



The Starzl Spotlight

October 2024



Upcoming Network Calls

We hope you can join us on October 14 for a special presentation by Dr. Jason Hawksworth! Dr. Hawksworth is a surgeon at Columbia University Medical Center and a pioneer in minimally invasive robotic surgery.

- 🌸 **October 14** - Application of Robotic Surgery to the Pediatric Hepatobiliary Patient, Jason Hawksworth
- 🌸 **October 28** - Partner Spotlight: Ipsen
- 🌸 **November 11** - Center Spotlight
- 🌸 **November 25** - Pediatric Benchmarking Study, Dr. Zhihao Li

Please reach out to Lauren or C.J. if you need the meeting invitation re-sent!

PATIENT & FAMILY VOICE CALL
FALL NETWORK UPDATES
October 8
7PM ET

We invite all Patient & Family Voice members to join our September PFV call to get up to date on all Network activities!

Providers, please encourage all new families and active members to join us.

Please contact Lauren for additional information and the meeting invitation.

STARZL NETWORK
 for Excellence in Pediatric Transplantation

2025 Annual Meeting

April 29th - April 30th
Marriott Bethesda North, Washington, D.C.

The 2025 Starzl Network Annual Meeting will be a full day on Tuesday the 29th and a half day on Wednesday the 30th. The Network will offer travel support to one surgeon, one hepatologist, one research coordinator, and invited Patient & Family Voice members to attend the meeting. Please use the link below to access meeting registration and hotel details.

Please see the website for more information: <https://starzlnetwork.org/2025-starzl-network-annual-meeting/>

PARTNER at AASLD!

World Class Speakers



PRESENTER
Emily Perito, MD
University of California San Francisco



PRESENTER
Julie Bonn, MD
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center



PRESENTER
Melissa McQueen
Transplant Families



PRESENTER
Jacob Skrtich
Starzl Network



MODERATOR
James Squires, MD, MS
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh



MODERATOR
Steven Labritto, MD
Columbia University

Emily Perito, Jim Squires, Julie Bonn, parent representative Melissa McQueen, and patient representative Jacob Skrtich will be presenting the work of the PARTNER team at AASLD! The Establishing Patient-Reported Outcomes in Pediatric Liver Transplantation session will be on November 16th at 3:45PM PT.

See more information on the Liver Meeting website!

Manuscripts In Progress

- Data Mart Methods - submitted to *Liver Transplantation*
- LHN manuscript with ACTION, IROC, & TF - accepted to *Pediatric Transplantation*
- Transition Practice invited manuscript - submitted to *Pediatric Transplantation*
- RTOC Manuscript - in preparation (Kosmach, Gupta et al)
- Giving the Smallest Infants a Chance - in preparation and reviewed by DUPC (Adams, M. and Surgeons Working Group)
- Training in Peds Transplant - in preparation (Rasmussen, S. and Surgeons Working Group)
- Social Determinants of Health Manuscript - in preparation (Wadhvani, S. and SDoH group)

Celebrating Our Patients!

“Tej was diagnosed with high-risk hepatoblastoma with carcinoma features in July 2022, at age 10. His chemotherapy treatment was complicated by various medical issues, kidney injury, allergic reactions, and malnutrition. He received a living donor transplant in November 2022 and rang the end of chemotherapy treatment bell in March 2023 at UCSF.

After missing his entire 5th grade year, Tej has made an incredible transition to middle school where he’s thriving both socially and academically while managing his ongoing medical needs with remarkable maturity. This past summer brought a special highlight - thanks to a pediatric cancer nonprofit, Tej enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Hawaii, where he bonded with kids diagnosed with cancer and even made friends with a dolphin! Currently, he’s channeling his determination into rebuilding his endurance for competitive soccer, tackling each day with the same fighting spirit that’s carried him through this journey.”

-Chetana, Tej’s Mom



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



The Starzl Network is wishing you a safe and happy Halloween!