

## GRAND ROUNDS

*There are no Grand Rounds scheduled for December.*

## CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

**Dec. 17**

**Maternal Fetal Medicine Journal Club: Late Preterm Birth**  
Morris Bryant, M.D., assistant professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, UT Southwestern. 6 p.m., Ambulatory Care Pavilion conference center at Children's at Legacy campus in Plano.  
RSVP to 469-303-3593 or email leah.lawrence@childrens.com.

## MEDICAL UPDATE: New Autism Prevalence Rates and Intervention Standards

Data released Oct. 5 from the American Academy of Pediatrics on a parental report of autism from the National Survey of Children's Health estimate 1 in 100 children in the U.S. have an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This is significantly higher than previous prevalence estimates from the CDC (2007), which indicated rates of 1 in 150 children.

In spite of potential study limitations, such as the validity of telephone-surveyed parent reports, the CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network confirmed that preliminary data from its updated prevalence report similarly indicate that approximately 1 percent of U.S. children are affected with an ASD.

This year, the National Autism Center completed an unprecedented multi-year project – the National Standards Project – to establish a set of standards for effective, research-validated educational and behavioral interventions for children, adolescents and young adults (below age 22) on the autism spectrum. These standards identify treatments that effectively target the core symptoms of ASD and specify age groups, treatment targets, diagnostic populations, and level of scientific evidence available for each intervention. The meta-analysis includes 775 research studies published between 1957 and 2007 and covers a broad

range of applied treatments. The findings include the identification of:

- 11 “Established” Treatments – those producing beneficial outcomes and known to be effective for individuals on the autism spectrum. The overwhelming majority of these interventions were developed in the behavioral literature (e.g., applied behavior analysis, behavioral psychology, and positive behavior support).
- 22 “Emerging” Treatments – those with some evidence of effectiveness, but which are best used only as adjunctive interventions at this time.
- 5 “Unestablished” Treatments – treatments for which there is no sound evidence of effectiveness.

The complete National Standards Project report is accessible for free at [www.nationalautismcenter.org](http://www.nationalautismcenter.org). Copies are also available in the Autism Family Resource Center at Children's Medical Center.

**For more information on autism and autism treatment, please contact the Crystal Charity Ball Autism Project at Children's (214-456-7700) or visit the Autism Family Resource Center at 6300 Harry Hines Blvd., Chase Bank Building, 9th floor.**

## SERVICE UPDATE: Diagnostic and Consultation Clinic

The Diagnostic and Consultation Clinic at Children's Medical Center offers a broad range of diagnostic and therapy recommendations for children with conditions that are puzzling or difficult to classify or who have chronic or complex diseases that may not fit into a single subspecialty.

Clinic evaluations involve a thorough review of the patient's medical history along with a complete physical examination.

The physician referral-only service targets patients whose initial diagnosis and symptoms require further evaluation and for whom a second opinion is desired.

The Diagnostic and Consultation Clinic is comprised of specialists who concentrate on multi-system disease pediatric problems and is led by Drs. Joel Steinberg and Lauren Gore. The clinic provides immediate coordination of care with the child's primary care physician.

The outpatient clinic's services are available on Wednesday mornings on the fifth floor of the Dallas Ambulatory Care Pavilion.

**To contact the clinic, please call the Children's Access Center at 888-730-DOCS (3627).**

### CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER

For consultations,  
to admit a patient,  
schedule an ambulatory  
appointment, or to arrange a  
transfer to any location, call  
**888-730-DOCS(3627).**  
**[www.childrens.com](http://www.childrens.com)**