

Clinical Connection

News, Updates and Support for Healthcare Professionals



Kennedy Krieger Institute
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

REHABILITATION • DEVELOPMENTAL MEDICINE • BEHAVIORAL THERAPIES



Dear Colleagues,

I am so very pleased and proud to be the new president and CEO of Kennedy Krieger Institute, and to welcome you to this edition of *Clinical Connection*.

This newsletter is just one way we foster important communications between our professional staff and you. Communication

with each other, on behalf of our patients and their families, is critical to our mutual success in helping patients recover and thrive.

Attached to this newsletter is *Potential* magazine, which features stories about children, teens and young adults; their families; and the many professionals at Kennedy Krieger—and beyond—who work together to improve the trajectory of our shared patients' lives. We hope you'll place the magazine in your waiting room for your staff members and patients to enjoy.

I've assumed the helm of a vibrant, vital, mission-driven organization staffed by more than 2,700 dedicated colleagues who serve in more than 80 clinical, school and community programs and hundreds of research investigations. Our mission is to improve the lives of individuals with brain, nervous system and neuromuscular disorders, diseases and injuries. We are grateful for the trust you put in us when you refer patients, as our goal is to partner with you for their very best care.

We want to hear from you! If you have questions or would like to refer a patient, please call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**. And please email me at **CEO@KennedyKrieger.org** if you would like to share any comments with me.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad".

Bradley L. Schlaggar, MD, PhD
President and CEO

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- New President and CEO of Kennedy Krieger Institute
- Kennedy Krieger Hires Its First d/Deaf Psychologist

REFERRING YOUR PATIENTS

To support the needs of physicians and healthcare professionals, our care management team is available to provide information on appropriate clinical programs, handle referrals, obtain consultations with Institute specialists, and schedule appointments for patients and families.

Call **443-923-9403** to reach our Physician Referral Line, or visit **KennedyKrieger.org/Referrals** for information and resources for physicians and healthcare professionals.

For general information, visit **KennedyKrieger.org** or call **1-888-554-2080**.

OUR CULTURE OF CARE

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of patients and their families and treats them with courtesy and dignity. Kennedy Krieger Institute provides care that preserves cultural, psychosocial, spiritual and personal values, beliefs and preferences. Care is free from discrimination based on age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, including transgender. We encourage patients and families to become active partners in their care by asking questions, seeking resources and advocating for the services and support they need. © 2018 Kennedy Krieger Institute 12/2018

CDC Releases Updated Guideline on Diagnosis and Management of Pediatric Mild Traumatic Brain Injuries

Dr. Stacy Suskauer, co-director of Kennedy Krieger's Center for Brain Injury Recovery, co-authored the guideline.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 2.5 million high school students reported having had a sports- or physical activity-related concussion within the last 12 months, and more than 800,000 children seek care related to traumatic brain injuries in U.S. emergency departments each year. In an effort to improve outcomes for patients 18 years old and younger who experience concussions and mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI), the CDC recently published the "CDC Guideline on the Diagnosis and Management of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Among Children," built from a comprehensive review of 25 years of research on the science behind pediatric mTBI.

Stacy Suskauer, MD, co-director of Kennedy Krieger Institute's Center for Brain Injury Recovery, served as a co-author of the guideline, along with a select group of specialists in pediatric care, noting that "the guideline highlights the importance of treatment by an interdisciplinary team, and highlights an active rehabilitation approach for managing the needs of children with concussions and mild traumatic brain injuries."



"The guideline stresses the importance of treatment by an interdisciplinary team, and highlights an active rehabilitation approach for managing the needs of children with concussions and mild traumatic brain injuries."

— Dr. Stacy Suskauer



Published in *JAMA Pediatrics*, it is the first and only evidence-based pediatric guideline in the U.S. designed for healthcare professionals to use in all settings, and it covers diagnosis, prognosis, management and treatment for all causes of pediatric mTBI. The five key practice-changing takeaways from the guideline are:

- Do not routinely image pediatric patients to diagnose mTBI.
- Use validated, age-appropriate symptom scales to diagnose mTBI.
- Assess for risk factors for prolonged recovery.
- Provide patients with instructions, customized to their symptoms, on returning to activity.
- Counsel patients to return gradually to non-sports activities after no more than two to three days of rest.

Visit **CDC.gov** for more information about the CDC guideline.

New President and CEO of Kennedy Krieger Institute

Kennedy Krieger Institute welcomed **Bradley L. Schlaggar**, MD, PhD, as its new president and CEO this past summer. Dr. Schlaggar joined Kennedy Krieger after 19 years on the faculty of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, where for the last four years he served as division head of pediatric and developmental neurology, co-director of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, and neurologist-in-chief at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Before becoming division head, Dr. Schlaggar directed the pediatric neurology residency program for eight years.

Visit KennedyKrieger.org/CEO to read more about Dr. Schlaggar.



Kennedy Krieger Hires Its First d/Deaf* Psychologist



Dr. Danielle Previ, who is d/Deaf, will work with children who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing.

Kennedy Krieger Institute recently expanded its capacity to serve children who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing by hiring its first d/Deaf psychologist, who will be working in the Neuropsychology Department, providing neuropsychological and psychological assessment services for children and families who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing.

Danielle Previ, PhD, received her doctorate in clinical psychology from Gallaudet University and began working at the Institute as an intern. She will be working in the deafness evaluation clinic with children who have difficulties meeting developmental milestones, learning difficulties in school, and/or behavioral or social difficulties, among other conditions.

To learn more or to make a referral to the deafness evaluation clinic, contact FindASpecialist@KennedyKrieger.org or call **443-923-9403**.

*Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes that the word "deaf" can refer to both a condition and a culture. With a lower-case "d," it indicates the condition of not being able to hear. With an upper-case "D," it refers to the culture and community of individuals who cannot hear or who are hard of hearing, and who share a common language: American Sign Language. Kennedy Krieger spells the word as "d/Deaf" to be inclusive of both hearing status and cultural identity.



Kennedy Krieger Institute

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PATIENT CARE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Specialty Pediatric Hospital

Feeding Disorders
Neurobehavioral Unit (NBU)
Rehabilitation Unit—brain injury, complex medical, pain management, post-orthopedic surgery and spinal cord injury

Outpatient Centers, Programs and Services

International Adoption Clinic
Aquatic Therapy Program
Assistive Technology Clinic
Audiology Clinic
Center for Autism and Related Disorders
Barth Syndrome Clinic
Behavior Management Clinic
Bone Disorders Program
Brachial Plexus Clinic
Center for Brain Injury Recovery
Phelps Center for Cerebral Palsy and Neurodevelopmental Medicine
Child and Family Support Center
Child and Family Therapy Clinic
Community Rehabilitation Program
Concussion Clinic
Constraint-Induced and Bimanual Therapy Program
Cranial Cervical Clinic
Deafness-Related Evaluations Clinic
Center for Development and Learning
Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic
Down Syndrome Clinic and Research Center
Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program
Focused Interdisciplinary Therapy Program
Fragile X Clinic
Healthy Lifestyles Therapy Program
Infant Neurodevelopmental Center
Moser Center for Leukodystrophies
Limb Differences Clinic

Military Behavioral Health Services
Center for Genetic Muscle Disorders
Neurobehavioral Unit Outpatient Program
Neurology and Neurogenetics Clinic
Clinical Neurophysiology Clinic and Laboratory
Neuropsychiatry in Epilepsy Program
Neuropsychology Outpatient Clinics
Specialized Transition Program Neurorehabilitation
Day Hospital
Nutrition Clinic
Occupational Therapy Clinic
Orthopedic Clinic
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Clinic
Pain Rehabilitation Program
Physical Therapy Clinic
Psychiatric Mental Health Program
Pediatric Psychology Program
Rehabilitation Clinic
Seating Clinic
Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic
Sleep Disorders Clinic and Laboratory
Speech and Language Clinic
Philip A. Keelty Center for Spina Bifida and Related Conditions
International Center for Spinal Cord Injury
Hunter Nelson Sturge-Weber Center
Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress
Tuberous Sclerosis Clinic
Weight Management Program

Continuums of Care

Continuums allow patients to be seen through all stages of care, including in 24-hour inpatient programs, day treatment, home- and community-based services, and outpatient programs. They include **Pediatric Feeding Disorders**, **Neurobehavioral Disorders** and **Pediatric Rehabilitation (brain injury, complex medical, pain management, post-orthopedic surgery and spinal cord injury)**.

For a complete listing of all diagnoses, disorders, programs and services, visit KennedyKrieger.org/PatientCare or call **888-554-2080**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.