Welcome

Hello to all of you! My name is Dr. Satyan Lakshminrusimha and I am the new chair of the Department of Pediatrics. I moved to the area from Buffalo, NY and I have to say that I am enjoying this California sunshine! A little bit about me: I enjoy reading comics and watching DC/Marvel comic-based movies with my three children, as well as drawing illustrations for presentations and textbooks. I’ve hit the ground running here and I’m excited to share with you the exciting things happening in our department.

We have added several new faculty members including Dr. Frank Ing, the new chief of pediatric cardiology and Dr. Elysia Alvarez, who is in our hematology/oncology division and recently finished her fellowship at Stanford University. Dr. David Kawatu, chief of pediatric gastroenterology has chosen to move on, and we’ve been able to promote from within the division, with Dr. Art de Lorimier now at the helm. We’re hoping to continue to grow the department with talented and passionate faculty, physicians and physician-scientists and add to our existing pool of talented providers to provide exceptional service to children in North California and beyond.

I look forward to sharing updates with you in the future; the UC Davis Department of Pediatrics is a hidden gem with great potential.

With Gratitude,

Satyan Lakshminrusimha
Chair, Department of Pediatrics

Adventist Health Lodi Memorial and UC Davis Health announce partnership

Adventist Health Lodi Memorial is continuing to expand the care available to residents of San Joaquin and Sacramento counties with a first-of-its kind collaboration to bring the world-class care of UC Davis Health directly to Lodi.

Adventist Health Lodi Memorial and the UC Davis Medical Center have entered into a professional services agreement to greatly expand pediatric and neonatal care services at the Lodi medical center, bringing UC Davis physicians and nurses into the local community, and establishing a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week instant connection to the UC Davis Medical Center’s dedicated pediatric emergency department.

The agreement brings a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) facility to Lodi to treat premature infants who need extra support, and who will receive their care from UC Davis Health specialists. The facility will be equipped with the most current technology and equipment to better serve neonatal cases. The new NICU greatly increases the level of care available to pediatric patients in the region and decreases the need for transfers to UC Davis Medical Center.

In addition to the newborn nursery, the collaboration will also offer an expanded array of pediatric inpatient and outpatient services for Adventist Health Lodi Memorial’s labor and delivery, emergency room and general inpatient services. Starting July 1, UC Davis Health’s pediatric hospitalists will be on site in Lodi for consultation and care of pediatric patients in the emergency department and to care for patients admitted for inpatient services.

UC Davis Medical Center honored for reducing C-sections

UC Davis Medical Center has been honored with the 2017 achievement award for meeting or surpassing the federal target aimed at reducing the state’s low-risk, first-birth Cesarean section (C-section) rate by Smart Care California, a state health care coalition.

UC Davis Medical Center was one of 111 hospitals, who were recognized for achieving this goal. The 111 hospitals that made the Smart Care C-Section Honor Roll account for 45 percent of the 242 hospitals that offer maternity services in California.

To receive this award, a California hospital must have achieved a C-section rate of 23.9 percent or lower for low-risk, first-birth deliveries.

“We are proud to be part of the Smart Care C-section Honor Roll,” said Ann Madden Rice, chief executive office of UC Davis Medical Center. “Thank you
Angie Marin receives 2018 Disability Awareness Award

During the 28th annual UC Davis Soaring to New Heights multicultural celebration of diversity, nurse manager Angie Marin was honored as a recipient of the 2018 Disability Awareness Award last month.

This annual award recognizes managers and supervisors who have demonstrated exemplary commitment and significant contributions in recruiting, hiring and retaining staff and faculty by providing effective reasonable accommodations.

The theme for the 2018 recognition ceremony was Soaring Boldly for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Marin was acknowledged for proactively responding to disability issues in the workplace, providing outstanding leadership and making UC Davis Health and the Davis campus community more accessible and inclusive.

Herman Hedriana appointed division director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Herman Hedriana returns to UC Davis Health’s Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) as division director. Hedriana was previously assistant professor in residence and director of perinatal research at UC Davis Health from 1994 to 1998. In addition, he worked in a busy Sacramento Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) practice for close to 20 years while remaining an active member of the volunteer clinical faculty in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) at UC Davis Health.

As the new division director, Hedriana will focus on premature birth risk assessment, including preterm labor evaluation and effective use of antenatal corticosteroids, as well as prenatal diagnosis/screening, perinatal safety initiatives, prenatal diagnosis (including first trimester screening and amniocentesis), fetal ultrasound and management of labor. Hedriana has authored peer-reviewed publications in these areas of interest and is an active volunteer for March of Dimes, working on prematurity prevention, health care disparities and health care policies involving different California communities.

“I have come full circle after joining UC Davis as a junior faculty straight out of fellowship training and leaving and coming back full-time. Despite being in private practice and industry for 20 years, the passion for teaching and research never left me,” Hedriana said. “Although research in the private sector was fulfilling, I missed the academic environment and the interaction with the residents and medical students. Although first and foremost, patient care takes precedence over my research and academic fulfillment. I look forward in expanding our perinatal services, keeping in mind the need in areas outside of Sacramento. In so doing, I hope to continue championing perinatal safety and knocking down disparity barriers to access perinatal medicine.”

Hedriana received his bachelor’s degree from the Far Eastern University-Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation Institute of Medicine in Manila, Philippines in 1983. Hedriana completed his residency training in OB/GYN at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University at Harlem Hospital Center. His fellowship training in MFM took place at the University of California, San Diego. Hedriana is board certified in both OB/GYN and MFM and is a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the Society of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the Pacific Coast Obstetrical and Gynecological Society.

Reducing C-sections

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to our physicians, nurses and members of our health care team for their strong commitment and for ensuring that we are providing the best quality care for mothers and babies in our region.”

While life-saving in some circumstances, unnecessary C-sections can pose serious risks to mothers – higher rates of hemorrhage, transfusions, infection and blood clots – and to babies – higher rates of infection, respiratory complications and neonatal intensive care unit stays.
Recent hires

Elysia Alvarez, Hematology/Oncology
Blair Colwell, Critical Care
Susan Guralnick, General Pediatrics
Grace Lim, NICU Hospitalist
Amelia McLennan, Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Arun Panigrahi, Hematology/Oncology
Elizabeth Partridge, Infectious Diseases
Bibiana Restrepo, Child Development
Sherzana Sunderji, Cardiology

May donations

Costco supports Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals in May

May is for miracles at local Costco stores! Since 1988, Costco has raised more than $285.2 million for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals (CMN), including UC Davis Children’s Hospital.

But Costco didn’t do it alone. It was, in large part, thanks to the generosity of Costco shoppers, who have made donations one dollar at a time!

Although the campaign is now in week 3 of the month-long campaign, there is no time like the present to donate at Costco and support UC Davis Children’s Hospital! One hundred percent of donations stay locally to support children at UC Davis Children’s Hospital. Not only does your donation make an impact, Costco will match a percentage!

Stop in at a Costco location near you through May 31 and purchase a Miracle Balloon to help make miracles happen for children like UC Davis pediatric heart patient Adolfo Ledesma. From supporting research, education and clinical care, to funding life-saving equipment and even containers of Play-doh, donations make a difference in the lives of sick and injured children.

Share your patient story

children.ucdavis.edu/patientstories
Dear Dr. Marcin,

Today marks 14 years since we had the pleasure of your company in the PICU at UC Davis Children’s Hospital, albeit under dire circumstances, and although those years have likely dimmed the memory of our family, they have not altered ours of you, or the week that our daughter Kelly spent on your service.

I will quickly recap the events of Feb 29, 2004. Our family had skied the day before at Dodge Ridge, and Kelly, who was six years old, suffered a left basal ganglia ischemic stroke while sledding on the 29th (I only mention the day before because it was a topic of great debate regarding whether hers was a traumatic or atraumatic CVA). At the end of that very long day, Kelly was admitted to the separate glassed-in area of your PICU where she stayed for six days. Although no definitive etiology was ever obtained, the best theory was (and remains) a left ICA dissection.

I have been thinking about the events of that day and that week, as I do each year at this time, and about all that has transpired in the many years since, and, of course, you came to mind. I thought I might write you a message to thank you again, and to update you on Kelly’s life in the intervening years.

First and foremost, thank you so much again for being the voice of calm and reason during our stay there, and for obviously caring for Kelly as much as if she had been your own daughter because that was plain for everyone to see. After one day there, it was clear that we needed a single point of contact to coordinate her treatment, and I asked that you be that for our family, and you did that to perfection.

I don’t think you could know the stress you kept us from, as we were already quite overloaded simply with accepting what had happened to Kelly, and you were a marvelous and calm buffer between us and all of those unnecessary distractions.

We left UC Davis Children’s Hospital’s PICU to be closer to home in San Jose, and Kelly spent the next three weeks in the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center because there was a physiatrist there we wanted her to work with. It was a very busy time – Kelly received PT, OT, and speech therapy daily for those three weeks, and she continued that after her discharge for about a year, after which she continued with PT alone. Her stroke was broad in nature, and just about everything had been affected.

Her life for the next many years consisted almost exclusively of school, therapy sessions and home exercises. She did manage to play with her soccer team for a few years, although her abilities were, of course, far different. Her progress overall was slow but steady, and by the time she reached high school, Kelly was back at grade level.

Kelly has absolutely traveled the longest road I have ever witnessed another human being walk, and it is simply miraculous how well she is doing today.

She earned a driver’s license, and her only limitation is the use of a left-foot accelerator pedal adapter. She adapted her learning style quite well, and knows how to handle her own educational needs better than I would have hoped for.

She is a junior at Sonoma State, majoring in psychology, and doing very well – she even earned a 4.0 GPA last semester. Just writing that sentence is still a very emotional experience for me. She is hoping to spend next year studying in England, which she is happy about, and which her mom and I are a bit sad about, but I am not one to hold her back from life.

As a cap to this story, our family finally went back to the mountains (Bear Valley) in 2015 for the first time since 2004 and enjoyed the snow again. Kelly was amazingly able to learn to snowboard in just an hour – the only unusual part of her form is how she stops, because she just falls down. It is cute, but in watching her snowboard, the enormity of it is not lost on me for a single second.

I hope and trust that these many years have been kind to you and your family, and that all is well with you and yours. I simply cannot tell you enough how thankful we were that you were the PICU attending physician during Kelly’s stay. And so as inadequate as words are, thank you again for being exactly what we needed.

All the best, Dan Coyle
Q&A with pediatric heart surgeon, Amy Rahm

**Q: What is it like being a pediatric heart surgeon and a mom?**

**A:** Busy, early mornings, late nights. At home, I have a mini me. I answer emails, review patient data and write reports while she works on educational games on her iPad, colors or does any task to mimic me.

**Q: Does she know what you do?**

**A:** Of course. When I leave for work and she asks me to stay, I tell her I have to go take care of my babies at the hospital and she replies “because their hearts are sick?” My daughter Hunter is going to be 4 in September and I can say that when I first went back to work after having her, I wanted to be a better surgeon for my patients.

**Q: Any specific things that make the UC Davis Pediatric Heart Center standout from others in the Sacramento area?**

**A:** The innovative technologies we use here are the best, or better, than you’ll find anywhere else in California. We have a new Fetal Care and Treatment Center, as part of the region’s only children’s hospital and children’s emergency department, which means we are better equipped to manage any kind of care for children than almost anyone. Most people don’t know the UC Davis Medical Center is a Top 5 hospital in California – right here in Sacramento – and we’re capable of providing nearly any kind of pediatric care possible. And, we’ll have a new children’s surgery center opening in the fall.

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**UC DAVIS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL SYMPOSIUM**

**Compassionate Care: Headlines in Children’s Health Today**

**Thursday, November 1, 2018**

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Betty Irene Moore Hall
2570 48th St.
Sacramento, CA 95817

Featuring keynote speaker Sorrel King, author of *Josie’s Story*

Symposium details coming soon.

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**New Children’s Hospital tour video!**
Film festival highlights patients-turned-filmmakers

UC Davis pediatric patients-turned-filmmakers screened their movies for the first time in front of a large audience last month at the BayKids Film Festival held at the UC Davis MIND Institute.

The evening celebrated the hospital's partnership with BayKids Studios, a nonprofit organization that brings professional filmmakers to pediatric patients to help them transform into directors, actors and heroes of their own stories. UC Davis Children's Hospital is the only hospital in the Sacramento region with a partnership with BayKids Studios.

The evening included a red carpet entrance, snacks and an awards presentation for all filmmakers. BayKids Studios executive director Mark Barmore and cinematographer Mimi Rauschendorf attended the event.

This partnership began in 2016, made possible through a Children's Miracle Network at UC Davis grant. BayKids Studios now funds the program for the hospital. Select patients are given an opportunity to create documentaries about their medical journey, or share their hospital artwork through stop motion animations.

"I think it’s empowering for kids to tell their stories and experiences,” said UC Davis art therapist Katie Lorain. “It normalizes the hospital environment and provides an opportunity to have fun.”

Links to patient movies: Taylor’s Adventure with Unicorn ■ The Great Decora ■ Creating Stop Motion ■ Beauty by Bailey ■ Jerry and Davis 10 ■