April 2018 Newsletter

Five myths about food allergies, debunked

Dr. Ruchi Gupta, a pediatrician, professor, researcher and parent, separates food allergy fact from fiction.

In this article, Dr. Gupta explains some of the most common misconceptions about food allergy prevalence, impact and prognosis for patients. To read the full article, click on the button below!

Read More
Research News

2018 Pediatric Academic Societies Conference

Next week, the SOAAR team and close collaborators will be presenting their work during the 2018 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting, held in Toronto, Canada. Their presentations include:

- "The Updated Prevalence of Peanut Allergy Among Children in the United States", a platform session: Presented by Christopher Warren PhD (c) and Ruchi Gupta, MD, MPH
- "Critical Errors in Inhaler Technique Common in Pediatric Patients with Asthma", a poster session; Presented by Waheeda Samady, MD
- "Interactive Inpatient Asthma Education to Improve Clinical Outcomes: A Randomized Clinical Trial", a platform session; Presented by Waheeda Samady, MD
- "Preventive Visit Utilization among Children with Asthma and Emergency Room Use", a poster session; Presented by Kristin Kan, MD

To find times and locations for each presentation, click here!

Congratulations to the SOAAR team and collaborating authors for having three
manuscripts accepted for publication!


- Ozge N. Aktas, MD, Lauren M. Kao, MA, Alice Hoyt, MD, Mary Siracusa, MS, Rebekah Maloney, RN, MSN, APN, Ruchi S. Gupta, MD, MPH. *Development and implementation of an allergic reaction reporting tool for school health personnel: A pilot study of three chicago schools*. Journal of School Nursing. 2018. Accepted.

- S. Shahzad Mustafa, MD; Anne F. Russell, MS, RN; Lauren M. Kao, MA, Diane V. Houdek, MA; Bridget M. Smith, PhD, Julie Wang, MD; Ruchi S. Gupta, MD, MPH. *Parent perspectives on school food allergy policy*. BMC Pediatrics. 2018. Accepted.

---

Recent Events

---

**University of Chicago Pediatric Grand Rounds Presentation**

On March 22nd, Dr. Gupta presented "Preventing Peanut Allergy; Practical Steps to Implementing Guidelines" where she explained the impact of food allergy in U.S. on adults. She also shared how to
identify high-risk and low-risk patients for developing a food allergy and provided the appropriate recommendations for both risk groups.

FARE Research Retreat

Ruchi Gupta MD, MPH, and Lucy Bilaver, PhD attended the Sixth Annual FARE Research Retreat, held April 13-14, 2018, in McLean, VA. The retreat brought together a variety of food allergy advocates and included presentations from FARE's Outcomes Research Advisory Board (ORAB). Read more about the day [here](#).

USAnaphylaxis Summit

On April 20th, Dr. Gupta participated in and presented at the 6th annual USAnaphylaxis Summit, held at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN. Dr. Gupta's presentation, "Overview of Anaphylaxis", provided participants with a foundational overview of anaphylaxis and stressed epinephrine as the first line treatment.

To watch Dr. Gupta's presentation and see photos, click [here](#).
On Thursday, April 26th, Dr. Gupta presented "School Food Allergy Issues: Plans, Policies, Peers & Pizza Parties" during the Network's monthly webinar series. During this 1 hour webinar, Dr. Gupta explained how to address the issues that arise at school when it comes to food allergy management.

If you missed the live webinar, visit the Network's website [here](#) for a recorded version.

## Community Research and Medicine Club Field Trip

On Wednesday, March 28th, Team SOAAR took students from Francis W. Parker on a field trip to Lurie Children's Hospital and Northwestern's Medical School. During the trip, the students heard from representatives from two Lurie Children's organizations, Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY) and the Center for Childhood Resilience (CCR). The students learned about the inspiring work these groups do to improve the lives and safety of children nationwide. Below is a comment from a Parker student and from two SOAAR staff members about their what they learned from the experience.

- "Although it is extremely unfortunate that gun violence, and gun violence awareness, are so prevalent in the news and our city, speaking with [Ms. Rebecca Levin, MPH (SCY)](#) has truly changed my life," says Caroline, a junior at the Parker School. "I've since participated in gun violence protests across Chicago and am now interested in a public health career. It is wonderful to hear that SCY is actively working on the gun violence issue in Chicago. After speaking with Ms. Levin, our group was hopeful, inspired and educated."

- "Hearing from both SCY and the Center for Childhood Resilience was such a wonderful experience for our team and the students who were able to attend," says Jolanta Szkodon and Madeleine Kanaley of Team SOAAR. "CCR's mission to meet children's mental health needs is so imperative in helping them manage stress, develop coping strategies, and live healthier lives. Their work is difficult and inspiring, and we are so grateful [Tara Gill, PhD](#) took the time to explain the Center's amazing initiatives."
Partner Spotlight: Strengthening Chicago's Youth (SCY)

SCY’s mission is to connect, collaborate, and mobilize around a public health approach to violence prevention. Their five main areas of focus are:

- Sustained investment in children and youth
- Equitable access to high quality mental health services
- Common sense approaches to gun violence prevention
- Juvenile justice system that reflects what we know about adolescent development
- Sustained investment in strong communities
Thank you to SCY for all of your amazing work! To learn more about their mission and how to get involved, visit: www.scy-chicago.org/.

---

**Upcoming Event**

**Midwest FACES**

The SOAAR team is pleased to share our list of confirmed speakers for the 2018 FACES Conference. To read the full list, visit our [conference website](http://www.scy-chicago.org/).

If you haven’t registered yet, there’s still time. Click on the button below to register today.

**Travel Scholarships**

A limited number of travel scholarships are available to those who are in need. For more information, email: soaar@northwestern.edu.

Register Here!

---

**Questions?**

Email [Brenda Silvia-Torma, MEd](mailto:brenda.silvia-torma@northwestern.edu), SOAAR Part-time Communications Coordinator.