Pediatric RESEARCH

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EDITOR'S FOCUS

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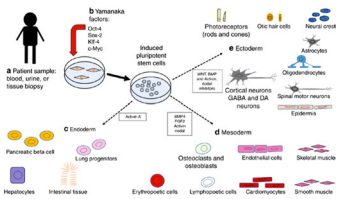
Early career investigator

Congratulations to Brian Stansfield, the Early Career Investigator for October. Educated at the Medical College of Georgia, Dr. Stansfield briefly practiced pediatric emergency medicine, only to answer the call to neonatology at the University of Indiana, where he was encouraged to join the Pediatric Scientist Development Program. A good choice, as he became hooked on basic research, demonstrating that it is never too late! In this issue, his laboratory reports the impact of a maternal nutrient-restricted diet on the cell biology of the guinea pig heart. **See pages 474 and 537**

iPSCs in multicellular models of human disease



In this review article, Durbin et al. examine the power of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) taken from patients to form models of their disease. iPSCs can be programmed to differentiate and form organoids. Various techniques are described, as are recent established disease models. **See page 499**

Association between intestinal permeability and nutrition in Nepalese children

Sean White/Getty

Morseth et al. followed 218 Nepalese children 9–24 months of age, using dietary histories, gut-permeability measurement, and fecal inflammatory markers. Negative associations were found between nutrient intake and markers of intestinal inflammation. Significant associations were found for several nutrients and myeloperoxidase. **See page 509**

A briefer consent form does not affect parental understanding of a clinical trial

BRAND X

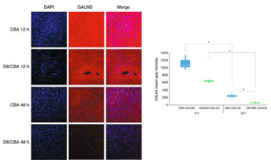
In this preliminary study, Murray et al. tested a shortened and simplified informed-consent form against a conventional form in two parental advocacy groups. There was no significant difference between the two forms in the participants' understanding of the key study components. **See page 516**

Vitamin D polymorphism may be associated with UTIs

Dorling Kindersley/Getty

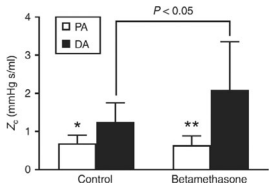
Mahyar et al. studied 60 children with urinary tract infections (UTIs) and 60 healthy children from Iran. They found two genetic polymorphisms in the gene for the vitamin D receptor that were significantly different between the two groups. **See page 527**

Targeting viral vectors to bone in Morquio disease



Alméciga-Díaz et al. added eight aspartic acid residues after the N-terminal region of the VP2 capsid protein. They found that the modified vector increased gene delivery to bone and increased its enzyme activity there 4.7-fold. In an Insights piece in this issue, a patient and members of his family describe efforts to ameliorate the symptoms of Morquio disease. **See pages 545 and 568**

Alterations in pulmonary blood flow following betamethasone



Smolich and Mynard studied factors contributing to increased pulmonary blood flow in fetuses following maternal betamethasone therapy. They found that increased right ventricle power and ductal impedance were factors in this increase. **See page 558**