

Pediatrics Division

The mission of the Pediatric Division is to improve the care of children in the Texas Panhandle, Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, and also those from the surrounding region through direct patient care, teaching, and scholarly activities.

The Pediatrics Division is the primary division to the four clinical track pediatric faculty and also the secondary division to one member of the Clinical Sciences and Research Division. The primary members practice in all areas of pediatric health care, including ambulatory care, general pediatrics, and neonatal and pediatric intensive care. Currently, all primary members are clinical track, and thus spend the majority of their time in the clinician-educator role. However, scholarship in the area of pediatric pharmacotherapy is expected of and conducted by each member. Specifically, division members strive to attain excellence in patient care, which has been recognized with state and national awards, teaching, and proficiency in scholarly activities.

Dr. Thomas Parker practices primarily in the ambulatory care setting, with a focus in the management of children with diabetes. He sees his own patients and is responsible for all aspects of the management of his patients' diabetes. **Dr. Janie Robles** is the sole Pediatric faculty member at the Lubbock campus, and she provides clinical services to all areas of inpatient care as well as providing patient care services in the ambulatory setting, specifically in the area of asthma. **Dr. Mark Haase** practices primarily in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and currently serves as Head of the Pediatric Division. **Dr. Sherry Luedtke** practices primarily in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and currently serves as the Associate Dean for Professional Affairs for the School of Pharmacy. The division's secondary member has pediatric ties as well. **Dr. Richard Leff**, Regional Dean for the Dallas-Fort Worth campus, established the Pediatric Pharmacology Research and Development Center in collaboration with University of Texas Southwestern physicians to conduct pharmacokinetic and metabolism studies in the pediatric population.

Division Goals for 2007-2009

1. Evaluate the Pediatric Clerkship core requirements and structure to allow students on all campuses to be assessed on the final exam in a more representative fashion of the site they are placed in.
2. Develop continuing education programs which could be delivered locally, regionally, or nationally, potentially including participation with the School of Pharmacy programs or with sponsorship by other organizations such as hospitals or state and national organizations.
3. Development and production of research and scholarship including collaboration of primary members with the secondary members from the Clinical Sciences and Research Division.
4. Develop a network of Texas practitioners and preceptors to assist in communication between sites in the state with a goal of providing participants

resources for patient care, including information on common patients and state or region specific clinical practices.

Division Self-Analysis

Strengths:

- 1) All primary members provide clinical patient care services 12 months per year and some have been recognized locally and nationally for their efforts
- 2) The division members continue to provide a consistently excellent clerkship experience through cooperation and a year round presence in the patient care arena

Weaknesses:

- 1) Due to clerkship load, other teaching obligations, and clinical training background, development of clinical research is limited, though a consistent production of scholarship is present
- 2) There are a small number of primary members that provide all required pediatric clerkships on the Amarillo and Lubbock campuses, and significant strain would be placed on the remaining members if one were to leave