

Hi Everyone

There is an immense body of knowledge contained within the Department of Pediatrics. This knowledge may be factual, it may be instinctual, it may be the product of experience and the wisdom that comes with practice. However the knowledge cannot be contained as if locked in a vault, available only to those children and their families fortunate enough to find themselves under our direct care. We have an obligation to leverage this knowledge outside our direct reach. External presentations whether they be done locally, regionally, nationally or internationally, are a tangible way to improve health care and well-being. This is what knowledge translation and exchange is all about.

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement was suggested to me by Catherine Henin and goes to **Anne-Marie Sbrocchi** and her team. I have reprinted below the words behind Catherine's most enthusiastic suggestion.

"I have a suggestion for this week's Departmental Acknowledgement. I just returned from the Practical Problems in Pediatrics Annual Specialty Day on the care of children with complex medical needs and it was absolutely phenomenal!!! Annie Sbrocchi and Isabelle St-Sauveur from the Complex Care Service did an exceptional job of planning and organizing the conference and all of the presenters (Annie Sbrocchi, Johanne Boyer, Sylvie Canizares, Clelia Coccia, Louise Colacci, Sam Daniel, Linda Masse, France Paquet, Helene Pelletier, Geraldine Schaack, Ken Shaw and David Zielinski) were amazing. There was a plenary session with an inspiring patient and family panel, informative and fun pre- and post-quizzes (with prizes!), and multiple concurrent workshop groups on trachs, G-tubes and central lines with mannequins, equipment, slideshows, posters, etc. There were so many "moving parts" that it could have been disastrous but it all went off perfectly. It was truly an impressive demonstration of multidisciplinary collaboration (surgeons and non-surgeon physicians, nurses, RTs) and professionalism. The conference participants were honestly blown away by the quality of the sessions and I really feel that everyone involved deserves to be recognized for how hard they worked on this and how well they represented the Children's to the community."

Catherine's capsule summary highlights the passion of those involved that was brought to the effort. Building on their desire to improve the health of kids with complex care needs they created an educational session that was innovative, engaging, fun and informative. No doubt these efforts will make a lasting difference. I would encourage all members of the Department to engage in similar outreach efforts to benefit their patient populations.