



Jonathan Emerson Kohler, M.D., M.A.

Philosophy of Care

My philosophy of care is that every patient deserves the care that best fits them and their family. I believe that the parents of ill and injured children are vital to the care process and to deciding what is right for their child, and always strive to make shared decisions with parents and patients. There is no such thing as minor surgery for a child or their family, and my goal is to help families through what is always a challenging time by providing support, guidance, honesty, and reassurance that their child is in great hands at UC Davis.

Clinical Interests

Dr. Kohler is a pediatric general surgeon who cares for children from birth to adulthood with a wide variety of surgical problems using advanced techniques such as minimally invasive surgery. He has a particular interest in pediatric trauma, including ways to reduce the number of injured children who need operations, minimizing opioid use after injuries and operations, and preventing injuries through education and advocacy. He particularly enjoys working with children with special needs, including autism.

Research/Academic Interests

Dr. Kohler's research centers on communications between physicians, parents, and patients. He is particularly interested in decision making and decision supports for rural physicians managing common pediatric surgical problems, such as umbilical hernias, opioid prescribing, and minor injuries. He has developed a number of connected learning solutions using telementoring, videos, and interactive teaching tools to improve communications between primary care providers and specialists, and between doctors and patients.

Title Medical Director, Pediatric Trauma
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery

Specialty Pediatric Surgery, Surgery - Pediatric

Department [Surgery](#)

Division Fetal Care and Treatment Center
Pediatric Surgery

Center/Program Affiliation [UC Davis Children's Hospital](#)
Trauma Program

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Education M.D., University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, Chicago IL 2005
M.A., Health Communications, Emerson College, Boston MA 2009
Sc.B., Brown University, Providence RI 1999

Internships General Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle WA 2005-2006

Residency General Surgery, University of Washington, Seattle WA 2006-2013

Fellowships Pediatric Surgery, University of Chicago, Chicago IL 2013-2015

Board Certifications American Board of Surgery - General Surgery
American Board of Surgery - Pediatric Surgery

Professional Memberships American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Surgeons
American Pediatric Surgical Association
Association for Academic Surgery (AAS)
Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma
Pediatric Trauma Society
Surgical Infection Society

Honors and Awards Junior Faculty Scholar, Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence, University of Chicago, 2013, 2014, 2015
American College of Surgeons Resident Research Fellowship, 2007, 2008, 2009
Schilling Resident Research Fellow Prize, Department of Surgery, University of Washington, 2007
Graduation with Honors, University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, 2005
Pritzker Leadership Award, for outstanding extracurricular accomplishments. University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, 2005
Association for Academic Surgery Student Research Award. University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, 2005
Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Essay Contest, Second Prize for "Burn In", 2005
Chicago Center of Excellence for Health Promotion Economics (CCEHPE) Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, for research in the cost effectiveness of video in health promotion, 2005
Alpha Omega Alpha, 2004



Jonathan Emerson Kohler, M.D., M.A.

Calvin Fentress Research Award, awarded to ten University of Chicago senior medical students for outstanding research, 2004

American Gastroenterological Association Student Research Fellowship – “Isolation of factors produced by stressed intestinal epithelia which are capable of inducing virulence in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*”, 2004

Select Recent Publications

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Cathers AD, Forsythe J, Sippel N, Williamson C, Kohler JE, Brazelton TB, Steuerwald MT. Tranexamic Acid Use in Pediatric Hemorrhagic Shock From Farm-Related Trauma: A Case Report. *Air Med J*. 2020 Sep-Oct;39(5):414-416. doi:10.1016/j.amj.2020.06.008. Epub 2020 Jul 10. PMID:33012482.

Minneci PC, Hade EM, Lawrence AE, Sebastião YV, Saito JM, Mak GZ, Fox C, Hirschl RB, Gadepalli S, Helmrath MA, Kohler JE, Leys CM, Sato TT, Lal DR, Landman MP, Kabre R, Fallat



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ME, Cooper JN, Deans KJ; Midwest Pediatric Surgery Consortium. Association of Nonoperative Management Using Antibiotic Therapy vs Laparoscopic Appendectomy With Treatment Success and Disability Days in Children With Uncomplicated Appendicitis. JAMA. 2020 Aug 11;324(6):581-593. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.10888. PMID:32730561.

Kohler JE, Cartmill RS, Kalbfell E, Schumacher J. Continued Prescribing of Perioperative Codeine and Tramadol to Children after a Black Box Warning. J Surg Res. 2020 Jul 18;256:131-135. doi: 10.1016/j.jss.2020.06.023. Online ahead of print. PMID:32693330.

Kohler JE, Cartmill RS, Yang DY, Fernandes-Taylor S, Greenberg CC. Age-Dependent Costs and Complications in Pediatric Umbilical Hernia Repair. J Pediatr. 2020 Jul 3:S0022-3476(20)30851-9. doi:10.1016/j.jpeds.2020.07.008. Online ahead of print. PMID:32629008.

Wooldridge AR, Carayon P, Hoonakker P, Hose BZ, Eithun B, Brazelton T 3rd, Ross J, Kohler JE, Kelly MM, Dean SM, Rusy D, Gurses AP. Work system barriers and facilitators in inpatient care transitions of pediatric trauma patients. Appl Ergon. 2020 May;85:103059. doi:10.1016/j.apergo.2020.103059. Epub 2020 Feb 12. PMID:32174347.

Leys CM, Hirschl RB, Kohler JE, Cherney-Stafford L, Marka N, Fallat ME, Gadepalli SK, Fraser JD, Grabowski J, Burns RC, Downard CD, Foley DS, Halleran DR, Helmrath MA, Kabre R, Knezevich MS, Lal DR, Landman MP, Lawrence AE, Mak GZ, Minneci PC, Musili N, Rymeski B, Saito JM, Sato TT, St Peter SD, Warner BW, Ostlie DJ; Midwest Pediatric Surgery Consortium MWPS. Changing the Paradigm for Management of Pediatric Primary Spontaneous Pneumothorax: A Simple Aspiration Test Predicts Need for Operation. J Pediatr Surg. 2020 Jan;55(1):169-175. doi: 10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2019.09.043. Epub 2019 Oct 24. PMID:31706614.

Kohler JE, Nichol PF, Cartmill RS. Need for Consensus Guidelines in Pediatric Umbilical Hernia Repair. JAMA Pediatr. 2019 Sep 30. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2019.3414. Online ahead of print. PMID:31566667.



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Riedesel EL, Weber BC, Shore MW, Cartmill RS, Ostlie DJ, Leys CM, Gill KG, Kohler JE.
Diagnostic performance of standardized ultrasound protocol for detecting perforation in pediatric
appendicitis. *Pediatr Radiol*. 2019 Dec;49(13):1726-1734. doi:10.1007/s00247-019-04475-5.
Epub 2019 Jul 24. PMID:31342129.

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