

Office of Pediatric Surgical Evaluation and Innovation

Annual Report

April 1, 2005 - March 31, 2006



Susan Bockhold Health Care Consulting





Table of Contents

Overview

OPSEI

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Strategic Framework
- ▶ Organizational Structure
- ▶ Roles and Responsibilities
- ▶ Finance

Projects

- ▶ Focus to Date
- ▶ Summary of Projects by Strategic Outcome

Summary of Achievements against Outcomes

Appendix

- ▶ Project Profiles by Outcome
 - Evaluative Research
 - Education and Development
 - Policy Creation



Overview

Since the publication of *For Care, For Quality, For Life* in September of 2003, the Department of Pediatric Surgery at BC Children's Hospital has been actively engaged in executing the renewed vision for pediatric surgical services in British Columbia. A central element of the vision was the creation of the Office for Pediatric Surgical Evaluation and Innovation (OPSEI). This first annual report for OPSEI is a testament to the hard work and dedication of a number of individuals who have brought the vision of OPSEI to life. The support of Departmental members, B.C. Children's Hospital Executive, the PHSA, UBC, the B.C. Children's Hospital Foundation and the Department of Pediatric Surgery has enabled the successful start up of OPSEI and plans for continued achievement is envisioned.

OPSEI serves to provide unique scientific insight to support policy makers, managers, planners, practitioners and other researchers in shaping the future of pediatric surgery in B.C., nationally and internationally. Through a focused strategy in three key areas, evaluative research, education and development, and policy creation, Primary Outcomes have been developed that guide the type and direction of work. It has been a busy and productive year for OPSEI with significant achievements in relation to the Primary Outcomes.

Evaluative Research

Of particular importance is the ongoing development of the Pediatric Surgery Simulation Project. It was first conceived in response to the growing pediatric surgical wait-list and the desire by surgeons within the Department to improve access, delivery and quality of care for children and their families.

In collaboration with the Centre of Excellence (COE) at the UBC Sauder School of Business, the Department of Pediatric Surgery was able to identify strategies that would enhance patient flow through the peri-operative area and decrease surgical wait-times for selected high-priority cases. As part of this project an innovative tool, known as the Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool (RPWT), was developed and has recently drawn the interest of the Federal Government. Work is underway to enable web-based access to the RPWT. A pilot project with the pediatric General and Urology surgery clinics has begun and will continue through the Spring and Summer of 2006.



Dr. Geoff Blair, Chief of Pediatric Surgery, B.C. Children's Hospital



Operations research projects at B.C. Children's Hospital were also conducted in the Emergency Room where improvements in patient wait-times were realized and for the Orthopedic clinic where an extensive review was done to redesign the clinic operations. Ongoing work continues with these projects to refine the simulation scenarios and produce further strategies for improvement of patient flow and reduced wait-times.

Participation in the Child and Youth Research Network was achieved through a grant from the Michael Smith Foundation. This offers OPSEI the opportunity to share knowledge and collaborate with other child health care researchers in B.C. on the application of operations research methodologies in pediatric health care access and delivery.

Education and Development

OPSEI is pleased to report achieving competitive grant funding in the amount of \$114,798 for four projects. The projects will be implemented in 2006 and serve to advance opportunities for student training in operations research, OR and ICU care and Global Health. OPSEI is also taking a leadership role in collaborative efforts with UBC, the International Child Health Institute, the Vancouver Foundation and the BC Children's Hospital Foundation to learn from and share advances and expertise in pediatric surgical care nationally and internationally. Collectively, these are examples of initiatives that are essential for pediatric surgical education and training in B.C. to be regarded as world's best practice.

The pediatric surgeons, through OPSEI, have partnered with the Knowledge Network to produce five vignettes on Innovations in Pediatric Surgery. Each vignette will be five minutes in length and will focus on innovative procedures within neonatal cardiac surgery, urology, orthopedic, neurosurgery and general surgery. Filming began in March 2006 and will follow families from diagnosis, through surgical treatment and follow up.

An OPSEI lectureship series has also been initiated. The intent is to deliver a series of high quality lectures with broad scientific interest to the university and hospital community emphasizing pediatric surgical innovation and evaluation initiatives.



Policy Creation

Currently Dr. Geoff Blair, Head Department of Pediatric Surgery, is Chair of the Pediatric Surgical Chiefs of Canada (PSSC). PSSC represents 16 Canadian academic healthcare institutions that deliver pediatric surgical services. The PSSC's goal is to provide policy makers, hospital administrators, regional health authorities, universities, government and the public with the most accurate information about the state of pediatric surgical care and access to services in Canada. In this way, informed and responsible decisions can be made regarding the allocation and distribution of health care resources. We anticipate that the PSSC's efforts will enhance dialogue and collaboration on surgical issues across the country.

In addition, OPSEI is participating, in collaboration with the Ontario Children's Health Network, in developing a national strategy for pediatric surgical wait-times. Central to this project is the use of operations research methodologies and ongoing development of the Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool.

Fostering opportunities for improved access to pediatric surgical care in B.C., within the B.C. Child Health Research Network, is also occurring and will continue to be a priority for the coming year.

Building Relationships

A priority for OPSEI in 2005 has been to establish and foster relationships with key stake-holders that will become the cornerstone upon which the value of OPSEI is demonstrated. An example of the importance and success of relationship building is seen in the overwhelming contributions made by members of the Department of Pediatric Surgery to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation Circle of Care program. In 2005, 18 of 26 surgeons became members of Circle of Care. Their donations of \$10,000 each were matched by external donors to the Foundation and a total of \$400,000 was raised to support clinical and scholarly initiatives within each surgical discipline. This success attracted *Mining for Miracles* who donated an additional \$200,000 to improve OR equipment.



A Broader View

While the focus of OPSEI has been and will continue to be on creating opportunities to achieve the three Primary Outcomes, additional activities have advanced the scope of OPSEI and provide opportunities for further consideration.

Opportunities have included participation in broader child and youth health initiatives that embrace social responsibility and service learning as an essential component of physician training. Participation in the Vulnerable Youth Program offers medical students the opportunity to promote health and wellness with youth in the inner city.

Looking Ahead

It is with great anticipation that we look to the year ahead. The ongoing development of the Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool has tremendous potential and we believe that the next year will be pivotal to the success of this endeavor. Ongoing analysis will continue with both the ER, Orthopedic and General surgery clinics, contributing to improved access for children and families. In the coming year, substantial work will be done in relation to many of the educational projects. Attention will be given to presenting and publishing results locally, nationally and internationally. In addition, OPSEI will seek to enhance its profile within and outside of BCCH and continue to explore new opportunities to achieve the three primary outcomes.





Introduction

The Office of Pediatric Surgical Evaluation and Innovation (OPSEI) is a key element of the new vision for Pediatric Surgery at BC Children's Hospital. With the ongoing advancement of surgical technology and the need to work within constrained resources, it is increasingly imperative that the best surgical care is provided to pediatric patients in the best setting for the best outcomes. To achieve this goal requires comprehensive evaluation of new technologies, work processes and care delivery coupled with the ability to be innovative and progressive. The vision of OPSEI encompasses this purpose and highlights the multiple roles to be played.

Vision

OPSEI aims to establish and maintain a unique position for BC Children's Hospital as a leader nationally and internationally in the delivery of high quality pediatric surgical care. It is an investment in conducting clinical research that contributes to the effectiveness, quality, equity, and efficiency of pediatric surgical care and outcomes in BC. As innovators, we plan to expand the frontiers of pediatric surgical knowledge and understanding. As teachers, we will enthusiastically involve the educational community in our endeavors to inspire and engage surgical trainees. We will cultivate learning opportunities to enrich the academic community in Pediatric Surgery.

Core Values

Partnership - Inquiry - Enthusiasm - Integrity - Service - Achievement

Per the Business Plan of March 9, 2005, OPSEI has endeavored to meet the identified goals and objectives through the application of a strategic framework.



Primary Objectives:

- To launch the Department of Pediatric Surgery Simulation Project as a means of addressing critical utilization and access issues in clinical care.
- To assess the implementation and outcomes of new surgical technologies.
- To address critical patient navigation issues within surgical clinics.
- To advance and communicate pediatric surgical discoveries.
- To strive for excellence in pediatric surgical education for medical students, residents, fellows, and visiting surgeons.
- To facilitate collaborative clinical research, emphasizing randomized clinical trials that evaluate standard and innovative surgical therapies and surgical devices.
- To support the development of new analytical methods for evaluating surgical treatments.
- To advance innovation in surgery by creating a better understanding of practice.
- To conduct quality of care studies that focus on surgical error reduction.
- To investigate the health policy implications of research findings.
- To educate new investigators in surgical services research.
- To partner with other centers in BC through networks for pediatric surgical services and centers nationally and internationally.
- To strengthen and expand high quality, interdisciplinary clinical evaluative and policy research.
- National benchmarking.

Strategic Framework

The OPSEI strategic framework leverages three key areas, evaluative research, education and development and policy creation to achieve the vision.

The Primary Outcomes in each of these areas guide the type and extent of work conducted by OPSEI.



Evaluative Research

Conducts operations research and analysis to support the delivery of accessible, high quality, cost effective pediatric surgical care to children and their families in B.C.

Education and Development

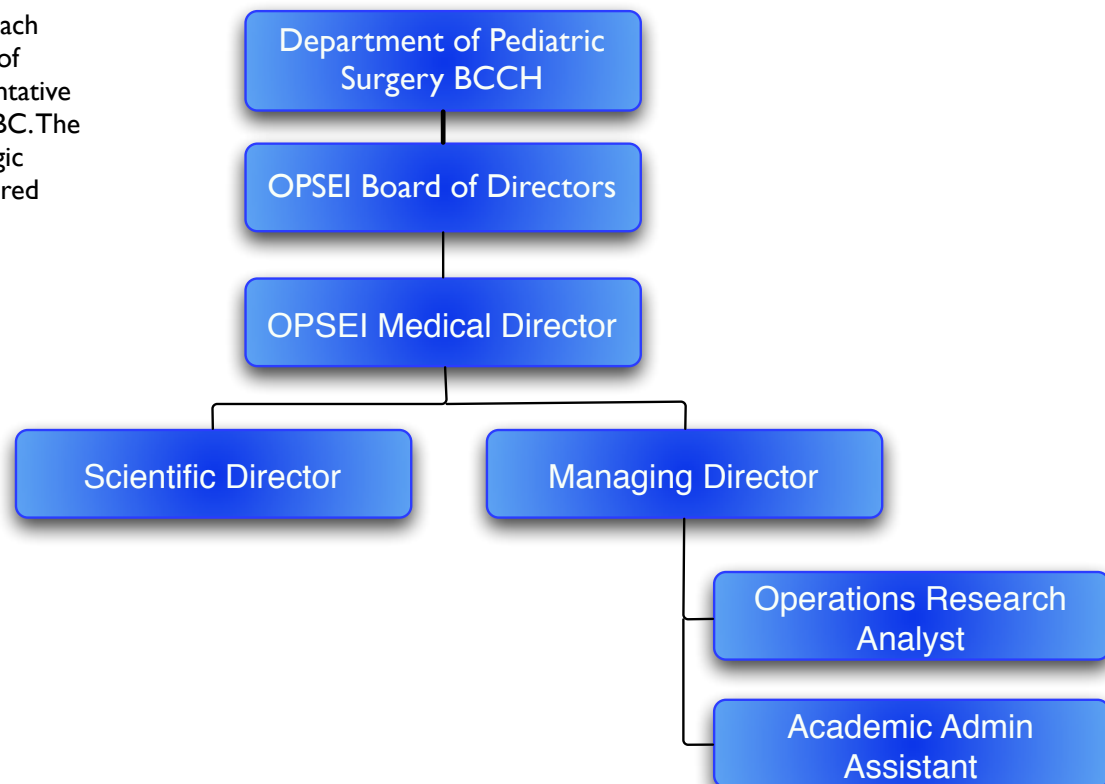
Advances and communicates the knowledge base of pediatric surgery in B.C., contributes to the national body of knowledge and participates in the global development of knowledge and skills in support of our mission as a teaching institution.

Policy Creation

Contributes to a stronger Canadian research and innovation capacity by providing leadership on the development and implementation of policy related to pediatric surgery.

Organizational Structure

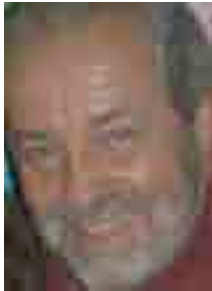
Organizationally, OPSEI is a program of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at BC Children's Hospital. There is a Board of Directors comprised of the Heads of each division of Pediatric Surgery, the Chief of Pediatric Surgery and a faculty representative from the Sauder School of Business, UBC. The OPSEI Board reviews the vision, strategic plan, goals, program budget and structured growth of OPSEI on an annual basis.





Roles and Responsibilities

Executive Medical Director



Dr Jacques LeBlanc is responsible for the direction and priorities of OPSEI which are determined in collaboration with the Board.

Managing Director



Mr. Damian Duffy is responsible for all OPSEI business operations and overall project management.

Operations Research Analyst



Mr. Craig O'Neil is responsible for all initiatives relating to access to care and surgical wait times.

Academic Administrative Assistant



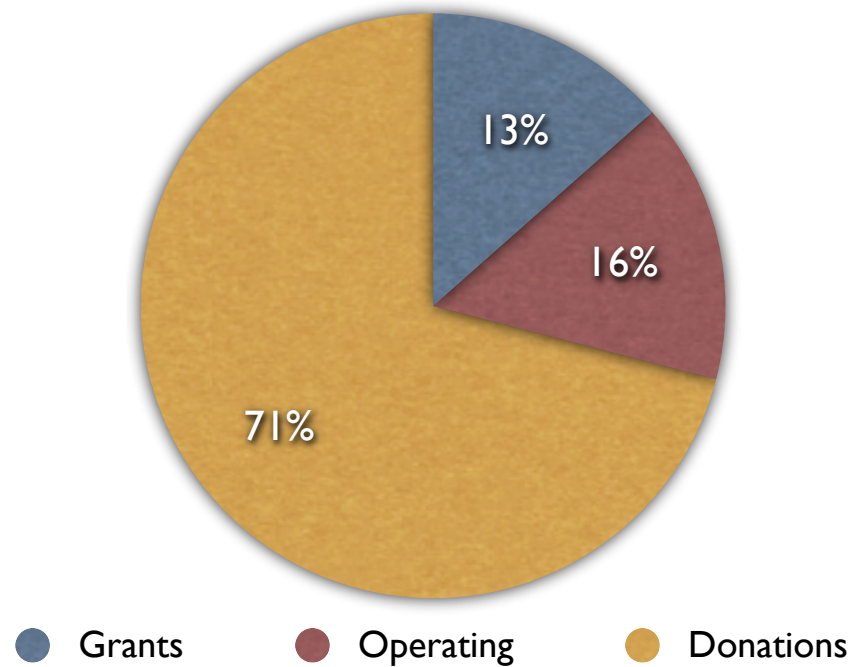
Mrs. Bindy Sahota is responsible for all academic support to the Pediatric Surgeons and coordinates undergraduate and postgraduate training programs.

Scientific Director

To be recruited. The role of this position is to guide and oversee the research productivity of OPSEI.

Finance

OPSEI has been very successful in attracting funding and resources for Pediatric Surgery. Contributions have been made by the UBC Department of Surgery, the UBC Department of Orthopedics, the Department of Pediatric Surgery at B.C. Children's Hospital, the Provincial Health Services Authority and B.C. Children's Hospital Foundation. Donations and grant funding provide further sources of funding for projects and activities.

Investing in Pediatric Surgery



Finance

Investors

○ Circle of Care Program, BCCH Foundation	\$400,000.00
○ Mining for Miracles	\$200,000.00
○ Provincial Health Services Authority	\$97,000.00
○ BC Academic Health Council	\$86,600.00
○ UBC Surgery	\$33,000.00
○ BCCH Foundation - Innovations in Pediatric Surgery Vignettes	\$32,000.00
○ Vancouver Foundation - Global Health Education	\$15,000.00
○ UBC Orthopedics	\$10,000.00
○ McCreary Foundation - Vulnerable Youth Program	\$10,000.00
○ Allergan Canada	\$6,425.00
○ Private Donations	\$6,300.00
○ Michael Smith Foundation - Child and Youth Health Research	\$3,198.00

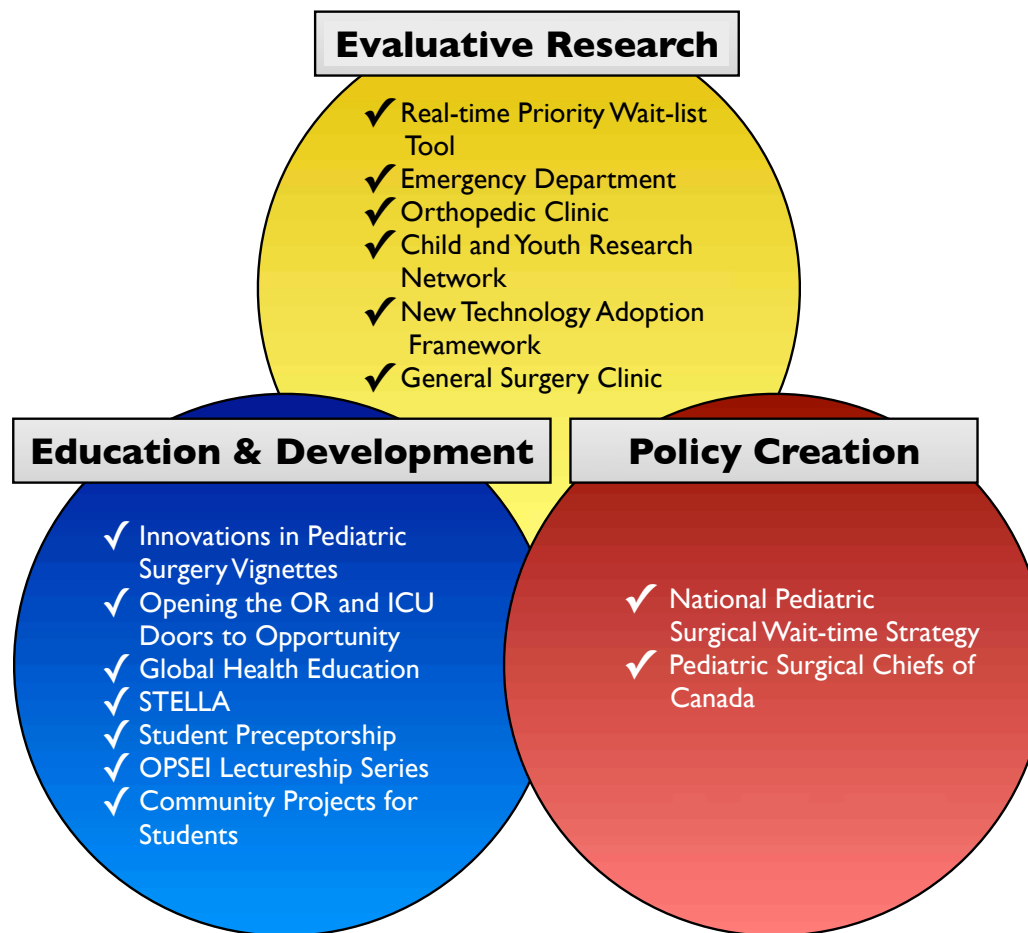
Total Funding

\$899,523.00



Throughout 2005, OPSEI conducted a series of projects and activities to support the achievement of the three Primary Outcomes.

Focus to Date





Summary of Projects by Outcome



**Evaluative
Research**

Conducts operations research and analysis to support the delivery of accessible, high quality, cost effective pediatric surgical care to children and their families in B.C.

Summary of Key Projects and Activities in 2005/06

		Status
1	Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool <ul style="list-style-type: none">Using a mathematical formula patients are ranked using a priority category and current wait-time. Automatic scheduling is available using an algorithm that schedules based on priority ranking while meeting a minimum level of operating time efficiency.	In progress
2	ER Department: Patient Flow Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">Operations research methodologies were used to identify opportunities to improve patient wait-time in the Emergency Room at B.C. Children's Hospital	Complete
3	Orthopedic Clinic: Patient Flow Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">Operations research methodologies were used to identify opportunities to improve patient wait-time in the Orthopedic Clinic at B.C. Children's Hospital.	Complete
4	Child and Youth Research Network <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sharing knowledge and collaborating with other institutions regarding the application of operations research methodologies as an enabler of departmental and corporate decision making.	In progress
5	New Technology Adoption Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none">Development of a framework to assess the financial, operational and educational requirements for the adoption of new pediatric surgical technology.	In progress
6	Pediatric General Surgery Renewed Practice Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none">Development of a future state operating model to improve access to pediatric general surgical consultation and patient centred services.	In progress



Summary of Projects by Outcome

Education & Development

Advances and communicates the knowledge base of pediatric surgery in B.C., contributes to the national body of knowledge and participates in the global development of knowledge and skills in support of our mission as a teaching institution

Summary of Key Projects and Activities in 2005/06

		Status
1	Innovations in Pediatric Surgery Vignettes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five vignettes developed in collaboration with the Knowledge Network, to highlight innovations in pediatric surgery at B.C. Children's Hospital.	In progress
2	Opening the OR and ICU Doors to Opportunity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a specialized practicum for the ICU and OR as a means to attracting new graduates to the hospital.	In Progress
3	Global Health Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a global health education curriculum for medical staff and students who seek opportunities to work in developing countries.	In Progress
4	STELLA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advancing pediatric surgical innovation through foreign learning exchanges or opportunities.	In progress
5	Student Preceptorship in OPSEI <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preceptorship to learn operations research methodologies as applied to health care.	In progress
6	OPSEI Lecture Series <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guest lecture series given monthly on innovation and emerging pediatric surgical techniques.	In progress
7	Community Projects for Students <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrating the principles of social responsibility as an essential component of learning for medical students.	In progress



Summary of Projects by Outcome



Contributes to a stronger Canadian research and innovation capacity by providing leadership on the development and implementation of policy related to pediatric surgery.

Summary of Key Projects and Activities in 2005/06

Status

1 National Pediatric Surgical Wait-time Strategy

• OPSEI presented the patient prioritization and simulation model to Dr. Brian Postl, the Federal Advisor on Wait Times. Dr. G. Blair and Craig O'Neill are now part of the National Pediatric Wait Times Steering Group. BCCH is expected to bring expertise in developing a wait-list management tool.

In progress

2 Pediatric Surgical Departments of Canada

• Founding member of the coalition of 16 academic health care institutions with pediatric surgical programs advocating for improved access to care through various initiatives.

In Progress



Summary of Achievements Against Outcomes



Evaluative Research

The achievements in relation to Evaluative Research are significant and encouraging. The work to date for the Orthopedics Clinic and the Emergency Room has contributed a level of analysis that has not been available previously. As a result, more comprehensive information is used in decision making regarding resource requirements and improvements for both of these areas.

The web based, Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool will enable significant improvements in managing the pediatric surgical wait-list and wait-times at BCCH as well as provide a prototype for management of pediatric surgical wait-times nationally.



Education & Development

The achievements in relation to Education and Development are varied and represent a large portion of the work to be done in 2006. All of the projects from the Pediatric Surgery Vignettes to the OPSEI lectureship series contribute to the body of knowledge and expertise locally. Additional emphasis on pediatric surgical and child health issues internationally is achieved through the Global Health Education project.



Policy Creation

The achievements in relation to Policy Creation hold tremendous promise. Participation in the National Pediatric Wait-time Strategy and the Pediatric Surgical Chiefs of Canada provides opportunity to lead the development of national strategies to improve access to pediatric surgical care.



Appendix

- ▶ **Project Profiles by Outcome**
 - **Evaluative Research**
 - **Education and Development**
 - **Policy Creation**



I Real-time Priority Wait-list Tool

Project Objective

- To provide a tool for effective management of surgical patient wait-lists and wait-times.
- To create a web-based tool that will record, monitor, and forecast surgical wait lists and W2 patient wait times.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J.G. LeBlanc, Mr. C. O'Neill

External Team: OpenRoad Communications, a Vancouver based software development has been contracted to help with development and implementation of the pilot project.

Time frame: September 2005 - September 2006

Key Activities to date

- Demo version of tool with limited functionality has been completed and presented at a National Wait Time Coalition Conference in Ottawa. In attendance was the Federal Health Minister and senior staff from 16 academic pediatric hospitals in Canada.
- Demo version of tool has been presented to key users at BCCH and feedback is currently being incorporated into the analysis and design phase of the project.

Outcomes

- Mechanism for monitoring wait-times for pediatric surgery
- Improved access for children in B.C. to pediatric surgery.



2

Emergency Department Patient Flow Project

Project Objective

- To identify opportunities for improvement in patient wait-times in the ER Department.

Project Team: Dr. T. Kissoon, Dr. S. Whitehouse, Mr. C. O'Neill, Mr. A. Gray (student)

Time frame: May 1, 2005 - October 1, 2005

Key Activities to date

- All activities for this project are complete for Phase One, including the Patient Flow Simulation Model and 5 scenario analyses and reported in *B.C. Children's Hospital Emergency Department: Patient Flow Project, Phase One Summary, Craig O'Neill, October, 2005.*

Outcomes

- New ER physician schedule implemented based on project findings
- Changes to triage resource management implemented based on project findings
- 2 papers submitted to Pediatric Emergency for publication.
- Additional data sources currently being considered for future scenario analysis.



3

Orthopedic Clinic: Patient Flow Data Analysis Summary

Project Objective

- To provide primary analysis and in-depth secondary analysis, using simulation modeling techniques, of clinic patient volumes with the intent of supporting a comprehensive review of orthopedic services.

Project Team: Dr. S. Tredwell, Mr. C. O'Neill

Time frame: April 1, 2005 - August 1, 2005 (scenario analysis ongoing)

Key Activities to date

- All activities for this project are complete and reported in *B.C. Children's Hospital Orthopedic Clinic: Patient Flow and Activity Analysis*, Craig O'Neill, September, 2005.

Outcomes

- Final presentation and summary document submitted to key members of redesign team.
- Changes to orthopaedic clinic schedule made based on project findings.
- OPSEI analysis supported many of the CSI recommendations.
- Scenario analysis is ongoing.



4

Child and Youth Research Network

Project Objective

- To share knowledge and collaborate with other institutions and programs that are applying operations research methodologies as a decision support tool for hospital management.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J.G. LeBlanc, Mr. D. Duffy, Mr. C. O'Neill

Grant Funding: \$3,198.00 Michael Smith Foundation

Time frame: June, 2006 - ongoing

Key Activities to date

- Poster and workshop package presented in Victoria B.C. October, 2006.
- Conference attendance and presentation.

Outcomes

- Introduction of Operations Research Methodology into the Child Health Research arena.
- OPSEI is now an active member of the Child and Youth Health Research Network.
- Pediatric Surgery is part of the Academic Child Health discussions.



5 Framework for New Technology Adoption

Project Objective

- To create a framework for decision makers to assess operational, financial and educational requirements for adopting new pediatric surgical technology in relation to improved surgical outcomes.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J. LeBlanc, Mr. D. Duffy, Ms S. Bockhold

Time frame: March 15, 2006 - November, 2006

Key Activities to date

- Consultant recruited.
- Project scope defined.

Outcomes

- Consistent process for evaluating the total cost of new technology implementation.
- Improved decisions regarding allocation of resources to new technology implementation.



6

Pediatric General Surgery: Renewed Practice Framework

Project Objective

- To review the current practice framework and develop a desired future state model that is more patient centred, efficient and adaptable to drivers of within and outside of the system.

Project Team: Division of Pediatric General Surgery, Ms. S. Bockhold

Time frame: March 9, 2006 - December 2006

Key Activities to date

- Consultant recruited.
- Project plan in development.
- Current state documented.

Outcomes

- Improved access for patients to surgery consultation.
- Appropriate wait-list distribution.



Project Profiles - Education and Development

I

Innovations in Pediatric Surgery - Vignettes

Project Objective

•The purpose of this project is to partner with the Knowledge Network, which is a provincial television broadcast station, as an effective means to share with the public new advances in pediatric surgery.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J.G. LeBlanc, Ms. Debora Sweeney, Mr. D. Duffy

Grant Funding: \$32,000 B.C. Children's Hospital Foundation

Time frame: August, 2005 - August, 2006

Key Activities to date

- A negotiated and signed partnership agreement is in place between OPSEI and the Knowledge Network.
- An education grant from BC Children's Hospital Foundation has been awarded for 50% of production costs.
- Filming is occurring in five pediatric surgical areas at this time.

Outcomes

- Increased awareness locally and nationally of the innovations in practice at BCCH.



Project Profiles - Education and Development

2

Opening the OR and ICU Doors to Opportunity

Project Objective

- To develop, implement, and evaluate practicum placements for nursing, medical, and allied health students in the OR and ICU setting at BC Children's Hospital as a means to recruitment new staff.

Project Sponsors: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J. G. LeBlanc, Ms. D. Gerelle

Project Leads: Ms. G. Ray, Ms. L. Coolen, Ms. S. Harris, Ms D.Van Stolk, Mr. D. Duffy

Grant Funding: \$86,600.000 B.C.Academic Health Council

Time frame: October, 2005 - January, 2007

Key Activities to date

- .5 FTE Clinical Educator recruited to develop project plan and placement program.

Outcomes

- Contributes to the educational experience and knowledge of students working in the pediatric surgical setting.



Project Profiles - Education and Development

3

Global Health Education

Project Objective

- To create an academic child health community committed and aware of Global Health concerns.
- To ignite and inspire student leadership in Global Health education initiatives through promoting dialogue, international linkages, and sustainable partnerships.
- To furnish health care professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to make a meaningful contribution to international child health.

Project Team: : Dr. G. Blair, Mr. D. Duffy, Ms. M. Chase, Dr. C. Strahlendorf

Grant Funding: \$15,000 Vancouver Foundation with matching funds of \$15,000 from the Department of Pediatric Surgery

Time frame: December, 2006 - December, 2008

Key Activities to date

- A Global Health Education evening was hosted on March 30, 2006 to cultivate interest and gather input and ideas for the development of a Global Health Education curriculum.
- Creation of a learning goals and objectives document for Global Health Education.
- Ms. Courtney Collins, a first-year UBC Medical Student, has been recruited as the Global Health Education summer student.

Outcomes

- Improved understanding of child health issues locally and internationally.
- Health care workers prepared to participate in global health initiatives locally and abroad.
- Increased participation of health care workers in global health initiatives.



Project Profiles - Education and Development

4

Surgical Technique Education Leave for Leading Advancements - STELLA

Project Objective

- To afford surgeons with opportunities to learn new and potentially helpful surgical techniques that could be helpful for our patients
- To encourage surgeons to explore the international frontiers of surgical techniques
- To assist surgeons in bringing those new techniques home for the benefit of our patients and to teach others the techniques
- To boldly investigate those technical advances used elsewhere and to seek to improve upon them here in an academic, inquisitive learning environment

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair

Time frame: January, 2006 - ongoing

Key Activities to date

- Dr. Kishore Mulpuri, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon was approved to get additional professional skills training in the United Kingdom.

Outcomes

- Advanced and innovative pediatric surgical techniques are learned and brought back to enhance the surgical care provided to children in B.C.



Project Profiles - Education and Development

5

OPSEI Lectureship Series

Project Objective

- To promote dissemination of information on innovative practices in pediatric surgery

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. J.G. LeBlanc, Mr. D. Duffy

Time frame: October, 2005 - Monthly sessions on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 am

Key Activities to date

- Surgical Fellows and Faculty present each month
- Excellent presentations with enthusiastic dialogue and networking

Outcomes

- Increased awareness of new innovative techniques and discoveries in pediatric surgery
- Enhanced evaluation of innovative techniques



Project Profiles - Education and Development

6

Community Learning for Students: Study, Service, and Social Responsibility

Project Objective

- To provide health care trainees with realistic community learning experiences in the Inner City.
- To work collaboratively with community health partners to address the needs of a vulnerable street youth population.
- To integrate the principles of social responsibility as an essential component of learning.

Project Sponsors: Dr. G. Blair, Dr. R. Woollard **Project Team:** Dr. H. Budden, Dr. R. Binnie, Mr. D. Duffy, Dr. N. Radsminski

Grant Funding: \$10,000 from the McCreary Youth Foundation.

Time frame: September, 2005 - June 2006

Key Activities to date

- Key community partners collaborating on Inner City Youth initiative.
- Competitive grant awarded in the amount of \$10,000 from the McCreary Youth Foundation.
- Street exiting initiative underway Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Outcomes

- A greater understanding of youth health issues in the inner city for medical students.
- A greater sense of social responsibility for medical students that extends beyond their specific field of study or interest.



I National Pediatric Surgical Wait-time Strategy

Project Objective

- To enable timely access to pediatric surgery for all children in Canada .
- In the fall of 2005, the Ontario Children's Health Network (OCHN) undertook an initiative to address surgical wait times for children across the province of Ontario. A Surgical Wait Times Task Force (SWTTF) consisting of surgical chiefs and senior administrators from the five Pediatric Academic Health Science Centers (PAHSCs) in Ontario was created to examine the issue. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care of Ontario provided funding to support the initiative through the Wait Time Innovation Fund.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Ms. E Orbine, Dr. B. Armstrong, Mr. D. Duffy, Mr. C. O'Neill

Time frame: November 1, 2005 - January 1, 2007

Key Activities to date

- Initial steering committee 2-day meeting in Ottawa in January.
- Presented at National Wait List Consensus Building Workshop in February where demo version of tool with limited functionality was In attendance was the Federal Health Minister and senior staff from al 16 academic pediatric hospitals in Canada.
- Recommended pediatric access targets will be submitted in report from by April 10, 2006 to Dr. Brian Postl by the steering committee.

Outcomes

- Improved access to pediatric surgical services to all children in Canada.
- Policy to support optimal access to pediatric surgical services throughout Canada.



2

Pediatric Surgical Chiefs of Canada

Project Objective

- Advocate for improving the health of children and youth who are in need of surgical care.
- Facilitate dialogue, promote synergies, and offer guidance on common issues affecting the practice of Pediatric Surgery in Canada.
- Establish national benchmarks for Pediatric Surgical procedures.
- Foster and promote scholarly partnerships across Canadian pediatric academic health centers.
- Strengthen and expand high quality clinical outcomes evaluation and research.
- Cultivate a forum in which clinicians and researchers can network regarding the advancement of the field of Pediatric Surgery.
- Establish a common voice when communicating with the public and media on matters relating to access and delivery of Pediatric Surgical services in Canada.
- Take a leadership role in human resources studies and planning relating to the recruitment, retention, and compensation in all disciplines of Pediatric Surgery.

Project Team: Dr. G. Blair, Mr. D. Duffy

Time frame: January 2006 - ongoing

Key Activities to date

- PSCC Terms of Reference written
- Executive Director appointed
- Pediatric Surgeon compensation survey planning underway.

Outcomes

- Policy on resources to support pediatric surgical services in Canada
- Greater awareness of issues to access and care across Canada
- Improved clinical outcomes for children requiring pediatric surgery.
- Enhanced research and innovations in the field.