

The Parent Connection

August—September
2021



Parent Working Group

Hello Parents! We hope this finds all of our parents and kids doing well. We know what a struggle the past year has been for our families and we want you to know we are here for you. Please reach out if you need anything. We have planned some exciting events for this year and hope you can join us.

CALLING ALL PARENTS!

Would you like to be more involved with your PCH team and be a part of advocating for your child? Would you like to help with educational or family support programs? We would love to have you on our team! Please visit our website for more information on how you can help!

<https://ibdpgw.org>

IBD Parent Working Group

Zoom Meeting: Oct 20, 2021 at 5:00pm

Be a part of our internal monthly meeting. All parents/caregivers are encouraged and welcome to join. You can assist with event planning, fundraising and advocating for your child on local and national levels through Improve Care Now. Please email Mary Lou at ml.hatcher@cox.net if you would like to attend and she will send you the zoom link or email IBD@phoenixchildrens.com for more information.

Phoenix Children's Hospital is growing!

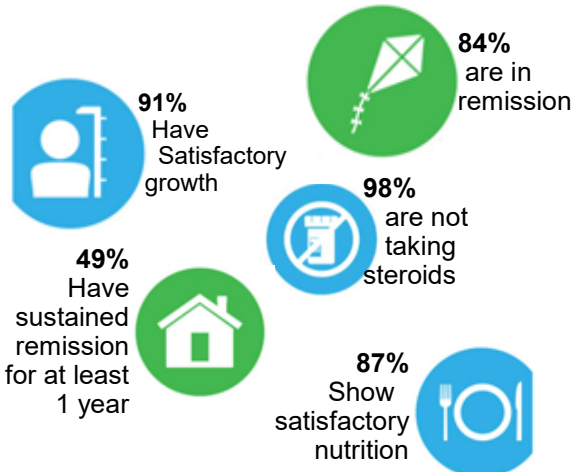
Coming to Glendale behind Arrowhead Hospital, PCH plans to build a 3-story hospital which will offer inpatient care, an outpatient surgery center and a multi-specialty clinic.



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Improve Care Now (ICN)



PCH is a member of the Improve Care Now Network (ICN). ICN is a national community where clinicians, researchers, parents and patients are empowered to learn and continuously improve to bring about more reliable, proactive IBD care for healthier children and youth. ICN is made up of over 100 care centers, 970 GI doctors, that are caring for over 30,000 children with IBD. To find out more about ICN visit their website at improvecarenow.org or ask your child's GI doctor how you can get involved! You can also email IBD@phoenixchildrens.com for more information.

The above statistics represent PCH children that are enrolled in the data collected.

Did you know...

Covid immunizations can be given to your IBD immune compromised child under the right circumstances. Please consult with your GI doctor if you have any questions or concerns about receiving the vaccination. The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation has great information on their website as well.

<https://www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org/coronavirus/vaccine-high-risk-populations>

Upcoming Events

IBD Family Support Group Meeting

There is a monthly family support group meeting that meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. Currently this group is on summer break until September when they hope to resume in person (If in-person is still not an option in September, they will resume their zoom meeting). This group will meet at Phoenix Children's Hospital 2nd floor conference room 22112. You will check in at the lobby desk and tell them you are attending the Crohn's & Colitis support group meeting. For more information you can email IBD@phoenixchildrens.com

Transition of Care Event

Is your child 16 or older? If so, then this event is critical. The event will be held on **November 11, 2021 at 6:00 pm** in the **Rosenberg Building—Mel Cohen Room**. This event is designed to assist you and your child in transitioning to the adult world of GI. We will have local GI Docs on site to help you with questions you might have on moving your child from PCH care to adult care. Light snacks and refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to: IBD@phoenixchildrens.com

ImproveCareNow Fall 2021 Community Conference

ImproveCareNow is holding their fall conference on Thursday, September 30th and Friday, October 1st.

Please visit their website at:

https://www.improvecarenow.org/fall_2021_community_conference and click on **Register Now** to sign up for this 2 day virtual conference.

PCH Staff Corner

Welcome Dr. Ashish Patel, our new Division Chief of Pediatric Gastroenterology!



Dr. Patel recently moved from Dallas where he was the Section Chief of Pediatric IBD at UT Southwestern Medical Center and Children's Medical Center Dallas. Originally born in Mumbai, India where both parents were doctors, Dr. Patel immigrated to the United States at 2 years old. He attended college at Emory University and medical school at Texas A&M Health Science Center. He completed his pediatric GI fellowship at UT Southwestern in Dallas where he practiced for 17 years before coming to PCH last year.

Dr. Patel chose to be a doctor as both of his parents were physicians and great role models. His mother was a pediatrician and Dr. Patel loved working with kids, so he knew going into medical school he would pursue pediatrics. Through some amazing mentorship, he discovered pediatric GI in residency and pediatric IBD in fellowship which became the foundation of his career.

Dr. Patel has big goals for our IBD Clinic at PCH. He wants our clinic to be a flagship program built on the triple threat of: **excellent critical care**, **cutting edge research** and **education and outreach**. "Building our foundation on these three principals, we will push our IBD Clinic to be recognized nationally as a **Center of Excellence**." "PCH was recently granted approval for a pediatric GI Fellowship and by having excellent programs like our IBD program we hope to train the next generation of pediatric GI docs with these same principals."

Dr. Patel loves all sports and is a fan of the San Antonio Spurs. He is self-proclaimed foodie and loves to try new restaurants so send him your recommendations!

Dr. Patel is married to Dr. Reina Patel who is a pediatric hospitalist at PCH. They have two wonderful children, Leela who is 9 and Sahen who is 7. No pets yet but if Leela has her way they will have a puppy soon!

Welcome Dr. Patel we are so glad you chose PCH!