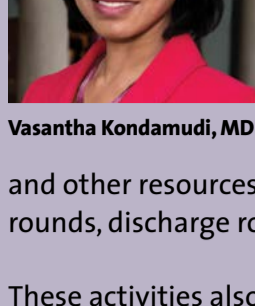


From the Chief Medical Officer

HOW TO HANDLE A COVID SURGE



Vasantha Kondamudi, MD

When the surge from the Covid Omicron variant began in late December, at first five patients showed up in the Emergency Department (ED). The next day it was 10, and each day thereafter through late January, it accelerated exponentially. This time we were prepared with the latest clinical protocols, as well as operational and practical experience gained from 2020 and 2021.

We immediately executed the COVID-19 surge and flex emergency plan. This allowed us to maintain capacity by opening more beds on new floors and allocating increased staff and other resources. Patient flow during the surge was managed with additional bed huddles, multidisciplinary rounds, discharge rounds and daily assessment of telemetry needs with Cardiology.

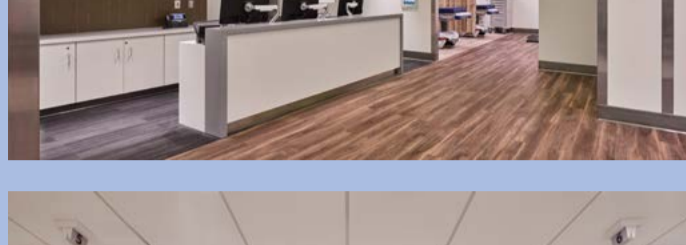
These activities also helped decompress our Emergency Department (ED). New Covid-19 PUI (people under investigation) zones were created in the ED to accommodate the increasing number of Covid patients as the surge reached its peak.

The entire TBHC team worked relentlessly late nights, weekends and holidays as more and more employees were infected by Covid, causing staff shortages. The Quality Management and Infection Control staff continued their efforts to maintain surveillance, infection control practices and ongoing reports to Department of Health (DOH) while maintaining compliance with The Joint Commission and CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) standards. The leadership continued their support for the ever-changing protocols, medication management, vaccination program and other DOH mandates that responded to Covid-19 pandemic response.

I am happy to report that, as of this writing in March, the surge has subsided.

Sneak Peek at New ED

Not ALL done yet, but it's starting to reveal itself! Look for a summer ribbon cutting!



Welcome!

ALLERGIES & PEDIATRIC ALLERGIES



Krishna Urval, MD

THE BROOKLYN CANCER CENTER



Minh-Phuong Huynh-Le, MD



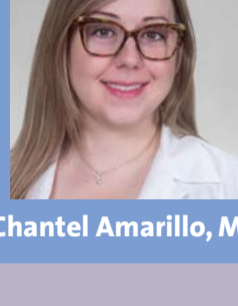
Talha Shaikh, MD

ENDOCRINOLOGY

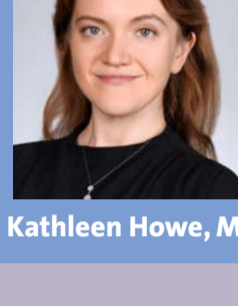


Saka Kazeem, MD

FAMILY MEDICINE

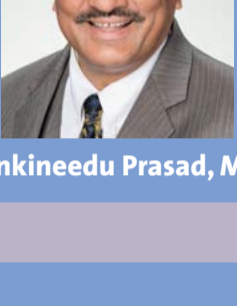


Chantel Amarillo, MD



Kathleen Howe, MD

NEPHROLOGY

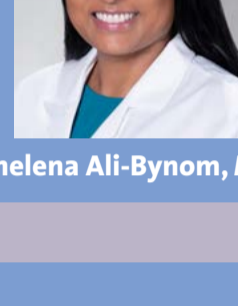


Ankineedu Prasad, MD

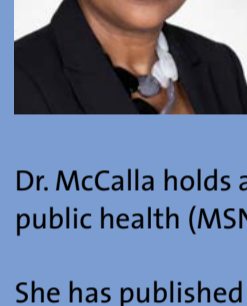


Devendra Shrivastava, MD

OB/GYN



Shelena Ali-Bynom, MD



Please join us in welcoming **Saungi McCalla, DHA, MSN, MPH, RN, CIC, FAPIC**, as Director of Infection Control & Prevention.

Dr. McCalla comes to us with nearly 30 years of healthcare experience. She has held infection control and prevention positions at multiple healthcare institutions with extensive experience in teaching, managing clinical staff, surveillance and performance improvement. Her most recent experience, serving more than 15 years, was at White Plains Hospital.

Dr. McCalla holds a doctorate in healthcare administration (DHA), dual master's degrees in nursing and public health (MSN/MPH), and is certified in infection control and epidemiology (CIC).

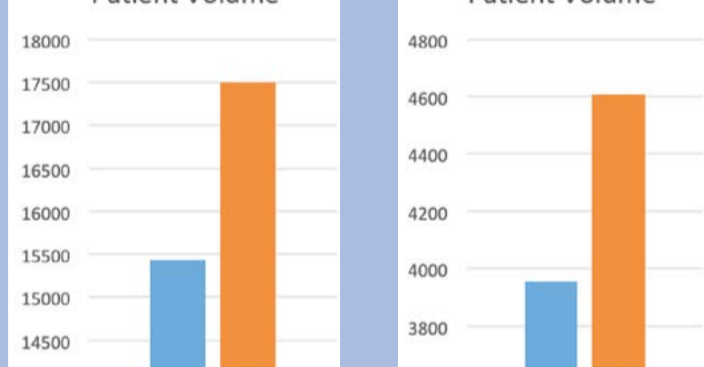
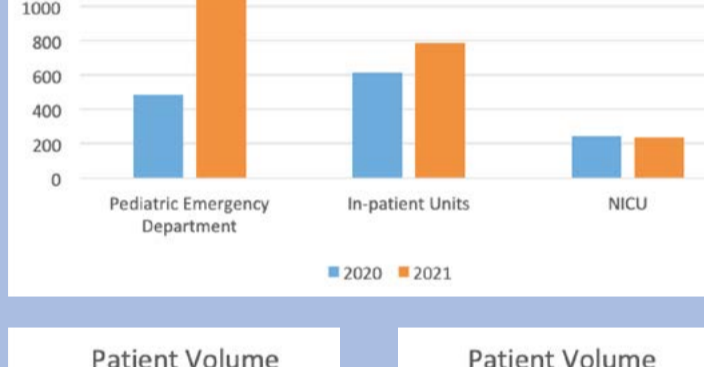
She has published in her field and has conducted multiple professional presentations at local, national, and international conferences and symposiums. Dr. McCalla has served as fellow of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and was awarded APIC Chapter Leadership Award in 2014.

We are excited to welcome Dr. McCalla to the team and look forward to her expertise in enhancing our infection control and prevention program. Dr. McCalla can be reached at x8792 and smccalla@tbh.org.

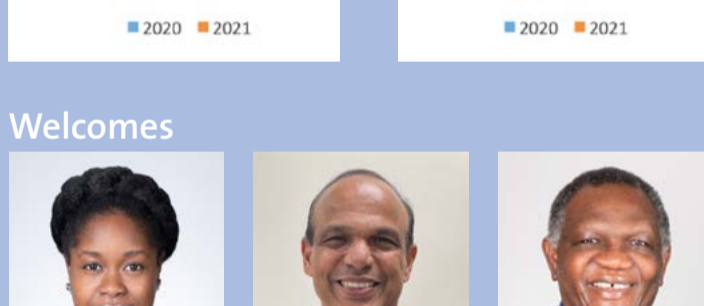
Rounds: Special Updates for Pediatrics

The Department of Pediatrics offers comprehensive pediatric services to the children of Brooklyn encompassing primary care, specialty services, emergency care, and in-patient care including pediatric and neonatal (www.tbh.org/pediatrics). The department is also home to a fully accredited pediatric residency program that trains 11 residents annually.

As seen in these graphs, pediatric patients have been steadily returning to our ambulatory sites and in-patient units after the steep decline in the number of visits due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Welcomes



The department welcomes Ashley Williams, PNP, at the Children's Health Center to care for adolescent patients. She also works with the Brooklyn Child Advocacy Center. The department also added Krishna Urval, MD, for allergy/immunology and Oluwatoyin Bamgbole, MD, for pediatric nephrology; both have office hours at the Physicians Pavilion. Another addition is Francisco González, MD, who is a board certified pediatrician providing primary care at the Children's Health Center and at BHMA at 14 Hanover Place. Dr. González is also board certified in pediatric infectious diseases and sees these patients at the Physicians Pavilion.

Physical Updates

The construction of the fully renovated state-of-the-art Pediatric Emergency Department has been recently completed. Physical improvements to the pediatric in-patient unit (5W) are underway and a beautiful mural was donated by Splashes of Hope.

Community Engagement

We have recently incorporated Family Council Meetings that have Pediatric staff members and parents from the community advising on departmental operations and suggest improvements.

Unique Services

The Brooklyn Child Advocacy Center: The department provides medical services to this center, which treats children referred for child neglect physical or sexual abuse, and is arguably the busiest such facility in the nation. Madhu Voddi, MD, is the medical director, supported by Rose Mary Daniele, FNP, and Ashley Williams, PNP.

The Child Life Program: The program is run by two talented and competent child life specialists. Alexa Kreisberg and Taylor Brower. The program addresses the unique emotional and developmental needs of our pediatric patients (from birth to 21 years of age) and their families. The team uses developmentally appropriate preparation, education and various

therapeutic techniques, such as guided imagery and distraction, when working with children and families.

Sedation Services: The department provides sedation services for children that need diagnostic procedures (such as an MRI) under the supervision of Louisdon Pierre, MD, and Adebayo Adeyinka, MD, our pediatric intensivists.

Pediatric Dentistry: William Perez, DDS, provides comprehensive dental services at the Dental Center in a child-friendly atmosphere.

Pediatric Residency Program

The department is home to a fully accredited residency program that trains a diverse group of enthusiastic and cheerful residents from all over the world. Our residents match into prestigious fellowship programs; our 2021 graduates matched in places such as NYU Langone, Nationwide Children's Hospital, Mayo Clinic, University of Maryland and Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Research and Scholarship

The department has over 80 PubMed indexed publications over the last two years (full bibliography can be viewed at the departmental website tbh.org/pediatrics), which is remarkable for the size of the department in a community hospital setting. The article on Covid-19 pediatric perspectives was one of the widely cited article in the recent pediatric literature (Adeyinka A, Bailey K, Pierre L, Kondamudi N. COVID 19 infection: Pediatric perspectives. J Am Coll Emerg Physicians Open. 2021 Jan 29;2(1):e12375. doi: 10.1002/emp2.12375. PMID: 33554209; PMCID: PMC7846069).

Our residents and faculty have presented their research at various regional and national meetings. The 2021 presentations are outlined below.

- Sunderajan T, Kumar K, Adeyinka A, Pierre L, Kondamudi N. The Impact of COVID 19 Restriction on Attendance Rates of Educational Sessions in a Pediatric Residency Training Program. AAP Experience. Virtual October 2021. National Convention.
- Miles-Lopez, Echefu-Nnaji C, Basrao, G, Kondamudi N. Will Parents Vaccinate Their Children Against COVID-19 if Offered in the Pediatric Emergency Department? AAP Experience. National Convention. Virtual October 2021.
- Patki R, Joseph M, Kondamudi N. Evaluation of pediatric chest pain in the ED: Is there a paradigm shift post- COVID-19 Pandemic? Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting. April 2021. Virtual.
- Mohammad Ashraf H, Shahab Y, Kondamudi N, Valentine M. COVID-19 vaccination conundrum. Will parents comply to vaccinate their children when available? Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) Annual Meeting. April 2021. Virtual.
- Voddi M, Kumar K, Daniele R, Kondamudi N. COVID-19 and Child Abuse: A Child Advocacy Center Experience at an Epicenter. Accepted for presentation at the AAP National Conference. 2020 Joint Program: COCAN and SOMHEI. Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (COCAN) and Section on Minority Health, Equity and Inclusion (SOMHEI). Pediatrics March 2021, 147 (Meeting Abstract) 199-200; DOI: https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.147.3_MeetingAbstract.199.

PFCSS Course: Louisdon Pierre, MD, and Adebayo Adeyinka, MD, conducted the PFCSS (Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care Support-Accredited by Society of Critical Care Medicine) course for several hospital employees, which included pediatric nurses and residents.

Covid Education: Noah Kondamudi, MD, hosted a webinar on Covid-19 pediatric perspectives for the American College of Emergency Physicians (Pediatric Section) that attracted over 400 participants across the nation. Dr. Kondamudi also participated in (then) Borough President Eric Adams' "Wellness Wednesdays - Talk to a Doctor" initiative. Francisco Gonzalez, MD, wrote a review on pediatric Covid-19 for the American College of Emergency Physicians (Pediatric Section) website.

Promotions

Adebayo Adeyinka, MD, was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

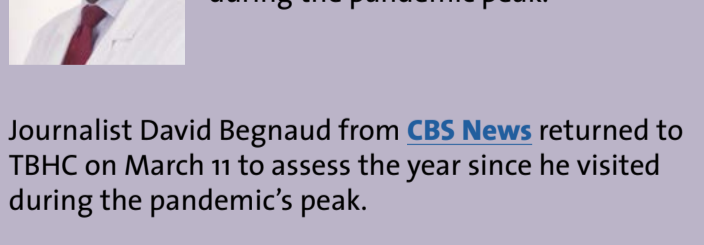
Noah Kondamudi, MD, was promoted to Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

TBHC in the News

Looking back, 2021 through early 2022 was a busy year for TBHC in the media. In case you missed any of the coverage:

On January 4, **Brooklyn Daily Eagle** covered the Department of Surgery reaching the milestone of its 1,000th robotic surgery. Luca Milone, MD, Director of Robotic Surgery was featured.

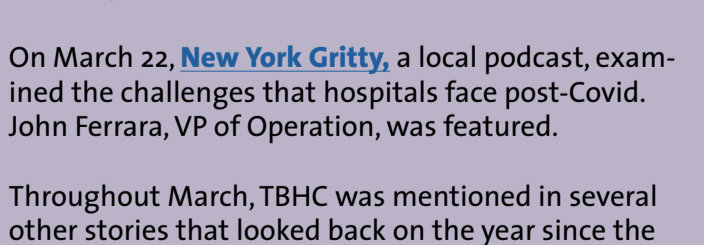
SGU News featured Sylvie, DeSouza, MD, Chair of Emergency Medicine, on March 1, looking back on 2020 and the hospital's battle with COVID.



Erroll Byer, MD, Chair of OB/GYN spoke with **AM New York Metro** on March 3, about how safety net hospitals helped pregnant women during the pandemic peak.

Journalist David Begnaud from **CBS News** returned to TBHC on March 11 to assess the year since he visited during the pandemic's peak.

On March 22, for **NBC News**, Photographer Victor Blue, who shot the amazing coverage of our hospital for *The New York Times* during the pandemic, reflected back a year later. The piece featured photos that were previously unpublished.



© Victor J. Blue, The New York Times

On March 22, **New York Gritty**, a local podcast, examined the challenges that hospitals face post-Covid. John Ferrara, VP of Operation, was featured.

Throughout March, TBHC was mentioned in several other stories that looked back on the year since the first COVID cases. Press included from **LA Times** and **6SQFeet**.

Sam Amirfar, MD, Chief Information Officer, was featured in a **BizTech** story on hybrid work on March 31.

Crain's featured a story on TBHC's efforts to work with diverse business community on April 16.

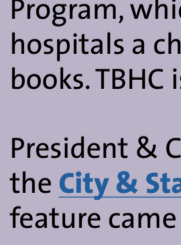
On April 23, **CSO Online** explored how TBHC has bolstered its IT security.

Brooklyn Reader covered TBHC's outreach to the unhoused on May 4.



The Brooklyn Cancer Center's new Chief, Maxim Shulimovich, DO, was recognized in **Associated Press**, **Crain's** on May 10, and in the **Brooklyn Daily Eagle** on May 14.

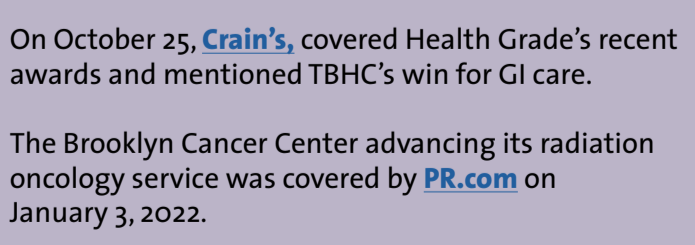
Stacy Friedman, General Counsel, was featured in **Vanguard Law** on June 1.



On July 26, **WebWire** featured a story about Penguin House's Starlight Children's Foundation Book Mobile Program, which offers pediatric patients at local hospitals a chance to explore fictional worlds through books. TBHC is a beneficiary of this program.

President & CEO Brooky G. Terrinoni once again made the **City & State** Brooklyn Power 100 list. The annual feature came out on August 8.

On September 19, **The New York Post** covered the generous gift from a Queens family – a Invacare 10-liter oxygen machine to TBHC, along with two other local hospitals. Then-Brooklyn Borough President (and now NYC Mayor) Eric Adams announced the gift with family member Davinder Singh in front of TBHC.



© Kevin Downs, New York Post

On October 25, **Crain's**, covered the health care's recent awards mentioned TBHC's win for GI care.

The Brooklyn Cancer Center advancing its radiation oncology service was covered by **PR.com** on January 3, 2022.

Once again, **The New York Times** put TBHC on the map with two stories that covered the omicron surge, one on **January 16** and the other on **January 18**.



© Victor J. Blue, The New York Times

NBC News covered healthcare workers' Covid fatigue and commitment on January 18, and included moving perspectives from ED physician Mollie Williams, MD,