

## Meet the 2021 Neonatal Conference Speakers

### Alex Zavala



Alex is a husband, small business owner, and father to two preemie girls in the Austin, TX area. Alex saw a gap in the support and information that NICU dads receive. He started The NICU Dad as a resource to help fill this gap. Alex has become an advocate for NICU dads and NICU dad support. He is a peer mentor for NICU dads and hosts some NICU dad groups in some local NICUs. Alex also partnered with Hand to Hold and hosts NICU Dad Discussions, a podcast for NICU dads. He has helped bring awareness to what NICU dads experience and the continued support they need. His family is an Ambassador Family for several organizations that offer NICU family support like Ronald McDonald House Charities, Hand to Hold, and March of Dimes.

### Alexandra Oschman, PharmD, BCPPS



Dr. Alexandra Oschman is a NICU Clinical Pharmacy Specialist and the PGY2 Pediatric Pharmacy Residency Program Director at Children's Mercy Kansas City. She completed her undergraduate degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Louisville and her PharmD from Purdue University. She then completed her PGY1 residency at Children's Mercy Kansas City, followed by her PGY2 pediatric residency at University of Kentucky Healthcare. In addition to her direct patient care activities, she participates in research, development of guidelines and policies, and serves as a preceptor to pharmacy and medical residents and fellows. Her areas of interest are varied, but include bronchopulmonary dysplasia, neonatal infections, and pharmacotherapy. Outside of work, Dr. Oschman enjoys travelling, watersports, and spending time with her family.

### Betsy Knappen MSN, RN, NNP-BC



Betsy Knappen is a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas City. She coordinates the Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Program at Advent Health Shawnee Mission along with Dr. Jackson. Betsy just completed her role as the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative's QI and Education Coordinator for their NAS initiation where she worked with 33 Birth Centers across the state of Kansas to improve the outcomes of infants and families affected by NAS.

### Daniel Jensen, MD



Dr Jensen is a pediatric otolaryngologist at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. He finds joy in all aspects of his field, but has found particular meaning in management of complex airway problems and seeking improvements in tracheostomy care. He is medical director of the Tracheostomy Program at CMH.

Dena K. Hubbard, MD, FAAP



Dr. Dena K. Hubbard, MD, FAAP is a neonatologist and Interim Director of Quality and Safety for the Neonatology Division at Children's Mercy Kansas City. She spent the first nine years of her career in community practice and returned to academics in 2018 to pursue her passions of advocacy, education, leadership development, and physician wellness. She is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. She is founding co-chair for the AAP Neonatal-Perinatal Section Mid-career neonatologists (MIDCAN) group. Dr. Hubbard currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Kansas AAP chapter and is Chair of the Public Policy Committee. Clinical interests include care of extremely low birthweight infants, neonatal nutrition, late preterm infants, neonatal abstinence syndrome, and trauma-informed care. Academic interests include participating in AAP advocacy and health policy activities, providing pediatric and neonatal continuing education, empowering physicians through leadership development, and promoting wellness for physicians and health care providers with focus on healthcare system issues. Dr. Hubbard resides in Lees Summit, MO with her husband and two daughters. She enjoys spending time with friends and family, travel, dance, and music (especially karaoke!)

Devika Maulik, MD



Dr. Devika Maulik graduated from Cornell Medical School and finished her residency at UCLA. She completed her fellowship in high-risk pregnancy at University of Missouri Kansas City. In her spare time she enjoys reading, art, collecting old writing instruments, and going to theatre with her 5-year old.

Jennifer L. Johnson, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, AFN-BC, SANE-A, SANE-P, DF-AFN



Dr. Jennifer Johnson is a board-certified women's health nurse practitioner, board-certified advanced forensic nurse, and sexual assault nurse examiner with more than 20 years' experience in practice. She currently works as an assistant manager of a comprehensive forensics program in the Midwest and is the president and owner of Johnson Legal Nurse Consulting, LLC. Dr. Johnson earned her doctorate of nursing practice from Maryville University in St. Louis and her master of science in nursing from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Dr. Johnson is an appointed member of a number of professional and governmental organizations related to forensic nursing, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology/National Institute of Justice Evidence Management Project, and is the President Elect and a Co-Founder of the Academy of Forensic Nursing.

John D. Cowden, MD, MPH



Dr. Cowden is Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a general academic pediatrician at Children's Mercy Kansas City, where he served for 10 years as Medical Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity, and now serves as Health Equity Integration Project Leader. He is also founder and Director of the Culture and Language Coaching Program (CLCP), an innovative model for training bilingual health care providers seeking to reach a professional level of linguistic and cross-cultural proficiency.

John Daniel, IV, MD, MS



Dr. Daniel is a cardiac neonatologist caring for infants with critical congenital heart disease as part of the Ward Family Heart Center team at Children's Mercy. He has a special interest in intravenous and enteral nutritional support for infants with systemic ductal dependent, single ventricle physiology. He works with an interdisciplinary group of Cardiologists and Congenital Cardiac Surgeons to optimize preoperative nutrition and care. Additionally, he serves as the Medical Director for the Neonatal Extracorporeal Support (ECMO) Program and is a member of the Neonatal ECMO Transport Team. When not providing patient care Dr. Daniel is an avid amateur historian with a passionate interest in the Second World War and Winston Churchill. He is a voracious reader and has a large personal collection of first edition writings by the former British Prime Minister.

Michelle Finn, MS, IBCLC



Michelle is an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant and a retired leader of La Leche League, an international breastfeeding support organization. She is a member of the International Lactation Consultant Association, the United States Lactation Consultant Association, the Greater Kansas City Lactation Consultant Association. She is a past chair of the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, and served on the board of directors from 2014-2020. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Missouri State University, and holds a master's of science degree in management from Baker University. Michelle has been working with breastfeeding mothers since 2006 in various settings including prenatal education, home- and hospital-based postpartum care, outpatient clinic and community support. She currently leads the lactation department at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City, where she works with a team to maintain the facility's Baby-Friendly designation. Michelle is committed to enabling more parents to meet their infant feeding goals and seeks to promote a broader understanding of breastfeeding as an important element in the development of mother and child. When she isn't working, she enjoys music, cooking, yoga and spending time with family.

Michelle Wimes, JD



Michelle is the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer at Children's Mercy Hospital. She is a strategic leader and former practicing attorney who is deft at implementing change management strategies necessary for a comprehensive and effective diversity and inclusion program. She is a nationally renowned presenter and author and has received numerous awards for her many professional contributions including the Sly James Diversity and Inclusion Award given to members of the KC legal community for their contributions to diversity and inclusion. She also received Missouri Lawyer Media's inaugural diversity and inclusion award honoring 20 state-wide individuals and organizations "for significantly advancing diversity, inclusion and dignity of all people in Missouri's legal profession."

Patty Davis, LSCSW, LCSW, IMH-E(III)



Patty Davis has been a Social Worker at Children's Mercy for 20 years. She has a long history of treating children and families for traumatic stress through evidence-based practices such as Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Child Parent Psychotherapy, and Parent Child Interactive Therapy. Patty currently serves as a program manager for Trauma Informed Care, which entails awareness building and institutional changes designed to incorporate the Trauma Informed Key Principles into all policies, practices and procedures. In the communities, Patty serves as an executive board member of Alive and Well Communities, a tri-state, community-wide effort focused on reducing the impact of toxic stress and trauma on health and wellbeing. She co-leads a Health Leaders workgroup designed to identify and disseminate best practices for trauma-informed practices within the health care sector. In addition, Patty is a co-founder and past-president of Missouri Association of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health. The mission of MOAIMH-EC is to optimize wellbeing in the early years by promoting first relationships and advancing effective infant mental health practice. Patty has been an invited author and content expert for national on-line educational courses through Children's Hospital Association on Delivery of Trauma Informed Healthcare. She has co-authored policy and human resource guidelines for organizations working to become trauma informed. She is an invited speaker at local, state and national conferences, speaking frequently on the signs of symptoms of traumatic stress, effective treatments to prevent and mitigate the effects of trauma, and on building trauma informed systems of care with cultural humility and equity building.

Rebecca Rentea, MD



Rebecca M. Rentea, MD is an assistant professor, pediatric surgeon, and director of the pediatric surgical Comprehensive Colorectal Center at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her general surgery residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She performed her pediatric surgery fellowship at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri followed by a pediatric colorectal and pelvic reconstruction surgery fellowship at Nationwide Children's Hospital at the Ohio State University- Columbus, Ohio. She has a background in clinical and translational research as well as a masters in health outcomes research from Northwestern. Her focus is on pediatric colorectal and pelvic reconstruction pediatric surgery and outcomes research.

Seth Sonnevile, MDiv, MS, BCC



Seth Sonnevile is a Senior Staff Chaplain at Children's Mercy Hospital and is nationally certified through Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc. (BCCI) an affiliate of Association of Professional Chaplains. Seth is the lead chaplain in the Children's Mercy NICU. He received his Master's of Divinity from Saint Paul School of Theology, Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Food Science and Technology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute of Technology (Virginia Tech). He retired as a Lieutenant, Naval Reserve Intelligence Office, after 20 years of honorable service.

Scott May, BHS, RRT, RRT-NPS, C-NPT



Scott May has over 20 years of experience in Pediatric and Neonatal Transport, along with 10 years of high-risk delivery and NICU experience. He was awarded Transport Therapist of the year 2019 by the American Association for Respiratory Care and PHIL award recipient in 2018. He is a content writer and analyst for National Certification Corporation on the Pediatric and Neonatal Transport certification exam and the National Board Respiratory Care. Content writer and instructor for Air and Surface Transport Nurse Association for Pediatric Advanced Transport Course. Scott is a published contributor in the Field Guide for Air and Ground Transport of Neonatal and Pediatric Patients by the American Association of Pediatrics as well as articles in the Section of Transport Medicine. When not working his life away, he enjoys spending time with his wife, two kids, and every fur and feathered baby they bring home.

Tamora Lewis, MD, PhD



Tamora Lewis MD, PhD is a physician scientist at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO dual trained in neonatology and clinical pharmacology. As an Associate Professor, she works collaboratively to design, implement, and manage her clinical and translational research program in Neonatal Precision Therapeutics. In addition to her clinical and research work, she is a fierce advocate for racial health equity and desegregation of the medical workforce.