



RESEARCH update

February 2009

7,000 Steps for a Child, a Giant Leap for Prevention



SPORT keeps Louisa a step ahead with good physical activity and nutrition.

Louisa proudly wears her pedometer on her waist daily. Each step she takes walking to school and returning home adds to the counter. The activities in her PE class increase the total number of steps. At the end of Louisa's day, she records the number of steps faithfully before bedtime. Day after day, the final count ranges between 7,000 and 8,000 steps.

Louisa reports the number of steps to her PE coach at elementary school weekly. The school is participating in a study of the SPORT program. SPORT, which stands for School Partnership for Obesity Research and Prevention, is a school-based physical activity and nutrition program. "SPORT is an obesity prevention program, not a treatment," says Dr. Judith Weber of the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation.

The program strives to make children aware of physical activity and healthy eating to stop the increase in weight gain. "SPORT is appropriate for all children whether they're overweight, normal weight, or underweight," explains Dr. Weber. "Regardless of body size, increased physical activity and healthy food selection are positive choices."

The third and fourth graders at Louisa's school are the second group participating in Dr. Weber's SPORT program. In Phase I, significant improvements were made in offerings of competitive foods, which are items such as pizza, candy, and chips often used as rewards and prizes in classrooms, and average numbers of walking steps increased dramatically. Most notably, a significant reduction in average percent body fat was found in participating children. In this second phase of the SPORT study, Dr. Weber and her team will see if they can replicate those results at a second school. Implementing the program at an additional site may also provide new insight into the integration and administration of SPORT.

About Louisa's participation in SPORT, her mother Claudia says, "She gets a kick out of noticing how many steps are on her pedometer." Claudia joins her daughter on her walks to and from school also benefiting from physical activity. The nutrition focus of SPORT has an impact on the lunch Louisa takes to school.

As she does with all of her family's meals, Claudia prefers a proper diet that allows for treats and modest portions and includes grains, fruits, and vegetables in each meal. She packs Louisa's school lunches with

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[ACHRI Web Site Home Page](#)

the same thought in mind. Louisa lunches usually include a healthy sandwich, a piece of fruit, a cookie or yogurt cup, and a bottle of water.

Dr. Weber wants SPORT activities to keep kids from being caught up in the wave of obesity whether they're overweight or not. She says, "It's good for kids not in traditional sports; SPORT is primarily a walking program. Kids who may be intimidated or not interested in competitive or organized sports can do well in a walking program."

SPORT is not an individual competition. As steps are logged, students can view the classroom totals at the SPORT Web site: www.mysportkids.com. Classrooms compete against each other, and all participants receive sports-oriented items as rewards. The Web site features also support the efforts of the students registered for the Little Rockers Marathon.

With parental consent, each SPORT student is measured on his or her height, weight, percentage of body fat, and waist circumferences at different time-points (pre-intervention, mid-term, and post-intervention) to detect possible physical changes, and complete surveys about time spent watching TV and playing video and computer games. Surveys are also collected about the competitive foods offered at the schools. These results will help Dr. Weber's team determine if the SPORT program provides a successful intervention to obesity prevention.

A grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds SPORT. Arkansas Action for Healthy Kids, ACHRI, Injury Free Coalition for Kids, Midwest Dairy Council, UA Cooperative Extension Service, and UAMS also provide assistance for SPORT and its activities.

Dr. Weber points out that SPORT is intended for third and fourth grade elementary school students, but it can be adapted for all elementary school grades, K through 5. SPORT also has Louisa's endorsement: "Other schools should try it. It's a really good program."

President's Choice

Stop by the bulletin board located in the first-floor lobby of the ACHRI building to see this month's President's Choice publications. The following articles were selected as this month's feature publications.

- Pabona JM, Velarde MC, Zeng Z, Simmen FA, Simmen RC. Nuclear receptor co-regulator Kruppel-like factor 9 and prohibitin 2 expression in estrogen-induced epithelial cell proliferation in the mouse uterus. *J Endocrinol.* 2009 Jan;200(1):63-73.
- Burke BL, Robbins JM, Bird TM, Hobbs CA, Nesmith C, Tilford JM. Trends in hospitalizations for neonatal jaundice and kernicterus in the United States, 1988-2005. *Pediatrics.* 2009 Feb;123(2):524-32.

ACHRI would like to know about your published findings, as your articles are published, please email or mail a copy to [Phaedra Yount](mailto:Phaedra.Yount@achri.org) (mail slot 842). The number of publications by our researchers is reported to the hospital and ACHRI boards, so it is important that we receive an accurate count of the publications your research produces. To see all recent publications by ACHRI researchers and their collaborators, please visit the [publications web page](http://www.achri.org/publications).

2009 Summer Science Program - Mentors Needed

The UAMS Department of Pediatrics and ACHRI are again co-sponsoring the Summer Science Program. The program is intended to give college students experience in working in medical research and a view of medicine in general. The program lasts ten weeks during the summer. To learn more about the program and to download the mentor or student application, please visit the program web page at <http://achri.archildrens.org/Education/SummerScienceProgram.htm>.

Applications are due no later than March 2, 2009. Please forward completed applications to Jenny Kubacak, Summer Science Program Coordinator, at ACHRI Slot 842.

Spring Break Research Volunteers

Students from three universities are volunteering at ACH over their spring breaks. Prior to their arrival, they are being asked to complete the IRB training online. We orient them on their first morning here, and then they are ready to work! If you would be interested in utilizing these college students, please contact Melissa Wolfe in the ACH Volunteer Services Office 364-1825. There are approximately 10-11 in each of these groups: March 2-6 – Wartburg College; March 9-13 – Florida State University; March 16-20 – Texas A&M University.

Research Interests Database

A new resource is available for researchers in the Department of Pediatrics to facilitate collaboration and mentorship. The Department of Pediatrics Research Interest Database (DOP RID) provides a listing of the research interests of members of the Department of Pediatrics and information on their willingness to mentor and partner with other researchers. It can be accessed via the following link (<http://myach.archildrens.org/images/content/doprid-surveyresults.pdf>). The DOP RID will be updated yearly by email questionnaire. If you would like to update or add new information prior to the next survey, please email Dr. Nada Harik, hariknada@uams.edu. All ACHRI researchers are invited to participate in the database. The link can be found on the [MyACH web page](#) and on [the ACHRI Research Resources web page](#).

ACHRI Address Change

With the dedication of Children's Way (formerly Marshall Street), ACHRI has a new street address: 13 Children's Way. Use this address on grant applications submitted through ACHRI. Refer to the [sample SF 424](#) with ACHRI information at our Web site to view the change for NIH submissions.

Dissecting Research Misconduct (a 3-part series)

The Office of Research Integrity defines Misconduct as: "...*fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results...*"

As a general working definition, ORI considers Falsification to be manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record.

Case Study:

Elton, is conducting graduate research at a major university. In order to complete his graduate studies and produce an advanced degree, Elton must develop a research report. As a part of the effort to develop his report, Elton compiles a vast amount of data relevant to his subject.

The vast majority of data obtained by Elton strongly support not only his report's conclusion, but also the conclusions of others. However, a small proportion of the data differs from the data consistent with Elton's conclusion. Convinced that his report is sound, however, and concerned that the inclusion of the anomalous data would only detract from the essentials of the report, Elton does not include these figures in the report.

Was Elton guilty of falsification of research results in omitting the anomalous data? Yes, it would appear that he purposefully removed data to support his conclusion.

There could be more legitimate reasons for omitting the data and it depends on other facts as well. These would be investigated if reported to the hotline or found during an audit.

If you think you have witnessed falsification of data you can call the compliance hotline anonymously. Find out more here: http://www.archildrens.org/about/corporate_compliance.asp

Compliance Corner

Are you preparing a New Submission to the IRB or completing your yearly Continuing Review? Remember, that the hospital address has changed to 1 Children's Way and the Research Institute changed to 13 Children's Way. Save some time in the long run. Take a moment to make sure you have the correct address throughout all of your paperwork for the study before you submit.

IRB Announcement

Effective February 2nd, 2009, the deadline for submitting protocols for review will be two weeks prior to the meeting dates. A new deadline schedule is posted to the IRB web site at http://www.uams.edu/irb/IRB_Meeting_2.asp.

For example, protocols received by Monday, February 2nd will be placed on the February 17th agenda for review. The purpose of this change is to provide the IRB Staff and the IRB Reviewers appropriate time to review each protocol for the required elements as dictated by Federal regulations, AAHRPP accreditation, and UAMS policy. Our goal is to improve the quality and efficiency of each review performed by the IRB. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mo Valentine, IRB Director at 526-7559 or the main IRB number at 686-5667.

Traveling Outside the United States for Grant-Related Purposes?

When traveling outside the United States for grant-related purposes, please consider the following before you commit to the trip:

- What is considered foreign travel?

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-122 defines foreign travel as any travel outside Canada, Mexico, the United States, and any United States territories and possessions. However, you should review award notices and agency guidelines to determine that particular agency's definition of foreign travel.

- Does the awarding agency allow for foreign travel?

OMB Circular A-122 states, "Direct charges for foreign travel costs are allowable only when the travel has received prior approval of the awarding agency. Each separate foreign trip must receive such approval." Approval for foreign travel may be stated in the award notice. If not, you will be required to obtain written approval from the awarding agency before ACHRI can approve travel expenditures.

- Are there any restrictions when choosing an airline?

The Fly America Act requires federal grantees to travel by U.S. flag air carriers. Exceptions are made if a U.S. flag air carrier cannot provide the air transportation needed or use of a U.S. flag air carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission. (FAR Subpart 47.4) These restrictions will be eased at the end of March as a new regulatory framework governing commercial air travel between the U.S. and Europe emerges.

Before you make any foreign travel plans, please contact ACHRI staff for their review of your award. For current awards, contact Leslie Montgomery (364-6546). For grant submissions, contact Lee Smith (364-3581). As always when making travel plans, foreign or domestic, please review the ACH travel policy (F04 - Travel (Business & Education) and Business Expense)

[http://myach/vaultfiles/policies%20and%20procedures/administrative/f04_travel%20\(business%20%20and%20%20education\)%20and%20business%20expense%20policy.pdf#search='travel](http://myach/vaultfiles/policies%20and%20procedures/administrative/f04_travel%20(business%20%20and%20%20education)%20and%20business%20expense%20policy.pdf#search='travel)

Wanted: Researcher Profiles!

Last month there were almost 900 page visits to ACHRI's "Our Researchers" index page. These views were from many of the over 1,800 unique visitors to ACHRI's Web site. Would you like to add your researcher profile to our Web site? If so, send [John Gregan](#) the following information: your title, a paragraph about your research interests and accomplishments, a list of your current research funding, appropriate contact information, and a list of five key publications. Include a current digital photograph if you have one available. You can view the profiles we've developed here:

<http://achri.archildrens.org/researchers/faculty.htm>.

If you already have a profile at our web site, contact John if you need to revise it in regards to accomplishments, publications, and funding.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

The UAMS Office of Research Compliance (ORC) is offering two exciting courses for those interested in furthering their knowledge regarding research with human subjects:

Manufacturing Records

Presented by Larry Parker, BSMT (ASCP), MHSA
Quality Control Specialist
UAMS Research Support Center
Wednesday, February 11th
9 - 10 AM
IDW 204

Adverse Event Reporting: Prove Compliance, Ensure Patient Safety

Audio Conference
Bring your lunch; Drinks will be provided
Thursday, February 19th
12 - 1:30 PM
IDW 204

Register for these classes through [Training Tracker](#). And check out our web site for more information on our [upcoming courses](#) and our [Certified Research Specialist Program](#). If you have any questions, please email [Kathryn Henning, PhD](#) or call 501-526-6879.

Funding Opportunities

Please note that if you are interested in applying for funding to one of the foundations described below, you will need to notify Lee Smith as early as possible. Some private funding agencies will not accept multiple applications from an institution during a given funding cycle. In the event that we have interest from multiple researchers, the ACHRI Scientific Advisory Board may be asked to select an applicant.

Thrasher Research Fund

Thrasher Research Fund seeks to foster an environment of creativity and discovery aimed at finding solutions to children's health problems. The Fund awards grants for research that offers substantial promise for meaningful advances in prevention and treatment of children's diseases, particularly research that offers broad-based applications.

The Thrasher Research Fund is open to a variety of pediatric medical research topics. Research projects with the potential to impact a large number of children as well as research projects that address severe problems affecting relatively few children will be considered. The Fund supports clinical/translational pediatric research. Emphasis is placed on projects with potential findings that would be clinically applicable in a relatively short period of time for the prevention, diagnosis and/or treatment of pediatric medical problems.

The Fund has awarded grants that have ranged from a few thousand dollars to approximately \$400,000. The Fund's median award is \$230,000, with the majority between \$150,000 and \$300,000. Early Career Awards are limited to a maximum of \$25,000 in direct costs, plus up to 7% indirect costs.

For more info, visit the Thrasher Research Fund Web site: <http://www.thrasherresearch.org>. Concept papers are accepted on a rolling basis with no specific deadline for submission.

Heineman Foundation Provides Seed Money to Start-Up Projects

The purpose of the Heineman Foundation is to provide seed money to start-up projects and new projects within existing organizations for a maximum of three to five years. The average range of our donations is \$20,000.00 to \$50,000.00, per annum. Applications/Proposals must be submitted no later than September 1st. The Foundation has several general areas of interest, including research into prevention of and treatment for childhood illnesses. This foundation has a **very simple application process**.

<http://www.heinemanfoundation.org/>

Monthly Funding Opportunities List

The National Association of Children's Hospitals (NACH) prepares and distributes upcoming funding opportunities every two weeks. Funding opportunities recently distributed by the NACH are available on the ACHRI web site (http://achri.archildrens.org/resources/funding_opp.htm). This file is updated monthly. Bookmark the page! The listing of funding opportunities is located on the intranet; you must have access to MyACH vault files to open the file.

New Industry-Sponsored Projects

Clinical Trials	Agency	Project Period	Total Cost
Bauer	Enobia	1/09 - 12/09	\$53,053
Laura James	Novartis	1/09 - 7/09	\$1,300

Recent Grant Awards and Submissions

Intramural Grant Awards

PI	Funding Source	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Mary Aitken	CUMG	Efficacy of Family-based GDL to Reduce Motor Vehicle Injuries in Teens	2/1/09-1/31/10	\$39,959
Carrie Brown	CUMG	Resident Education on Patient and Family Centered Pediatric Palliative Care	11/8/08-10/9/09	\$23,708
Katherine Clement	CUMG	Neurally Adjusted Ventilatory Assist (NAVA) Reduces Response Times in Pediatric Patients with Bronchiolitis	2/1/09-1/31/11	\$38,594
Mohy Morris	CUMG	Forced Expiration and Lung Volume in Infant Lung Disease	9/1/08-8/31/10	\$40,000
Xiawei Ou	CUMG	Conventional MRI with Diffusion Tensor Imaging and Magnetization Transfer Evaluation of Cerebral White Matter Injury in Extremely Low Birth Weight Infants	1/1/09-12/31/10	\$18,415

Extramural Submissions

PI	Agency	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Sarah Blossom	AHA	Immunoregulatory Role of Maternal Prostaglandin D2 in a Mouse Model of Environmental-Toxicant-Induced Congenital Heart Defects	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$140,000
Shimul Chowdhury	AHA	Genetic and Epigenetic Alterations in Homocysteine-Methionine Pathway Area Associated with an Increased Risk of Non-Syndromic Congenital Heart Defects (CHD's)	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$50,000
Angela Green	AHA	Health Related Quality Outcomes of Life of Young Children with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome and their Caregivers	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$119,519
Jill James	University of Louisville sub Duke	Louisville GSH Study fee for service agreement	1/1/09-12/31/11	\$16,500
Roger Rank	NIH	Modeling the Eco-Pathogenomics of Chlamydial Infection	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$618,033
Rosalia Simmen	AICR	Dietary Regulation of Mammary Stromal Adipocyte Signaling and Prevention of Breast Cancer	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$165,000
Kimo Stine	NIH	CHAVI 014	7/1/09-6/30/10	\$7,989
Michael Stroud	AHA	Goal-directed Resuscitation Interventions during Pediatric Inter-facility Transport (The GRIPIT Trial)	7/1/09-6/30/11	\$119,576

Intramural Grant Submissions

PI	Funding Source	Project Title	Project Period	Total Funding
Dennis Kuo	Lyon	Toward a Family-Centered, Community Based System of Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs in Arkansas	4/1/09-3/31/11	\$50,000
Marie Lacy	Lyon	Neutrophil Serine Proteinases Promote the Pathogenesis of Ocular Chlamydial Infections	6/1/09-5/30/11	\$50,000
Gresham Richter	Lyon	Experimental Models for the Investigation of Vascular Anomalies: An Avenue to the Discovery of New Treatments for Problematic Hemangiomas and Vascular Malformations	3/1/09-2/28/11	\$49,906