

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH



**Professor Minerva Thame, MBBS, DCH, DM (Paeds), PhD
Head of Department**

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The main focus of the Department of Child and Adolescent Health is to improve the health and welfare of families through clinical service, research, intellectual leadership, advisory and community services and training of undergraduate students and postgraduate doctors.

Our clinical services are delivered through two medical wards, an outpatient department, a welfare clinic, a paediatric casualty and a newborn special care unit which incorporates a 6-bed neonatal intensive care unit. The main subspecialties offered are adolescent medicine, allergy immunology, cardiology, development and behavioural paediatrics, endocrinology, infectious diseases, neonatology, nephrology, neurology and pulmonology. There is also collaboration with other surgical and medical subspecialties.

The Department has been involved in collaborative research with other faculties of the University of the West Indies and several overseas institutions such as Vanderbilt University Global Health Program, University of Texas and the Children's Nutrition Research Centre (CNRC), Baylor College of Medicine, Texas. Several members of the Department demonstrated intellectual leadership through their involvement with several advisory boards and active participation in community service.

Curriculum development, teaching and learning methods for both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health are continuously being revised. The Department currently offers two undergraduate courses as part of the MBBS programme and a postgraduate programme in Paediatrics (Doctor of Medicine in Paediatrics). Additionally, staff of the Department teach courses in child and adolescent health related areas and provide research and clinical supervision to students enrolled in undergraduate programmes in Nursing and Midwifery and postgraduate programmes in Clinical Psychology, Education, Nutrition, Epidemiology and Public Health.

There were 265 junior students and 148 senior students who completed the Child and Adolescent Health rotations over the last year. Students' assessments of our clerkships have been consistently good with individual lecturer scores ranging from 4.2 to 4.6 with an average of 4.4 and the Clerkship Assessment ranging from 3.8 to 4.1. The final assessment of the Child and Adolescent Health programme is done together with the Department of Medicine in the May/June and the November/December examinations. There were 65 elective students who rotated through the Department with 10 being from outside the Caribbean from Germany, Australia and the United Kingdom.

There were a total of 45 postgraduate students registered in the DM Paediatric programme of which 35 candidates were in Jamaica and 10 candidates were in the Bahamas. Eight candidates sat DM Part 2 final examination and 6 (75.0%) were successful while eleven (11) candidates sat the DM Part 1 examinations and 8 (72.7%) were successful. Fourteen candidates commenced the program 1st July 2012 of which 3 are in the Bahamas.

This year was the twelfth year of the Perinatal Audit and Symposium. This annual conference is held in February of each year and was coordinated by Dr. Kulkarni. This is a joint effort between the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Child and Adolescent Health with external review of perinatal statistics by practitioners from outside units.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Harrison A. (Principal Investigator)

- Source: **Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)**

Title: "Prevalence of Disordered Eating Behaviours and Attitudes in Adolescents in Jamaica"

Grant Period: April, 2013 to April, 2014

Total Amount: U\$6,030

Samms-Vaughan M. (Principal Investigator)

- Source: **Hear the World Foundation**

Title: The Development of a Master's Programme in Audiology at the University of the West Indies

Grant Period: 3/1/2011 – 31/06/2014

Total cost: CHF \$30,000.00

- Source: **UNICEF**

Title: Early Intervention Screening Project and Referral in Jamaica: Development and Validation of Screening Tools for the EC Sector in Jamaica

Grant Period: June 2012–November 2013

Total cost: US\$301,919.00

- Source: **CHASE Funds**

Title: Identification of developmental delay and disability in Jamaican children at 18 months, using the Jamaican Birth Cohort Study

Grant Period: May 2013–January 2014

Total cost: JA\$4,926,000.00

- Source: **UNICEF**

Title: Quality Education: Child Development Therapy Course

Grant Period: 1/08/12–30/06/14

Total cost: JA\$5,000,000.00

PAPERS/POSTERS PRESENTED AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Garbutt A

- “Does Autism Exist in Jamaica” Caribbean Conference of Family Physicians. March 17, 2013.
- “Developmental outcomes of Prematurity and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes” – (Workshop), Paediatric Association of Jamaica 19th Biennial Conference: March 27, 2012.
- “ADHD: Diagnosis and Treatment”. Paediatric Association of Jamaica 19th Biennial Conference: March 28, 2012.
- “Autism Awareness – Light it up Blue” (UWI), Jamaica Autism Support Association April 2, 2013.
- “Autism Spectrum Disorders”. Jamaica Autism Support Association, April 26, 2013.

Harrison A

- “A Transcultural Approach to Adolescent Health”. Harrison-Kong, A., Albuhairan F, Areemit R., Kaufman M. Workshop at the 10th World Congress of the International Association for Adolescent Health, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2013.

Department of Child and Adolescent Health

- “Impact of Body Image and Self Esteem on Jamaican Adolescent Behaviour”. Harrison A, James C, Jackson M, Samms-Vaughan M. Poster at the 10th World Congress of the International Association for Adolescent Health, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2013.
- “Healthcare Delivery to the 2013 youth – a local perspective”. Annual Psychology conference UWI Mona. The 2013 Caribbean Youth – Unique strengths and challenges. February 2013.
- “The Adolescent Brain: Unfinished Business”. UNICEF Regional Management Team Meeting, Latin America and the Caribbean. Kingston, Jamaica. February 2013.
- “Healthy living for the adolescent”. Summer Camp for inner city youth – Manley Meadows, Kingston; hosted by the Ministry of Health.

Miller M

- Miller M, King L Shah D, Reid M. “Glomerular changes in children with sickle cell disease – clinicopathological correlates. 5th Annual International Conference on Nephrology and Hypertension. Montego Bay, Jamaica. January 25, 2013.
- Miller M, King L Shah D, Reid M. “Is glomerulonephritis in Jamaican children with sickle cell disease sickle nephropathy?” 5th Annual International Conference on Nephrology and Hypertension. Montego Bay, Jamaica. January 25, 2013.

Melbourne-Chambers R

- “Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis”. 19th Biennial Conference, Paediatric Association of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica, April 20, 2013.
- “Cognitive function and academic achievement in children with idiopathic epilepsy from a developing country”, Epilepsy in the Developing World, 30th International Epilepsy Congress, Montreal, Canada, 23–27 June, 2013.

Pierre RB

- “Acute life threatening events, SIDS and Kids”. Jamaica Emergency Medicine Association 13th Annual Conference: Emergency Medicine from the field to the ED Floor: A look at the not so uncommon emergencies; April 7, 2013, Kingston, Jamaica.
- “Management of the HIV and Syphilis Exposed and Infected Infant and Child”. Workshop: Regional Roadmap for Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission (eMTCT) of HIV and Syphilis, Pediatric HIV Update and Training in Dry Blood Spot Testing (DBS) for Infant HIV Diagnosis, by the National HIV/STI Program, Ministry of Health and Jamaica Pediatric, Perinatal and Adolescent HIV/AIDS Program, University of the West Indies; March 19, 2013 Southern West Indies, (SRHA) Mandeville Hotel; March 21, 2013 South East Region, (SERHA), Terra Nova Hotel, March 28, 2013 North East Region (NRHA), Jewels Runaway Bay, Jamaica.

Pottinger AM

- “Psychological implications of migration”. 19th Biennial International Paediatric Conference, Paediatric Association of Jamaica, Jamaica Conference Center, April 19–21, 2013.
- “Counselling the infertile couple”. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Junior fellows, West Indies Section, Annual Clinical Symposium, The Knutsford Court Hotel, Kingston, September 1 2012.
- Support in times of chronic illness: Helping children cope, webinar in series on childhood loss and grieving; Survivors Unlimited, July 31 2013.
- Community based psychosocial support, Workshop for Training of Trainers (4 days); Jamaica Red Cross, Grand Lido Hotel, Negril, July 8–11, 2013.

Thame M

- Malnutrition: The Jamaican Experience, IAEA/IMTF Technical meeting, Accra Ghana. December 2012.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Review Journals

- Eulalia K Kahwa, Norman K Waldron, Novie O Younger, Nancy C Edwards, J M Knight Madden, **Bailey Kay A**, Yvonne B Wint, Karen N Lewis-Bell. “Asthma and allergies in Jamaican children aged 2–17 years: A cross-sectional prevalence survey”. *BMJ Open* 2012;2:e00132. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2012-001132.
- **Christie CDC, Pierre RB**. “Eliminating vertically-transmitted HIV/AIDS while improving access to treatment and care for women, children and adolescents in Jamaica”. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012;61 (4): 395–403.
- **Christie CDC, Duncan ND**. “Rotavirus Vaccine Trial in Jamaica”. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012; 61(4): 404–406.
- **Melbourne Chambers R, Forrester S, Gray R, Tapper J, Trotman H**. “Myasthenia gravis in Jamaican children: a 12-year institutional review”. *Paediatrics International Child Health*. 2012; 32:47–50.
- **Millard-Bullock D**. “The Rheumatic Fever and the Rheumatic Heart Disease Control Programme – Jamaica”. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012; 61(4):360–363.
- L King, M Moosang, **M Miller**, M Reid. “Prevalence and predictors of microalbuminuria in Jamaican children with sickle cell disease”. *Arch Dis Child*.96,12(2011):1135–9. Epub 2011 September 30 2011.
- **Miller M**. “Paediatric Nephrology at the University Hospital of the West Indies: A Walk through Time”. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012; 61(4):413–415.
- Walker SY, **Pierre RB, Christie CD, Chang SM**. “Neurocognitive function in HIV-positive children in a developing country”. *Int J Infect Dis*. 2013. pii: S1201-9712(13)00105-7. doi: 10.1016/j.ijid.2013.02.014. [Epub ahead of print]
- Succi RC, Krauss MR, Harris DR, Machado DM, de Moraes-Pinto MI, Mussi-Pinhata MM, Ruz NP, **Pierre RB, Kolevic L, Joao E**,

Foradori I, Hazra R, Siberry GK; for the NISDI Pediatric Study Group 2012. “Undervaccination of Perinatally HIV-infected and HIV-exposed Uninfected Children in Latin America and the Caribbean”. *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal* 2013;32(8):845–850. 2013 doi: 10.1097/INF.0b013e31828bbe68. [Epub ahead of print]

- **Pottinger AM** and Palmer T. “Whither IVF-assisted birth or spontaneous conception? Parental anxiety, styles and child development in Jamaican families, *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology*” (2013), 31 (2), 148–159.
- **Pottinger AM**, Everett-Keane, D, & McKenzie C. “Evolution of In Vitro Fertilization at The University of the West Indies, Mona” *West Indian Medical Journal* (2012), 61 (4), 460–462.
- Pottinger AM. “Children’s exposure to violence in Jamaica – over a decade of research and interventions” *West Indian Medical Journal* (2012), 61 (4), 369–371.
- Ferguson GM, Bornstein MH, **Pottinger AM**. “Tridimensional acculturation and adaptation among Jamaican mother-adolescent dyads in the United States” *Child Development*, (2012), 83 (5), 1486–1493.
- Rahbar, M. H., **Samms-Vaughan, M.**, Ardjomand-Hessabi, M., Loveland, K. A., Dikerson, A. S., Chen, Z., Bressler, J., **Shakespeare-Pellington, S.**, Grove, M. L., Bloom, K., Wirth, J., Pearson, D. A., Boerwinkle, E. A. “The role of drinking water, vegetables, and seafood consumption in relation to blood arsenic concentrations of Jamaican children with and without Autism Spectrum Disorders”. *Science of the Total Environment*. 2012; 433C:362–370.
- Rahbar, M. H., **Samms-Vaughan, M.**, Loveland, K. A., Ardjomand-Hessabi, M., Chen, Z., Bressler, J., **Shakespeare-Pellington, S.**, Grove, M. L., Bloom, K., Pearson, D. A., Lalor, G. C., Boerwinkle, E. A. “Seafood Consumption and Blood Mercury Concentrations in Jamaican Children With and Without Autism Spectrum Disorders. *Neurotoxicity Research*”, 2013; (23(1):22–38.

- Mohammad H. Rahbar, **Maureen Samms-Vaughan**, Katherine A. Loveland, Deborah A. Pearson, Jan Bressler, Zhongxue Chen, Manouchehr Ardjomand-Hessabi, Sydonnie Shakespeare-Pellington, Megan L. Grove and Compton Beecher, et al. Maternal and paternal age are jointly associated with autism in Jamaica. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* 2012 (Sep.), 42(9):1928–1938.
- **Thame M.** “The Jamaican Fetus – Overview of Various Studies.” *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012 July;61(4):323–30.
- Michael S. Boyne, Debbie S. Thompson, Clive Osmond, Raphael A. Fraser, **Minerva M. Thame**, Carolyn Taylor-Bryan, et al. “The effect of antenatal factors and postnatal growth on serum adiponectin levels in children.” *Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease* – Manuscript ID 01-13-OA-0296
- **Minerva M. Thame**, Clive Osmond, Graham R. Serjeant. “Fetal growth in women with homozygous sickle cell disease: an observational study.” *European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology*. 2013 August;170(1):62–6. doi: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2013.04.013. Epub 2013 June 6.
- **Thame M**, Osmond C, Trotman H. “Fetal growth and birth size is associated with maternal anthropometry and body composition.” *Maternal and Child Nutrition* 2012 December 13. doi: 10.1111/mcn.12027. [Epub ahead of print]
- Gooden M, Younger N, **Trotman H.** “What is the Best Predictor of Mortality in a Very Low Birth Weight Infant Population with a High Mortality Rate in a Medical Setting with Limited Resources?” *American Journal of Perinatology*. 2013. [Epub ahead of print].

ABSTRACTS

- JM Cook, R Hardie, **K Bailey**, M Tapper, J Anderson, I Vickers, JF Lindo. Seroprevalence of human toxocarasis in Jamaica. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2012; 61 (Suppl 6): 38 Abstract O–19.

- **Pierre RB**, Lewis K., **Moore J.**, **Christie CDC**. Long-term outcomes of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in Jamaican children: an epidemiological cohort study. Abstract, Poster and Electronic Publication MOPE210, X1X International AIDS Conference, Washington D.C, July 2012.
- **Fulford TA**, **Pierre RB**, Lewis K., **Palmer P**, **Walters C.**, **Christie CDC**. Infectious disease morbidity and growth patterns of HIV-exposed uninfected infants in Jamaica: an epidemiological cohort study. Abstract, Poster and Electronic Publication, **MOPE115**, X1X International AIDS Conference, Washington D.C, July 2012.
- **A. Harrison**, C. James, M. Jackson, M. Samms-Vaughan. “Impact of Body Image and Self Esteem on Jamaican Adolescent Behaviour”. *Turk Arch Ped* 2013 Suppl 2; 39–139.
- **A. Harrison-Kong**, F. Albuhairan, R. Areemit, M. Kaufman. A Transcultural Approach to Adolescent Health. *Turk Arch Ped* 2013 Suppl 2; 1–15
- **Melbourne-Chambers R**, Chang-Lopez S, Morrison-Levy N, Tapper J, Tulloch-Reid M. Cognitive function and academic achievement in children with idiopathic Epilepsy from a developing country. *Epilepsia*, 54(Suppl. 3):4–21, 2013.
- J Seesahai, L Gabay, **H Trotman**, N Younger, **M Thame**. Regaining of birth weight and subsequent growth velocity in neonates. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62(Suppl.2):25
- Jean W. Hsu, **Minerva M. Thame**, Horace M. Fletcher, Tameka M. Baker, Grace J. Tang, Alan A. Jackson, Farook Jahoor. Comparing glycine and serine kinetics in adolescent girls and adult women during early and late pregnancy. *Experimental Biology*, 2013.
- Jeffrey Mark Karnes¹, Jean W. Hsu¹, Grace J. Tang¹, Tameka M. Baker, **Minerva M. Thame**, Prathiba Dwarkanath, Anura V. Kurpad, Farook Jahoor. Arginine production & nitric oxide synthesis in pregnancy, a study in Jamaican, American and Indian women. *Experimental Biology*, 2013.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Antoine M

- Medical Advisor of the Down’s Syndrome Foundation of Jamaica

Christie CD.

- Member, WHO/ PAHO/ UN Agencies/ Partners, Latin American and Caribbean Elimination Initiative for Vertically-Transmitted HIV/AIDS and Syphilis, Technical Working Group.
- Member of Technical Working Group. WHO/ PAHO/ UN Agencies/ Partners, Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Prevention of TB/HIV.
- Member, PAHO/ UNICEF/ UN Agencies, Caribbean Elimination Initiative for Vertically-Transmitted HIV/AIDS and Syphilis, Technical Working Group.
- Member, Governing Council of the International AIDS Society, representing Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Co-Chair, Pharmaceutical Industry Liaison Forum, International AIDS Society.
- Member, Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), Governing Council, International AIDS Society.
- Member, Finance Subcommittee, Governing Council, International AIDS Society.
- Member, Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric Education and Research (CIPHER), Governing Council, International AIDS Society.
- Member, Research Grant Working Group, Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric Education and Research (CIPHER), Governing Council, International AIDS Society.
- Fellow, Infectious Diseases Society of America.
- Member, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society of America.
- Founding Member, HIV Medicine Association of America.

- Member, International Association of Physicians in HIV/AIDS Care.
- Member, International Society for Infectious Diseases.
- Vice Chancellor’s Representative, UWI, to the Executive, Center for HIV/AIDS Research and Training (CHART)

Miller M.

- Founder, Chairman and Director – Jamaica Kidney Kids Foundation.

Melbourne-Chambers R.

- Organiser, Paediatric medical services for the St. Luke’s Church Annual Health Fair.
- Chairman, Serious Case Review Panel, Child Development Agency.
- Member, Committee to Review Applications for Residential Child Care Facilities Child Development Agency, MOH.

Pierre R.

- Chairman / Chief Examiner of the Caribbean Association of Medical Councils (CAMC) Examination Committee
- Member, National HIV Quantification Technical Sub Committee., Ministry of Health, Jamaica.

Pottinger AM.

- Disaster Mental Health Responder, Jamaica Red Cross
- Board Member, McCam Child Care and Development Centre

Samms Vaughan M.

- Chair, Early Childhood Commission of Jamaica
- Member, National Council on Education, Jamaica
- Chairman, Policy Research Committee, National Council on Education, Jamaica
- Member, National Advisory Council on Disability
- Director, Usain Bolt Foundation

Trotman H.

- Chairman Education committee, Paediatric Association of Jamaica.
- Assistant Editor of the *West Indian Medical Journal*
- Paediatrician, Church of St. Margaret's Mother's Union Annual Health Fair.

Thame M.

- Member, UHWI representative Medical Review Panel, MOH
- Scientific Secretary, Caribbean Health Research Council
- Alternate member for UWI on the Boards of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ)
- Director, Down's Syndrome Foundation of Jamaica

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Antoine M.

- Paediatric Association of Jamaica Award for outstanding contribution in the field of Paediatrics

Christie CD.

- 2013 – Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) honouree for outstanding work in the field of research

Reece M.

- 2013 – Kiwanis's Club of New Kingston for work in Paediatric Oncology

Samms-Vaughan M

- 2012 – Principal's Research Award, for Most Outstanding Researcher