

WINTER 2002

HEART MURMURS



A publication for physicians & nurses about the Cardiovascular Program at Children's



Children's Hospital Boston

Message from the Chiefs

Welcome to the winter edition of **Heart Murmurs**, the Cardiovascular Program's publication for primary care pediatricians, pediatric and adult cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, anesthesiologists, graduates of our training programs, nurses and other practitioners specializing in cardiovascular care. This newsletter offers a look at the family-centered care provided by our collaborative team, and keeps you informed about developments in research, leading-edge technologies and devices, clinical outcomes and service innovations. The newsletter is published in the winter and spring. We hope you enjoy it.

Patricia A. Hickey, RN, MS, MBA
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C O N T E N T S

[New Therapies for Pulmonary Hypertension](#)

For nearly 50 years after Paul Wood described the role of pulmonary vascular resistance in patients with Eisenmenger syndrome, progress in the treatment of pulmonary hypertension was slow and incremental at best. Recent advances in vascular biology and genetics have, however, identified important new and emerging therapies.

[Retention of Experienced Cardiovascular Nurses: A Key to Success](#)

The literature is replete with information about the national nursing shortage. Local and national news describe the problem with horror stories about short staffing, low morale and its effect on patient care.

[Parents Who Accompany Their Children Through Anesthesia Induction Are Surveyed](#)

Parent present induction of anesthesia (PPI), which means that parents may be with their children as they undergo anesthesia, is commonly performed and favored in "healthy" children undergoing elective surgery. However, PPI may be viewed as unsuitable for children with congenital heart disease (CHD) because of the risk for complications and hemodynamic instability during induction.

[NIH Will Fund Study of Neurological Injury and Cardiopulmonary Bypass](#)

Notification was received from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at the end of June that an R01 grant to cover direct costs totaling \$1,000,000 has been awarded to Richard Jonas, MD, cardiovascular surgeon-in-chief, to continue ongoing laboratory studies of neurological injury associated with repair of congenital heart anomalies.

[Annual Conferences Held in Newport](#)

The third course on Frontiers in the Diagnosis and Management of Congenital Heart Disease was held October 24-27 at the Newport Marriott in Newport Rhode Island.

[Cardiac Registry Named for Van Praaghs](#)

On July 23, the Registry was named in honor of Richard Van Praagh, MD, director of Cardiac Pathology, and his wife, Stella Van Praagh, MD, associate pathologist, who have worked at Children's since 1963.

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