 percent received this distinction in 2008. Selected physicians were honored by their patients in this manner for receiving near-perfect scores in bedside manner, doctor-patient face time, degree of follow-up, courtesy of office staff and overall level of care.

Dr. Clarke is board certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with special qualifications in Child Neurology. His areas of special interest include epilepsy, neurological complications of sickle cell disease, pediatric neurology and sleep abnormalities.
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| **Pediatric Grand Rounds:** Pediatric Cardiology | CME | Wednesday, June 3, 8:00 - 9:00 AM | Le Bonheur Auditorium | Paolo Rusconi, M.D.  
Division of Pediatric Cardiology  
Medical Director Pediatric Heart & Transplant and Heart Failure  
University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center  
Miami, FL |
| **Speakers Bureau:** Pediatric Trauma | CME | Tuesday, June 9, Noon – lunch, 12:30 - presentation | Classroom 1  
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare Germantown  
Germantown, TN | Mark Bugnitz, M.D.  
Pediatric Critical Care  
Professor of Pediatrics  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
Memphis, TN |
| **Pediatric Grand Rounds:** “Diagnosing Hearing Loss Early: Hearing and Language Development in the Pediatric Population” | CME | Wednesday, June 10, 8:00 - 9:00 AM | Le Bonheur Auditorium | Cindy Gore, MA, CCC-A  
Audiologist  
Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center  
Memphis, TN |
| **Speakers Bureau:** TBA | CME | Friday, June 12, 9:00 AM | North Mississippi Medical Center  
North Education Center  
Conference Room 6  
Tupelo, MS | TBA |
| **Pediatric Grand Rounds:** “ATV-Related Injuries in Children: A New Epidemic” | CME | Wednesday, June 17, 8:00 – 9:00 AM | Le Bonheur Auditorium | Jeffrey R. Sawyer, M.D.  
Assistant Professor of Orthopedics  
The Campbell Clinic  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
Memphis, TN |
| **Speakers Bureau:** Pediatric Urology | CME | Friday, June 19, 12:15 | Crittenden Memorial Hospital  
Schoettle Medical Education Center  
West Memphis, AR | Dana Giel, M.D.  
Private Practice  
Pediatric Urology and Surgery  
Memphis, TN |
| **Pediatric Grand Rounds:** “Palliative Care” | CME | Wednesday, June 24, 8:00 – 9:00 AM | Le Bonheur Auditorium | Melody J. Cunningham, M.D.  
Director, Division of Palliative Care  
LeBonheur Children’s Medical Center  
Memphis, TN |
New diabetes clinic to open; clinical trial candidates sought

Le Bonheur will launch a new hospital-based, outpatient diabetes clinic this summer. The clinic will be located on the First Floor of Le Bonheur’s Physician Office Building.

“Our new clinic is exclusively for patients with diabetes," said Wyatt Howell, Le Bonheur’s vice president of Ambulatory Services. "We hope to provide better access to our endocrinologists for this patient population."

Appointments will be scheduled based on the acuity of the patient, Howell said. To make an appointment in the new Le Bonheur diabetes clinic, call the Le Bonheur Referral and Resource Center at 901-287-7337 or 1-866-870-5570.

Le Bonheur is also helping to facilitate a clinical trial for children and adults with newly diagnosed Type 1 diabetes. If you have a patient between the ages of 8 and 35 years who weighs at least 79 pounds and has been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes within the past 10 weeks, they may qualify for this trial.

The Protégé clinical trial will evaluate the effects of teplizumab, an investigational drug, on slowing the autoimmune attack that damages insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. Specifically, the study will continue to evaluate the safety of teplizumab and examine whether patients who receive the investigational drug may be able to produce some of their own insulin, allowing better metabolic control than those who do not receive the study drug.

For more information or to refer a candidate, contact Robert Ferry, MD, at 901-287-6292, or Dana McCommon, RN, at 901-418-8920. Additional information about the trial can be found at www.protegediabetes.org.