

In This Issue: A comprehensive approach to autism diagnosis and treatment, laser ablation surgery milestones and more



November 2018

Hot off the Press



A Comprehensive Approach to Autism Diagnosis and Treatment

Read this month's feature story on diagnosing and treating autism by Richard E. Frye, MD, PhD, Chief of Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Barrow at Phoenix Children's.

[Read the full article](#)

Laser Ablation
Surgery Milestones

Our Epilepsy Program is continuously moving forward and we're pioneering new technologies to provide the best care our kids.



[Check out our milestones](#)

Meet the Newest Members of our Team

Please join us in welcoming:

- Emma Ross, PhD
- Kavitha Tirumalasetti Karnik, MD
- Andrea (Andi) Vinyard
- Jennifer Yuen, DO
- Eric Vance Hastriter, MD
- Tara Mangum, DO

[Read their bios](#)

In the News

More VNS Procedures

The amount of vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) procedures has dramatically risen at Phoenix Children's. VNS is a wonderful alternative for children where their epilepsy can't be focalized and they've failed multiple medications. Such was the case with one of our patients named Hannah. A local news channel carried her story.



[Watch the piece](#)

[Read the article](#)



Wonder Drug for SMA

It's rare that a "game changer" drug treatment comes along, but in a recent news story interview that's just how Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children' neurologist, Dr. Saunder

Bernes described Spinraza – a "game changing drug" that's helping children with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). In the interview, he and Phoenix Children's interventional radiologist, Dr. David Aria spoke about the high hopes they have for the drug for their patients at Phoenix Children's – one of the only locations to administer Spinraza. The interview also features little Armani, the first patient to receive Spinraza at Phoenix Children's, along with two brothers who hope the drug will help their situations as well.

[Watch the story](#)

Awards and Achievements

Faces of Phoenix: Pediatric Neurosciences

BNI was recently featured in Phoenix Magazine's Faces of Phoenix issue, where we were recognized as the Faces of Pediatric Neurosciences!

The **FACES** of PEDIATRIC NEUROSCIENCES

PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

JAMAL MCCLENDON, MD, RUTH E. BRISTOL, MD, KARA S. LEWIS, MD, P. DAVID ADELSON, MD, RANDA G. JARRAR, MD, ANGUS A. WILFONG, MD, RICHARD E. FRYE, MD

The physicians at Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's, who could be called, "the brain trust of the hospital," are definitely world-class in quality clinical care, innovation, research and education. They are dedicated to healing children with complex and severe neurological, mental and behavioral illnesses.

1919 E. THOMAS RD. | PHOENIX | PHOENIXCHILDRENS.ORG



Michael Kruer, MD, Continues to Make a Name for Himself

Check out several recent accomplishments from Michael Kruer, MD, and the work he's doing in the cerebral palsy and movement disorders world.

[Learn more](#)

Research News

Congratulations to Maha Saber, our post-doc in the Translational Neurotrauma Research Program. Maha has

accepted a coveted position on the University of Arizona Institutional Training Grant.



[Learn more about her position](#)



Varina Boerwinkle, MD, Published in Epilepsia

We're never content with just treating children with epilepsy. We're pioneering how to do it. Congratulations to Varina Boerwinkle, MD, Medical Director of the Neuro-Critical Care Program, for recently being published in Epilepsia

[Learn more](#)

TBIs in Children and our Partnership with UofA College of Medicine



Read how the amazing research partnership that began six years ago between Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Childrens and the University of Arizona College of Medicine has made a profound difference in the understanding and treatment of traumatic brain injuries in children

Read the article

In Case you Missed it



Talking Down Syndrome

We recently featured Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's doctors on Phoenix Children's LIVE segments! In one segment, we talked about our Down Syndrome Clinic with pediatric

neurologist and *Chief of Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Dr. Richard Frye along with introducing our new Down syndrome program coordinator, Pilar Ojeda. DS Network joined us in "studio."*

See for yourself

Talking Craniofacial Surgery

In another segment, we talked to Associate Program Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery, Dr. Ruth Bristol about the specifics on craniosynostosis. The segment also featured Plastic Surgery Division Chief, Dr. Davinder Singh, who partners with Dr. Bristol in many of the craniosynostosis cases but also performs all of the craniofacial surgeries (cleft lip & palate, etc.).



Take a look

Craniofacial Patients Share Their Stories Through



Video

Speaking of craniofacial, we recently featured two craniosynostosis patient stories, Evalerina who was diagnosed with unicoronal synostosis, resulting in an asymmetric forehead and brow, and Matteo, who was

diagnosed with sagittal synostosis.

[Watch Evalerina's Story](#)

[Watch Matteo's Story](#)

Patient Spotlight

Meet Greyson

Meet Greyson, who came to us from Ewa Beach on Oahu Island in Hawaii!



[Read Greyson's story](#)

Meet Stetson

Stetson came to us from Oklahoma City for treatment for stroke-like seizures.



[Read Stetson's story](#)

Upcoming Events

Epilepsy Family Care Conference – August 9, 2019

Anti-Bullying Event (in partnership with the Arizona Chapter of the American Psychological Association) – February 19, 2019

[Children's Neuroscience Symposium](#) – April 6-7, 2019

Neurofibromatosis Community Event – April 27, 2019

KetoSummit – September 13-14, 2019

About NeuroBLOGical

Welcome to NeuroBLOGical: An award-winning blog by Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's. We provide pediatric health care insights, patient stories and other relevant information for parents, families and the community. Do you have a topic suggestion or question? [Contact us!](#)

