

Paris S. Ekeke, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine

University Address: University of Michigan Pediatric Neonatology

1500 E Medical Center Drive

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

574-286-4104

Email: pskingsberry@gmail.com

EDUCATION and TRAINING

UNDERGRADUATE:

2005-2009	Northwestern University Chicago, IL	Bachelor of Art <i>Psychology</i>
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GRADUATE:

2009-2010	The Ohio State University College of Medicine Columbus, OH	Post-Baccalaureate <i>Pre-Medicine</i>
2010-2014	The Ohio State University College of Medicine Columbus, OH	Doctor of Medicine
2018-2019	University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health Pittsburgh, PA	Masters of Science <i>Epidemiology</i>

POSTGRADUATE:

2014-2017	Northwestern University Lurie Children's Hospital Chicago, IL Program Director: Dr. Sharon Unti	Residency <i>Pediatrics</i>
2017-2020	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA Program Director: Dr. Jennifer Kloesz	Fellowship <i>Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine</i>

CERTIFICATION and LICENSURE

SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION

10/2017

American Board of Pediatrics
Pediatrics

Certification # 119983

3/2022

American Board of Pediatrics
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
Certification # 7423

MEDICAL or OTHER PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE:

7/2017-present Unrestricted Medical License (Pennsylvania)
8/2017-present Neonatal Resuscitation Program Instructor
8/2017-present DEA License
6/2020-present ECMO certified

WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic Appointments:

7/2020-5/2021 **Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatrics**
Northeastern Ohio Medical University College of Medicine

5/2021-8/2023 **Assistant Professor, Pediatrics**
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

9/2023- Present **Assistant Professor, Pediatrics**
University of Michigan School of Medicine

Administrative Appointments:

11/2021- 8/2023 **Neonatal Director, Fetal Diagnostic Treatment Center**
Division of Newborn Medicine
UPMC Magee Women's Hospital

10/2023- Present **Neonatal Co-Director, Fetal Diagnostic Center**
Division of Neonatal Perinatal Medicine
University of Michigan Von Voigtländer Women's Hospital

Clinical Appointments:

7/2020-5/2021 **Attending Neonatologist**
Perinatal & Pediatric Services, Inc
Akron Children's Hospital NICU at Aultman Hospital

1/2022-8/2023 **UPMC Case Review Provider Champion**
Fetal Infant Mortality Review
Allegheny County Health Department

CLINICAL INTEREST

Interests include care of critically ill infants, including neonates receiving Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO), medical education and prenatal counseling for complex fetal anomalies.

RESEARCH INTEREST

My research focus is devoted to better understanding health care disparities, specifically breastfeeding equity and health care utilization, and the effects of prenatal stressors and social stressors on neonatal outcomes.

HONORS/AWARDS

5/2015	Feinberg School of Medicine Outstanding Teaching Award
5/2017	McGaw Global Health Clinical Scholars Research Day: Best Poster
4/2019	Top 20 Women in White Coat Award
3/2020	Eastern Society for Pediatric Research Annual Scientific Meeting Travel Award
7/2024	University of Michigan Office of Health Equity and Inclusion Diversity Fund for Junior Faculty
9/2024	Health Equity and Health Disparities Research Scholar

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

7/2017-Present	American Academy of Pediatrics
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EDITORIAL POSITIONS, BOARDS, AND PEER-REVIEW SERVICE

2/2024	Journal of Palliative Care Ad hoc Reviewer
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TEACHING

Institutional activities and roles:

UPMC Division of Newborn Medicine Bedside Teaching

Bedside teaching in the NICU with development of a presentation. Each session consisted of 4-5 first year pediatric residents.

8/2018	Congenital hypothyroidism
3/2019	Congenital syphilis
3/2019	Umbilical cord abnormalities
1/2022	Ventilator management Intraventricular Hemorrhage Retinopathy of Prematurity Necrotizing Enterocolitis
10/2018	NICU orientation Developed a presentation to be given by Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellows to pediatric interns to orient them to the NICU rotation.
6/2019	Board Review for Pediatric residents Led noon conference for pediatric residents on review of neonatal topics and questions for the pediatric board exam. The session was attended by approximately 20 residents.
6/2019	Lumbar Puncture Instructor for Pediatric Residents Instructed entire pediatric intern class (approximately 30 residents) on performing lumbar puncture during orientation week.
9-10/2021	Advanced Physical Exam Skills Instructor Led 2-hour instructional sessions with approximately 8-10 University of Pittsburgh second year medical students on comprehensive newborn physical exams.
11/ 2021-8/2023	Fetal Diagnostic Treatment Center Monthly Conference Facilitated the monthly educational series between Maternal Fetal Medicine, Neonatology, and Genetics departments and serves as a faculty mentor for the fellow presentations on the monthly teaching topic.
7/2022-9/2022	UPMC Newborn Medicine Fellow Educational Series Led instructional presentations at their monthly educational conference on topics related to our Fetal Diagnostic Treatment Center. “Introduction to Prenatal Counseling” “Fetal Interventions: EXITs, IUT, PUBS, and more”
3/2024	NICU M4 Bootcamp Teaching NRP resuscitation and procedural skills to 11 graduating 4 th year medical students interested in pediatrics.
3/2024	Neonatology Division Education Clinical Case Conundrums Led case-based discussion work up of abnormal movements in neonates

- 3/2024 **Neonatology-MFM Joint Conference**
Educational lecture to Neonatology and MFM division on
Complications of Multiple gestation
- 8/2024 **Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Division Crash Course**
Educational lecture to Neonatology division on Antenatal
Counseling 101
- 8/2024 **Transition to Clerkship: Febrile Neonate**
Led sessions on preparing medical students for clinical clerkship
experience by presenting case-based didactics on fever
evaluation in neonates.
- 9/2024 **Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Division Crash Course**
Educational lecture to Neonatology division on Necrotizing
Enterocolitis
- 2/2025 **HSS Societal Structure and Research Ethics**
Facilitated an educational series for medical students discussing
the intersection of ethics in research.

Curriculum Development

- 6/2022 **“A Practical Guide to Prenatal Counseling”**
CHNC Fetal Therapy and Palliative Care and Ethics
focus groups collaborated to develop a peer-reviewed
educational primer for neonatal fellows nationally.
Published on CHNC website.
- 2/2023-5/2023 **NICU Fellow Prenatal Counseling Curriculum**
Developing a framework and instructional talking points
to standardize prenatal counseling for fetal anomalies
seen in Fetal Diagnostic Treatment Center. Curriculum
geared toward Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellows and
our Neonatologists in our community units.

Intramural lectures

- 6/2017 **Northwestern University Department of Pediatrics presentation**
Invited by McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern Department to give
an oral presentation highlighting my research on racial disparities in
preterm birth to the department of pediatrics faculty and residents.
- 9/2017 **UPMC Newborn Medicine Morbidity and Mortality Conference**
Monthly presentations regarding critical analysis of adverse clinical
outcomes in our neonatology department.
- 3/2018 **UPMC Division of Newborn Medicine Grand Rounds**

Presented “*Neonatal HLH: The Zebra with Different Stripes*” to the neonatology department outlining the clinical implications and neonatal presentations of HLH.

- 12/2018** **UPMC Division of Newborn Medicine Journal Club**
Presented a comprehensive review of a current clinical trial on investigative drug, Spinraza, and preliminary outcomes in neonates with Spinal Muscle Atrophy Type 1.
- 2/2019** **UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh ECMO Journal Club**
Presented to ECMO core group comprised of multi-disciplinary team of cardiothoracic surgeons, neonatologists, pediatric intensive care physicians and perfusionists on outcomes regarding routine antithrombin-III replacement in ECMO patients.
- 5/2019** **UPMC Division of Newborn Medicine Research Seminar**
Presented “Characterization of Toxic Stress and Its Effect on Adverse Birth Outcomes” to the neonatology department.
- 10/2020** **UPMC Magee Women’s Hospital 18th Annual Perinatal and Neonatal Health Care Conference**
Presented “Postpartum Depression: Effects on Neonatal Health” to local nurses and allied health staff.
- 4/2022** **University of Pittsburgh Race and ...Lecture Series**
Invited to present my work on “Toxic Stress and Pregnancy” to the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School community comprised of multi-disciplinary faculty members.
- 5/2022** **UPMC Division of Newborn Medicine Research Seminar**
Presented a work in progress entitled “Community Based Interventions to Reduce Perinatal Disparities” showcasing an evidenced-based initiative for a Postpartum NICU doula program.

Regional activities and roles:

- 3/2020** **Eastern Society for Pediatric Research Scientific Meeting**
Accepted for Platform Presentation at the 2020 meeting in Philadelphia, PA which was cancelled secondary to the COVID19 Pandemic.

National activities and roles:

- 5/2022** **Children’s Hospital Neonatal Consortium (CHNC) Fetal Therapy Focus Group**
Actively participates in national focus group on Fetal Therapy advances which involves formulation of new research design and educational primers on antenatal counseling and EXIT procedures for trainees. Serves as lead for Congenital Lung Lesion descriptive study.

- 2/2024** **University of Pittsburgh Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds**
Invited Speaker for presentation entitled “Inequity in Perinatal Care: It’s Not Just Black & White”
- 3/2024** **National Neonatology Curriculum Committee:** Implicit Bias and Health Disparities Curriculum reviewer. Curriculum to be housed on MedEdOnTheGo

CLINICAL TRACK SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Clinician Educator Track:

Dr. Ekeke is an academic neonatologist that is largely devoted to better understanding health care disparities, the social determinants of health, and optimization of health care delivery. Previous initiatives involve comprehensive 4th trimester support for the maternal-infant dyad, including community-based collaborative work increasing postpartum doula support in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), postpartum depression screening, and improving parent education with discharge readiness. Dr. Ekeke’s current interests include optimizing communication in prenatal counseling, and breastfeeding medicine equity. She enjoys mentoring trainees in clinical research with ongoing projects on birth trauma in the NICU population, clinical outcomes of isolated ventriculomegaly and barriers to coming to volume in NICU parents interested in breastfeeding.

COMMITTEE, ORGANIZATION, AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES

- 2018-2023** **UPMC Magee Women’s Hospital QI project: Postpartum Depression Screening in the NICU**
Implementing a protocol for postpartum depression screening in the NICU to increase screening rates.
- 10/2020-4/2021** **Aultman Hospital NICU QI project: Eat, Sleep, Console**
Implemented new policy guidelines at Aultman hospital NICU for management of infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) to incorporate evidence-based practices regarding the use of Eat, Sleep, Console principles to reduce number of infants requiring treatment and decrease length of stay.
- 4/2022- Present** **Newborn Network Strategic Planning Committee**
A member of a core team of clinicians across Neonatology, General Pediatrics and OB/MFM who spearhead hospital initiatives to standardize and optimize care across the hospital system and our community sites. Previous initiatives include early onset sepsis, biologic testing (drug testing), and Neonatal Abstinence

Syndrome, and Community Engagement with Lay Midwives.

8/2022- 8/2023

Small Baby Guidelines Cardiovascular & Infectious Disease Subgroup Leader

Led a multidisciplinary subgroup reviewing relevant literature and formulating recommendations on PDA and hypotension management in extremely premature infants.

8/2022-8/2023

Maternal/Infant Health Faculty Collaboratory

A multidisciplinary research collaborative group of faculty members from various disciplines at University of Pittsburgh with a goal of investigating and eliminating disparities in health outcomes.

5/2024-Present

PEACH project #30: Improving the Equity of Kangaroo Care, a critical clinical intervention

Serves as the physician lead on a quality improvement project on reducing the racial disparity in Kangaroo Care initiation and duration in very low birth weight infants

Volunteer Services:

2021-2022

Infant Health Equity Coalition

A core team was assembled, to include representation from Healthy Start, the Allegheny County Health Department Maternal and Child Health Program, the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and Center for Health Equity, the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, as well as selected healthcare providers to develop a comprehensive Birth Equity Action Plan with systemic and local recommendations to address health disparities in maternal and infant birth outcomes.

3/2020-8/2023

Maternal Morbidity & Mortality Review Chair
Healthy Start, Inc Executive Board

5/2022-Present

Children's Hospital Neonatal Consortium Fetal Therapy Focus Group

Participates in national focus group on Fetal Therapy which involves formulation of new research questions using a national database and educational primers on antenatal counseling and EXIT procedures

11/2024- Present

Fellow Research Faculty Mentor

Oversees the scholarly activity and provides mentorship for Dr. Lisa Lavelanet, Neonatology fellow, on mixed methods research project on barriers to achieving full breastmilk supply.

11/2024

Breastfeeding Medicine Consult Service Line

Inaugural member of a small group of Breastfeeding Medicine Physicians who provide consultation services and support to lactation services at Mott Children's Hospital

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PEER REVIEWED:

1. VanOmen, S.; **Ekeke, P.** Ex-utero Intrapartum Treatment: Indications, Considerations, and Postnatal Expectations. *Neoreviews* June 2025; 26 (6): e402–e410. <https://doi.org/10.1542/neo.26-6-024>
2. Jano A, Madigan C, **Ekeke P.** Evaluation of Prescription Practices for Antenatal Steroids in Pregnant Women [published correction appears in *Matern Child Health J.* 2025 May;29(5):621. doi: 10.1007/s10995-025-04088-5.]. *Matern Child Health J.* 2025;29(5):614-620. doi:10.1007/s10995-025-04070-1
3. **Ekeke, P.**, Rankin K., DeSisto C.L., Collins J. The excess preterm birth rate among US-born (compared to foreign-born) Black women: the role of father's education. *Maternal and Child Health Journal.* 2022 Apr;26(4):845-852. doi: 10.1007/s10995-020-03117-9. Epub 2021 Jan 28. PMID: 33507477.
4. **Ekeke, P.**; Mendez, D.D.; Yanowitz, T.D.; Catov, J.M. Racial Differences in the Biochemical Effects of Stress in Pregnancy. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2020, 17, 6941.
5. **Ekeke P**, Naik M, Vats KR. Megalencephaly and Epileptic Encephalopathy: Bad luck or a common pathway? *Asp Biomed Clin Case Rep.* 2019 Nov 24;2(3):129-135
6. Liem, R.I., O'Suoji, C., **Kingsberry, P.S.** Pelligra, S., Kwon,S. Thompson, AA. "Access to Patient-Centered Medical Homes in Children with Sickle Cell Disease" *Matern Child Health J* (2014) 18: 1854. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-013-1429-0>
7. O'Suoji C1, Liem RI, Mack AK, **Kingsberry P**, Ramsey G, Thompson AA. "Alloimmunization in Sickle Cell Anemia in the Era of Extended Red Cell Typing. *Pediatric Blood and Cancer.* " *Pediatric Blood Cancer.* 2013 Sep;60(9):1487-91. doi: 10.1002/pbc.24530. Epub 2013 Mar 18.

ABSTRACTS

1. Pace, R; Odetola, F; Ressler-Maerlender,J; Stout, J; Vartanian, R; **Ekeke,P.** It's Not Improvement If It's Not Inclusive: Discovering Racial Inequities in Kangaroo Care among VLBW Infants in the NICU. Poster Presentation at 1st Annual Children's & Women's Chris Dickinson MD Quality and Safety Day 2024.

2. Jano A., Madigan C., DeFranco D B., Catov J M., **Ekeke P.** Evaluation of Prescription Practices for Antenatal Steroids in Pregnant Women. Poster Presentation at the Pediatric Academic Society Meeting, Denver, CO 2022
3. **Ekeke, P.**; Mendez, D.D.; Yanowitz, T.D.; Catov, J.M. Biochemical Effects of Toxic Stress on Inflammation During Pregnancy. Accepted for Poster Presentation at the Pediatric Academic Society Meeting 2020 which was cancelled secondary to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
4. **Kingsberry PS**, Rankin K, DeSisto CL, Collins J. Effects of Parental Education on Preterm birth rates. Poster Presentation at the 93rd Perinatal & Developmental Medicine Symposium, Bonita Springs, Florida. 2018.
5. **Kingsberry PS**, Rankin K, DeSisto CL, Collins J. Father's education: an independent risk factor for preterm birth rates among U.S. born and foreign-born Black women. Poster presentation at Pediatric Academic Society Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 2017
6. **Kingsberry PS**, Rankin K, DeSisto CL, Collins J. Father's education: an independent risk factor for preterm birth rates among U.S. born and foreign-born Black women. Poster presentation at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern Global Health Scholar Day, Chicago, IL, 2017.