

MELISSA L. PETERS, MD, FAAP

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ALABAMA
1600 5TH AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 110
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233
(205) 638-6040 (OFFICE)
(205) 638-4623 (FAX)

CHIPS—CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
INTERVENTION & PREVENTION SVCS
1600 5TH AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 100
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233
(205) 638-2751 (OFFICE)
(205) 638-2750 (FAX)

EDUCATION

PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP, Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA. July 2001-June 2004.

PEDIATRICS RESIDENCY, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, Nashville, TN. July 1995-June 1998.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Philadelphia, PA. Doctor of Medicine, May 1995.

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE, Bryn Mawr, PA. Bachelor of Arts in Biology with Departmental Honors, May 1990.

BOARD CERTIFICATION

GENERAL PEDIATRICS, Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Board of Pediatrics, October 1998-December 2017.

PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE, American Board of Pediatrics, April 2013-December 2017.

CHILD ABUSE MEDICINE, American Board of Pediatrics, Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, November 2013-December 2017.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN PEDIATRICS, PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE, Children's Hospital of Alabama, University of Alabama at Birmingham, September 2004-Present.

CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR IN PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE, Eastern Virginia Medical School/Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, Norfolk, VA. Provided double coverage in pediatric emergency department, July 2003-June 2004.

CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE AND PEDIATRICS, Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville, TN. Provided and supervised patient care by pediatrics and emergency medicine residents, February 1999-June 2001.

AWARDS

2014 COMMISSIONER'S AWARD, from the Administration on Children Youth and Families, a division of the Department of Health and Human Services. This award honors one person from each state and US territory for "exceptional contribution to the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect," April 2014.

STATE COMMITTEES

ALABAMA STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM MEMBER, the policy arm of the state Child Death Review system, appointed by the Alabama Department of Public Health, May 1, 2014-June 30, 2017.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR PHYSICAL ABUSE SERVICES, Children's Hospital Intervention and Prevention Services (CHIPS), Children's Hospital of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, January 2005-Present.

OTHER CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

PRIMARY CARE PEDIATRICIAN, Goodlettsville Pediatrics, Goodlettsville, TN. Delivered preventative and sick care in a private practice setting, September 1999-May 2001.

PRIMARY AND URGENT CARE PEDIATRICS, Pedianet, Hendersonville, TN. Provided acute and well care in an office setting with after-hours pediatric urgent care clinic, September 1998-August 1999.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

DIVISION OF PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE, Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters.

Parental attitudes toward medical photography: Project using both qualitative and quantitative interview methods to assess parental understanding of and opinions about medical photography

Use of handheld alternative light sources in the detection of seminal fluid: Study assessing utility of two inexpensive ultraviolet light sources with narrow spectrum light emission in detection of semen

Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Vanderbilt University. Compiled database for study investigating the efficacy of RSV immune globulin in treatment for severe bronchiolitis. Wrote abstract and presented poster reviewing findings on the natural history of RSV disease.

Department of Anatomy, Temple University Medical Center. Investigated expression of cell cycle markers in fetal rat hearts using immunohistochemical techniques (Summer 1992).

Department of Biology, Bryn Mawr College. Produced chick-quail chimeras to evaluate the specificity of a monoclonal antibody to chick glial cells. Created photographic plates and technical drawings for publications (July 1990-June 1991).

Department of Biology, Bryn Mawr College. Described the ultrastructure of the sensory tentacle of *Riftia pachyptila* using transmission electron microscopic techniques. Produced honors thesis. Findings published in Harrison and Gardiner, eds. Microscopic Anatomy of the Invertebrates, 1992.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Peters ML. Bruising in inflicted fractures in children. Oral Presentation at the 21st San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

Peters, ML. Suspected Meningitis in the Emergency Department: Diagnosis and Management. *Clinical Pediatric Emergency Medicine* 2003; 4(3):186-194.

Bernard D, Peters ML, and Makaroff K. Sexual Abuse and Technology in the Emergency Department. *Clinical Pediatric Emergency Medicine* 2006; 7:161-169.

Peters ML, Starling SP, Heisler K and Barnes-Eley M. Bruising in inflicted fractures in children. *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* 2008; 162(9): 877-881.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Invited Lectures

“Osteomyelitis” Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital Grand Rounds, November 1997.

“Conditions Commonly Mistaken for Abuse.” Southeastern Seaboard Emergency Nurses Association Annual Conference, June 2002.

“Conditions Commonly Mistaken for Physical Abuse.” Pediatric Emergency Update, Children’s Hospital of The King’s Daughters, April 2003.

“Pediatric Toxicological Emergencies.” Advanced Pediatric Life Support, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, April 2003.

“Sexual Abuse Differential Diagnosis.” Handle with Care: Pediatric Forensic Nurse Examiner Training, Children’s Hospital of The King’s Daughters, September 2003.

“Pediatric Respiratory Distress.” Virginia EMS Symposium, November 2003.

“Physical and Sexual Abuse Mimickers.” Improving Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice System, November 2003.

“Child Physical Abuse.” Breaking the Cycle of Abuse, Beville State Community College, Hamilton Alabama, April 2005.

“Conditions Commonly Mistaken for Abuse.” Pediatric Grand Rounds at The Children’s Hospital of Alabama, May 2005.

Child Abuse Update, Conference at East Alabama Medical Center, Opelika, AL, August 19 and 20, 2005

“Burns in Children—Abusive or Accidental?”

“Inflicted Neurotrauma in Infants and Children”
given jointly with Mia Amaya MD

“Case Presentations in Child Abuse”

given jointly with Mia Amaya MD and Mollie Barksdale CRNP

“Conditions Commonly Mistaken for Abuse”

“Update on Child Sexual Abuse.” Pediatric Grand Rounds, Regional Medical Center, Anniston AL, September 8, 2005.

“Physical Abuse in Children.” Pediatric Grand Rounds, Baptist Medical Center South, Montgomery, Montgomery, AL, November 8, 2005

“Pediatric Gynecologic Emergencies and Conditions Mistaken for Sexual Abuse.” Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, May 19, 2006.

- “Cutaneous Findings in Physical Abuse.” Grand Rounds, UAB West, August 2006.
- “Child Physical Abuse.” First Response Training for Investigators by the Bessemer District Attorney’s Office, October 2006.
- “Child Maltreatment.” As part of Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS) Course given at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition, Atlanta, GA, October 2006.
- “Skin Findings in Child Physical Abuse.” University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Emergency Medicine Annual Continuing Medical Education Benefit, October 2006.
- “Long Term Psychological Effects of Child Physical Abuse.” Grand Rounds, Department of Psychiatry (Child and Adolescent Section), November 2006.
- “Inflicted Head Injuries in Children.” Shelby County Alabama Investigator Training, November 2006.
- Breaking the Cycle of Abuse, Bevill State Community College, Hamilton Alabama, April 2007.
- “Cutaneous Findings in Child Physical Abuse”
- “Abusive Head Trauma in Infants and Children”
- “Failure to Thrive in Infants and Children”
- “Abusive Abdominal Trauma: Medical and Investigatory Aspects,” Pediatric Surgery Conference, May 2007
- “Pediatric GYN Emergencies and Conditions Mistaken for Sexual Abuse.” Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Course, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, September 2007.
- “Forensic Photography for SANE Nurses.” Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Course, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, September 2007.
- “Child Abuse Evaluation,” Advanced Pediatric Life Support Course at The Children’s Hospital of Alabama, October 2007
- “Child Sexual Abuse: What Investigators Need to Know.” Shelby County Alabama District Attorney’s Office Investigator Training on Child Abuse, October 2007.
- “Effective Photodocumentation of Physical Findings in Suspected Child Abuse.” Shelby County Alabama District Attorney’s Office Investigator Training on Child Abuse, October 2007.
- “Over-The-Counter Drug Use in Children and Adolescents.” Virginia State School Nurses’ Retreat, April 2008.
- “Child Sexual Abuse: What School Nurses Need to Know.” Youth and Teen Issues: Nursing Access to Child Success at the Jefferson County Board of Education, May 2008.
- “Abusive Head Trauma in Infants and Children” Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds at Eastern Carolina University/Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC, July 2008.
- “Fractures in Pediatrics—Are You Buying It?” Emergency Medicine Residents’ Conference at Eastern Carolina University/Brody School of Medicine, Greenville, NC, July 2008.
- “Sudden Infant Death Syndrome—Or Is It?” 4th Annual Alabama Perinatal Conference *Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Perinatal Care*, August 2008.
- “Child Physical Abuse: Medical Aspects Important to Investigation.” Investigation of Child Abuse Conference, Fairfield, AL October 2008.

- “Abusive Head Trauma in Infants and Children.” Pediatric Grand Rounds at Bay Medical Center, Panama City, Florida, April 2009.
- “What’s New in Abusive Head Trauma?” Combined Pediatric Emergency Medicine/Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Conference, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, October 2009.
- “Preparing and Giving Expert Witness Testimony” Combined Fellowships’ Professionalism Lecture Series, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, October 2009.
- “Child Abuse and the EMS Provider: Concerning Findings and Actions to Take” East Alabama EMS Conference, Talladega, AL, May 2010
- “Shaken Baby and Unsafe Sleeping Environments” Roundtable discussion panel member, Junior League of Birmingham, March 2010.
- “Presenting Medical and Other Demonstrative Evidence in Child Abuse Prosecution” Joint Lecture with Leslie Schiffman J.D, at Best Practices III Seminar by The Alabama Children’s Justice Task Force, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, August 2010.
- “Unexpected Infant Deaths: Diagnosis, Initial Management and Prevention,” Infant Death Prevention Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, February 2011.
- “SIDS and Abusive Head Trauma: Avoidance and Investigation” Jefferson County Department of Human Resources, April 2011.
- “Meningitis: New Shades to An Old Problem,” Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow Conference, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, May 2011.
- “Conditions Mistaken for Sexual Abuse,” Seminario Internacional sobre Agresiones Sexuales Infantiles, Fundacion Amparo y Justicia , Santiago, Chile, August 24, 2011.
- “Preparing and Giving Expert Witness Testimony” Combined Fellowships’ Professionalism Lecture Series, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, September 2011.
- “Forensic Photography,” Seminario Internacional sobre Agresiones Sexuales Infantiles, Fundacion Amparo y Justicia , Santiago, Chile, August 24, 2011.
- “Expert Witness Testimony,” Children’s of Alabama Fellowship Professionalism Lecture Series, October 2011.
- “Medical Expert Witness Testimony in Child Abuse Cases,” Permanency for Children in Alabama, Administrative Office of Courts, Montgomery, Alabama December 9 and 16, 2011.
- “Pleural Effusion Causes: Common and Decidedly Uncommon,” Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow Conference, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, January 2012.
- “Child Abuse: Don’t Miss It,” Before it Becomes Critical Child Seminar, Annual Pediatric Critical Care Nursing Conference at Children’s Hospital of Alabama, February 2012.
- “Rare Presentations of Child Abuse: Avoiding Premature Closure,” Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellows’ Conference, February 2012
- “Child Maltreatment,” Advanced Pediatric Life Support Certification Course, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, March 2012.
- “Forensic Photography” First Annual Alabama Forensic Nursing Conference, April 2012.
- “Medically Serious Forms of Child Abuse,” Conference by the Jefferson County District Attorney’s Office, Birmingham, Alabama, April 2012.
- “Expert Witness Testimony,” Combined Pediatric Fellow Professionalism Conference Series, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, August 2012.
- “Neck Masses” Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellows’ Conference, September 2012.

- “Forensic Documentation,” Alabama Chapter of the International Association of Forensic 2nd Annual Nursing Conference, April 2013.
- “Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault,” Alabama Chapter of the International Association of Forensic 2nd Annual Nursing Conference, April 2013.
- “Bruising in Child Abuse,” Shelby County Alabama Department of Human Resources, July 2013.
- “Conditions Mistaken for Physical Abuse,” University of Alabama Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellows, July 2013.
- “Pediatric Orthopedic Injuries,” Grand Rounds at Baptist Medical Center South, Montgomery, AL, October 2013.
- "Child Abuse in the Emergency Department," Emergency Department Nursing Blitz, Children's Hospital of Alabama, February 2014.
- "Cutaneous Findings in Child Abuse," Pediatric Resident Noon Lecture Series, Children's Hospital of Alabama, March 2014.
- "Working with Families in Difficult Situations," Nurse Educator Lecture Series, Children's Hospital of Alabama, March 2014.
- "Abusive Head Trauma Update," Combined Emergency Medicine/Pediatric Critical Care Conference, Children's Hospital of Alabama, March 2014.
- "Medically Serious Child Abuse," Children's of Alabama Social Work Department Lecture Series, Children's Hospital of Alabama, March 2014.
- “Conditions Mistaken for Physical Abuse,” Pediatric Resident Noon Lecture Series, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, March 2014.
- “Providing Spiritual Care in the Context of Child Abuse and Neglect,” Panel Discussion for United Methodist Pastoral Care Specialist Program, Children’s Hospital of Alabama, April 2014.
- “Sexually Transmitted Infections and Testing in Child Sexual Abuse,” Annual Conference of the Alabama Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses, Gulf Shores, Alabama, April 2014.
- “Child Physical Abuse Recognition and Assessment,” Annual Conference of the Alabama Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses, Gulf Shores, Alabama, April 2014.
- "Working Together in Child Abuse Case Preparation and Presentation," given jointly with Leslie Schiffman JD from the Bessemer, Alabama District Attorney's Office, Annual Conference of Alabama Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses, Gulf Shores, Alabama, April 2014.
- “Child Abuse Detection and Action,” for Jefferson County Alabama School Nurse Retreat, at the Jefferson County School Board, May 2014.
- "Forensic Photography", Joint Children's Hospital of Alabama/Birmingham Crisis Center Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training Course, August 5 and August 19, 2014.
- "Mimics of Sexual Abuse and Prepubertal GYN Emergencies", Joint Children's Hospital of Alabama/Birmingham Crisis Center Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training Course, August 5 and August 20, 2014.
- "Sexually Transmitted Infections: a Forensic Perspective", Joint Children's Hospital of Alabama/Birmingham Crisis Center Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Training Course, August 6 and August 19, 2014.
- “Abdominal Trauma in Children: Abusive or Accidental?” University of Alabama Birmingham Pediatric Emergency Fellows’ abuse lecture series, September 2014.

- "Overview of Child Physical Abuse", Shelby County Alabama 2014 Multidisciplinary Team Training, Columbiana, Alabama, October 2014.
- "Dealing with Families and Abuse", University of Alabama Birmingham Pediatric Residency Noon Conference, October 2014.
- "Answering the Call to Cherish and Protect Every Child: A Medical and Spiritual Collaboration", Duley Lecture Series of Children's of Alabama Pastoral Care, October 2014.

Coordinated Conferences:

Pieces of the Puzzle: Medical Aspects of Child Abuse Investigation. April 3 and 9, 2007 at The Children's Hospital of Alabama. Lectures on "Physical Abuse Overview" and "Medically Serious Inflicted Injury" given by me. Medical lectures by other medical specialists included "Child Sexual Abuse," "Conditions Commonly Mistaken for Abuse." This conference was supported by a Children's Justice Task Force Mini-grant for 2007.

Resident Lectures—(Fellow, Pediatrics and/or Emergency Medicine focused)

Pediatric Dentoalveolar Trauma	Pediatric Respiratory Distress
The Limping Child	Apparent Life Threatening Events
Hand Injuries	Forensics and STDs
Management of Animal Bites	Inflicted Pediatric Burns
Toxicological Emergencies	Prepubertal GYN Emergencies
Toxic Alcohols	Skeletal Findings in Abuse
Toxic Mushrooms	Dealing with Families and Abuse
Tricyclic Antidepressant Toxicity	Conditions Mistaken for Abuse
Envenomations	Physical Abuse Differential
Sinusitis	Sexual Abuse Mimics
Orbital and Preseptal Cellulitis	Inflicted Neurotrauma in Infants
Introduction to Pediatric Rashes	Inflicted Neurotrauma for Fellows
Pediatric Rashes—Atopic Dermatitis	Introduction to Child Abuse Eval
The Septic Joint and Osteomyelitis	Physical Abuse (law enforcement)
Kawasaki Spectrum Disorders	Legal Issues and Child Abuse
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	Ramsay Hunt Syndrome
Medical Evaluation of Failure to Thrive	

Coordinator for Child Abuse Lecture Series:

UAB Pediatric Resident Noon Conference, 2004-2008.

UAB Emergency Medicine Resident Didactics, 2006-present

UAB Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship Child Abuse Lecture Series 2014-present.

Medical Student Education: Small group facilitator for year-long course "Introduction to the Patient" for first year medical students. (Academic years 2001-2004).

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

Alabama State Medical License 2004-12/31/2014.

Virginia State Medical License 2002-2006.

Tennessee State Medical License 1998-2002.

Drug Enforcement Administration License, Unrestricted 1998-03/31/2017.

Board Certification in Pediatrics 1998-12/21/2017.

Board Certification in Pediatric Emergency Medicine 2013-12/21/2017.

Board Certification in Child Abuse Medicine 2013-12/21/2017.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor 2002-2009.
Advanced Trauma Life Support Instructor 2003-2007.
Advanced Cardiac Life Support 2003-2008.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, 1998-2014.
Member of the Section on Child Abuse and Neglect.
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, 2004-2011.
American College of Emergency Physicians, 2006-2011.
Member of the Forensic Section 2006-2011.
Sigma Xi Research Society, 1989-1994.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY OFFICES HELD

Alabama Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Vice President 2005-2006.
Alabama Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, President 2006-2009.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEES:

Code Committee, Children's Hospital of Alabama, 2005-present.
Eastern Virginia Medical School Housestaff Council, 2002-2004.
Graduate Medical Education Council, CHKD, 2004.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES:

Child Death Review Committee for Jefferson County, Alabama, 2004-present.
Child Death Review Committee for Bessemer, Alabama, 2004-present.
Multidisciplinary Team for Jefferson County, Alabama, 2004-present.
Multidisciplinary Team for Bessemer, Alabama, 2004-present.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED (SINCE 2004):

18th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2004
19th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2005
20th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2006
23rd National Symposium on Child Abuse 2006, Huntsville, AL
2006 AAP National Conference & Exhibition, Atlanta, GA
21st Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2007
24th National Symposium on Child Abuse 2007, Huntsville, AL
23rd Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2009
24th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2010
25th Annual San Diego international Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2011
26th Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2012
Pediatrics Review and Education Program—Child Abuse Pediatrics, PREP—CAP: An Update of Child Abuse, American Academy of Pediatrics, Norfolk, Virginia, July 2013.

LANGUAGES: Proficient in Medical Spanish