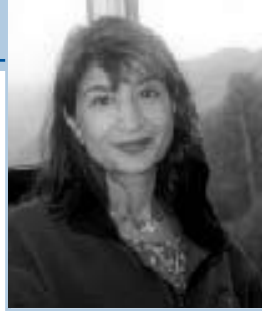


Editor's Corner



Rita Agarwal, MD,

This issue of the newsletter is usually dedicated to coverage of the SPA Annual Meeting and the ASA. Unfortunately with the upheaval of this year's meeting, many of my wonderful contributing editors were not able to attend.

My special thanks go to Dr. Connie Houck for volunteering to review the AAP Breakfast Panel and Dr. Shobha Malviya for presenting the highlights of the ASA Poster Session that she moderated. The complete listing of all the abstracts presented can be found at www.asaabstracts.com.

Two future pediatric anesthesia fellows, Drs. Mark Twite and Ryan Schellpfeffer from the Children's Hospital/UCHSC, Denver share their experience and views of the ASA in the Fellows' Corner.

The 24th Annual Pediatric Anesthesia Meeting in Toronto was well attended and two of the editorial staff, Drs. Helen Lauro and Zulfiqar Ahmed both reviewed the meeting. Dr. Ahmed's review appears on the web-based newsletter.

Dr. Ahmed deserves additional thanks for his wonderful collaboration with Sara Anspach, a recreational therapist at Detroit Children's Hospital, for enlightening us on the interests of little girls for this issue's "Keeping Up with the Kids". I have to confess that all my boys still like Dora the Explorer (although my oldest son wouldn't be caught dead admitting it).

There was an interesting case recently on the PAC, asking about the use of tight fitting endotracheal tubes (ETT) in tonsillectomy patients. This initial question spurred a great debate on the benefits of using uncuffed tubes, cuffed ETTs and LMA's for in pediatric patients. Drs. Elizabeth Yun and Sam Golden decided to review the advantages and disadvantages of these techniques and present the current literature on these topics.

Dr. Thomas Mancuso has again provided us with his personal reviews and commentary. In addition, excellent literature reviews have been provided by Drs. Cheryl Gooden, Zulfiqar Ahmed, Michael Jon Williams, and Hoshi Khambatta. Please read the article from Dr. Dean Andropoulos updating us on the new Congenital Cardiac Anesthesia Society, and plans for a new ACGME-approved Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesia Fellowship. In the spirit of providing greater insight into the workings of the SPA, Dr. Anne Lynn has a review on the SPA election process.

As always we welcome all contributors and contributions. If you are interested in helping with the SPA newsletter please contact me at Agarwal.Rita@tchden.org. Hope to see everyone at the Pediatric Anesthesiology in Florida, February 17-19.

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